

**AT A BOARD WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ECTOR COUNTY
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT HELD ON AUGUST 12, 2025, BEGINNING AT 6:00
P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING BOARD ROOM, 802 NORTH SAM
HOUSTON, ODESSA, ECTOR COUNTY, TEXAS, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

Present:

Delma Abalos
Tammy Hawkins
Dawn Miller
Christopher Stanley
Robert Thayer
Wayne Woodall

Absent:

Dr. Steve Brown

School Officials: Dr. Keeley Boyer, Mike Adkins, Albessa Chavez, Mauricio Marquez, Dr. Anthony Sorola, Dr. Matthew Spivy, Alicia Syverson, Lauren Tavarez, Dr. Robert Trejo

Others: Tatiana Dennis, Aaron Hawley, Mark Gabrylczyk, Rico Enriquez, Ryan Merritt, Anthony Garcia, Carole Campbell, Hector Limon, Sara Moore, Scott Rudes, Julie Marshall, Kristen Vesely, Josh McLaughlin, Ruth Campbell, Nory Leachon, Rita Lopez, Mary Franco

27268 **Meeting Called to Order:** Tammy Hawkins, Board President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

27269 **Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law:** Tammy Hawkins, Board President, verified that the provisions of Section 551.001 of the Texas Government Code have been met in connection with public notice of this meeting.

27270 **Opening Remarks by Superintendent:** In her opening remarks, Superintendent Dr. Keeley Boyer gave Trustees a brief look at the first day of school by sharing a video from the ECISD Communications team.

27271 **Welcome by Board of Trustees Officer:** Board Secretary Robert Thayer welcomed both the audience in the boardroom and those watching online to the first workshop of the new school year. He spoke about the Trustees' commitment to achieving excellence in every ECISD classroom and expressed gratitude to the district's leadership for their efforts in making excellence the standard. Mr. Thayer also emphasized the Board's strong desire to see parents and the community actively engaged in meaningful ways that support and enhance student achievement.

27272 **Public Comment:** Individuals who wish to participate during the portion of the meeting designated for public comment shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins as specified in the Board's procedures on public comment and shall indicate the agenda item on which they wish to address the Board. *BED(LOCAL)*

There was no public comment.

Board Policy

- 27273** **Discussion of TASB Board Policy Update 125:** Dr. Anthony Sorola, Associate Superintendent of District Operations presented this item for discussion. The Board of Trustees reviewed TASB Board Policy Update 125, which included recommendations from the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) to align local policies with recent changes to state law. This update addressed five (5) specific local policies and one (1) new local policy being recommended for adoption, which will be presented for a second reading and vote at the Regular Board Meeting on August 19, 2025.

No action required.

- 27274** **Discussion of Revisions to Local Board Policy: EFB (LOCAL): Instructional Resources: Library Materials:** Dr. Anthony Sorola, Associate Superintendent of District Operations presented this item for discussion. The recommended revisions are based on Senate Bill 13 and reflect changes to the process for selecting and challenging library materials. The District will continue to use the existing Library Materials Advisory Committee; however, the most significant change is the increased role of the School Board in approving the adoption and acquisition of new library materials. This item will be presented for a second reading and vote at the Regular Board Meeting on August 19, 2025.

No action required.

- 27275** **Discussion of Revisions to Local Board Policy: FD (LOCAL): Admissions:** Dr. Anthony Sorola, Associate Superintendent of District Operations presented this item for discussion. The recommended changes are considered minor and serve to clarify that ECISD does not permit homeschooled students to participate in any curricular or extracurricular activities, including UIL events. This item will be presented for a second reading and vote at the Regular Board Meeting on August 19, 2025.

No action required.

- 27276** **Discussion of Revisions to Local Board Policy: FNCE (LOCAL): Student Conduct: Personal Telecommunications/Electronic Devices:** Dr. Anthony Sorola, Associate Superintendent of District Operations presented this item for discussion. The recommended revisions align with House Bill 1481, which prohibits students from using personal electronic devices. The ECISD Code of Conduct will outline the consequences for students who do not comply with this new regulation.

No action required.

