



East Chambers Independent School District

Home of the Buccaneers

Andrea Smith, Superintendent • 216 Champions Loop Winnie, TX 77665 • 409-296-6100

MINUTES-BOARD OF TRUSTEES EAST CHAMBERS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 11, 2026

Board Members Present: Scott Jones, President; Lisa Bauer, Vice President, Charlotte Edwards, Secretary; Frank Abalos; Jason Gardner; Kelley Touchet

Board Members Absent: Everett Guillory

Present: 6. Absent 1.

1. CALL TO ORDER - Welcome - Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 6pm. Mr. Jones gave the welcome and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:

Russ Sutherland was presented with a special letter from Bobbi Ann Brady, Member of Provincial Parliament for Haldimand–Norfolk in Ontario recognizing his 200 career victories and his dedication to mentorship, leadership, and the lasting impact he’s made on young athletes. The letter was presented by Alex Zurby and his son, JD.

3. STUDENT RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS:

Primary students were present with Mrs. Robertson to show their artwork from their art show.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

There was no public comment

5. REPORTS:

5.A. Information Items

5.A.1. Superintendent Reports

Mrs. Smith reported on the following information items listed after administration reports: Employee Resignations; New Hires; Chambers County Appraisal District; Discussion of Intruder Detection Audit Summary; Enrollment; and the Facilities Survey.

5.A.1.a. Cheryl Williams, Curriculum & Instruction

Mrs. Williams reported on Teacher Incentive Allotment, LIFT Grant, Secondary Math Curriculum, Child Care Center Updates, and the District Improvement Plan.

5.A.1.b. Megan Leday, Primary Principal

Mrs. Leday reported on Enrollment, EOY Testing, Teacher Appreciation Week, T-TESS, Chambers County Library Visit, and Upcoming Events.

5.A.1.c. Britnie Bordelon, Elementary Principal

Mrs. Bordelon reported on Enrollment, Family Luncheon, Teacher Appreciation Week, Campus Celebrations, STAAR Testing, YPS, and Ongoing and Upcoming Events.

5.A.1.d. Kelsea Broomas, Junior High Principal

Mrs. Broomas reported on Enrollment, STAAR Testing, Teacher Appreciation Week, Band Solo and Ensemble, Field of Dreams, Field Trips, Ongoing and Upcoming Events.

5.A.1.e. Justin Lezak, High School Principal

Mr. Lezak reported on Enrollment, EOC Tests, Regional UIL, Teacher Appreciation Week, Field of Dreams, Reality Check, YPS, FFA Banquet, Prom, Honor Society Inductions, and Upcoming Events.

5.A.1.f. Toby Kahla, Operations Director

Mr. Kahla reported on Prevailing Wage Rates, Elementary Lighting, Graduation Preparation, Compliance with SB546, and Summer Projects.

5.A.1.g. Russ Sutherland, Athletic Director

Coach Sutherland reported on Varsity Baseball, Varsity Softball, HS Track Teams, and Athletic Events. Mr. Jones mentioned the softball and baseball dressing rooms and requested that Coach Sutherland and Toby Kahla see about including that into the budget for 2026-2027 school year.

5.A.1.h. Mitchell Long, Technology Director

Mr. Long reported on Outdated Equipment Recycle, E-Rate Funding, and End of Year Programs. He also reported on the Canvas hack that took place across the nation.

5.A.1.i. Marsha Peden, Child Nutrition Director

Mrs. Peden submitted a written report on Enrollment and Meals Served, April Income, and Campus Celebrations. Mrs. Smith gave this report on her behalf.

5.A.1.j. Gena Albrecht, Business Manager

- Monthly Transactions
- Check Register
- Revenue/Expenditure Report
- Revenue Realized: \$2,105,496.93; Expenditures: \$1,814,733.64
- Depository Collateralization Report
- Tax Collections
- Student Activity Funds
- Attorney Invoices
- Investment Reports
- \$2,272,006.24 Texpool
- \$11,857,215.34 TASB Lonestar
- \$528,883.45 TASB Lonestar Debt Service Fund
- \$543.94 TASB Lonestar PSF Capital Improvement

6. CONSENT AGENDA - ACTION ITEMS:

I move that the Board approve the consent agenda as presented. This motion, made by Lisa Bauer and seconded by Charlotte Edwards, Passed.

Everett Guillory: Absent, Frank Abalos: Yea, Lisa Bauer: Yea, Charlotte Edwards: Yea, Jason Gardner: Yea, Scott Jones: Yea, Kelley Touchet: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

6.A. Consider Approval of Minutes

April 13, 2026 Regular Meeting

6.B. Payments Over \$50,000

- Entergy \$50,000 - estimate
- Labbatt \$50,000 – estimate

6.C. Consider 2025-2026 Budget Amendments

None

7. CLOSED SESSION (if applicable):

At 6:46pm, the board entered into closed session for 551.074 Personnel. At 7:50pm, the board reconvened into open session.

8. ACTION ITEMS

8.A. Consider Hiring Director of Finance

I move to approve the recommendation to hire Emily Bridgers as Director of Finance on a 1 year probationary administrator contract. This motion, made by Kelley Touchet and seconded by Charlotte Edwards, Passed.

Everett Guillory: Absent, Frank Abalos: Yea, Lisa Bauer: Yea, Charlotte Edwards: Yea, Jason Gardner: Yea, Scott Jones: Yea, Kelley Touchet: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

8.B. Consider Hiring Teachers/Coaches

I move to approve Cadence Ridgaway and Kellie Morgan to be hired on a 1 year probationary contract. This motion, made by Lisa Bauer and seconded by Charlotte Edwards, Passed.

Everett Guillory: Absent, Frank Abalos: Yea, Lisa Bauer: Yea, Charlotte Edwards: Yea, Jason Gardner: Yea, Scott Jones: Yea, Kelley Touchet: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

8.C. Consider Financial Feasibility of Adding Three-Point Seat Belts to Existing Bus Fleet For Compliance with SB546

I move to approve begin adding three-point seat belts to the existing bus fleet for compliance with SB546 as presented. This motion, made by Lisa Bauer and seconded by Jason Gardner, Passed.

Everett Guillory: Absent, Frank Abalos: Yea, Lisa Bauer: Yea, Charlotte Edwards: Yea, Jason Gardner: Yea, Scott Jones: Yea, Kelley Touchet: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

8.D. Consider Ratification and Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Lamar University Internship Program

I move to approve the ratification and approval of the MOU with Lamar University Internship Program as presented. This motion, made by Lisa Bauer and seconded by Charlotte Edwards, Passed.

Everett Guillory: Absent, Frank Abalos: Yea, Lisa Bauer: Yea, Charlotte Edwards: Yea, Jason Gardner: Yea, Scott Jones: Yea, Kelley Touchet: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

8.E. Consider Ratification and Approval of Resolution Adopting Prevailing Wage Rate Schedule to be Effective April 1, 2026

I move to approve the ratification and approval of the Resolution Adopting Prevailing Wage Rate Schedule to the effective April 1, 2026 as presented. This motion, made by Lisa Bauer and seconded by Jason Gardner, Passed.

Everett Guillory: Absent, Frank Abalos: Yea, Lisa Bauer: Yea, Charlotte Edwards: Yea, Jason Gardner: Yea, Scott Jones: Yea, Kelley Touchet: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

There being no further business, Mr. Jones declared the meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Scott Jones, President

Charlotte Edwards, Secretary

Date