Bond Discussion

- 27277** **Discussion of Preliminary 2023 Bond Financing Plan:** Dr. Anthony Sorola, Associate Superintendent of District Operations presented this item for

discussion. Trustees reviewed the preliminary 2023 Bond financing plan with guidance from Josh McLaughlin, ECISD's BOK Financial Securities (BOKFS) financial advisor. Mr. McLaughlin provided an overview of the continuation of the Bond 2023 financing plan, focusing on the final bond installment from the 2023 election.

He explained that selling fixed-rate bonds offers the lowest cost of funds for the remaining bond projects and enables the District to qualify for additional hold harmless funding from the State under recently enacted legislation. The 2023 Bond Program is projected to be fully implemented without any tax rate increase and at a cost below the original estimates presented to voters.

Mr. McLaughlin commended ECISD for its proactive debt management, noting that since 2007, prepayments and refinancing efforts have generated over \$53 million in direct savings for taxpayers. ECISD currently holds strong independent bond ratings of "Aa3" from Moody's Investors Service and "A+" from S&P Global Ratings, both favorable to investors.

Similar to bond sales completed in 2024, local residents and businesses will be given priority access to purchase bonds before institutional investors. The District's Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2025, are scheduled to be priced on the morning of Thursday, August 14, 2025. Interested local investors may contact Baird, the lead underwriter, at (813) 274-7605.

The first round of bond sales occurred in May 2024 for \$179 million, followed by a second round in June 2024 for \$99.5 million.

No action required

27278 **Discuss and Take Action to Adopt an Order Authorizing the Issuance of up to \$128,033,000 Ector County Independent School District Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2025 for Purposes Approved by Voters at November 7, 2023 Bond Election; Establishing Sale Parameters; Authorizing the Execution of a Bond Purchase Agreement and a Paying Agent/Registrar Agreement; Approving an Official Statement; Levying Annual Ad Valorem Taxes in Payment of said Bonds; and Enacting other Provisions Relating to the Subject:** Moved by Woodall, seconded by Stanley to Adopt an Order Authorizing the Issuance of up to \$128,033,000 Ector County Independent School District Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2025 for Purposes Approved by Voters at November 7, 2023 Bond Election; Establishing Sale Parameters; Authorizing the Execution of a Bond Purchase Agreement and a Paying Agent/Registrar Agreement; Approving an Official Statement; Levying Annual Ad Valorem Taxes in Payment of said Bonds; and Enacting other Provisions Relating to the Subject as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

Report/Discussion Items

27279 **Update on State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) Results for the 2024-2025 School Year:** Dr. Robert Trejo, Chief Academic

Officer provided Trustees received a presentation on the 2024–2025 STAAR assessment results and ECISD’s data-driven approach to informing strategic decisions. The update included results from all tested grade levels (grades 3–8 and high school End-of-Course exams) across all subjects. Overall, the district maintained a 65% passing rate.

In subject-specific performance:

- Reading/English Language Arts (RLA): Increases were observed in grades 3, 4, 7, 8, and English I EOC
- Mathematics: Gains were reported in grades 3, 4, and 8
- Science: Scores improved across all tested levels—grades 5, 8, and Biology EOC
- Social Studies: A 1-point decline was noted in both grade 8 and U.S. History EOC

The presentation concluded with two notable achievements:

- The Class of 2024 graduation rate rose to 87.8%, continuing its upward trend
- The District’s College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) score increased to 93%, earning an ‘A’ rating in the state’s accountability system. This metric, a key component of the TEA Accountability Rating, measures readiness for post-secondary success. ECISD has shown consistent growth in CCMR, improving from 58% in 2020 to 93% in 2024.

No action required.

27280 **Possible Request for Approval to Move to Closed Meeting – Personnel Matters – Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code [Board will deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of public employees of the District, or hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.]; Consultations with Attorney – Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act [The Board will meet in Closed Session in Consultation with the Board’s Attorney Regarding all Matters as Authorized by Law.]:**

There was no closed session.

27281 **Closing Remarks by Superintendent:** There were no closing remarks by the Superintendent.

27282 **Adjournment:** Board President Tammy Hawkins adjourned the Board meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Board President
Tammy Hawkins

Board Secretary
Robert Thayer