

Regular Meeting

Be It Remembered

The State of Texas §
County of Fort Bend §
Lamar Consolidated Independent School District §

Notice of Regular Meeting Held

On this the 15th day of August 2023, the Board of Trustees of the Lamar Consolidated Independent School District of Fort Bend County, Texas met in Regular Session in Rosenberg, Fort Bend County, Texas.

CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

This meeting was duly called to order by the President of the Board of Trustees, Mrs. Mandi Bronsell, at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Mandi Bronsell	President
Zach Lambert	Vice President
Kay Danziger	Secretary
Suzanne Box	Member
Jacci Hotzel	Member
Joe Hubenak	Member
Jon Welch	Member

Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Dr. Roosevelt Nivens	Superintendent
Alphonso Bates	Deputy Superintendent
Greg Buchanan	Chief Operations Officer
Sonya Cole-Hamilton	Chief Communications Officer
Christi Cottongame	Chief Learning Officer
Jill Ludwig	Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Marlon Waites	Chief Student Services Officer

BUSINESS TRANSACTED

Business properly coming before the Board was transacted as follows: to witness—

OPENING OF MEETING

A moment of silence was observed. The pledge of allegiance and pledge to the Texas Flag were led by Wessendorff Middle School student Daniel Chavez.

RECOGNITIONS/AWARDS

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Ms. Sonya Cole Hamilton recognized George Ranch High School sophomore Addison Heffernan for publishing a novel.

Ms. Cole-Hamilton recognized sponsors of the Lamar CISD Back-to-School Block Party and ConFUNcation.

INTRODUCTIONS

There were not any introductions this month.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mrs. Danziger attended the LEAF New Staff Stampede dinner and Convocation. She also went to the Terrell Elementary School soft opening and visited several campuses.

Mr. Lambert visited campuses and went to a midnight football practice at Randle High School.

Mr. Welch went to the Wright Junior High School 6th grade orientation event and attended Convocation. He also visited Terrell Elementary School.

Mrs. Bronsell attended the soft opening of Terrell Elementary School. She also thanked the Lamar CISD police department, neighboring police departments and the Lamar CISD staff for their help with the start of school.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Nivens shared comments about the start of school and recognized the Transportation Department for addressing the issues that occurred.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Theo Ferreira shared comments about bus transportation in the District.

Mr. Daniel Chavez shared comments advocating for a safety proposal and asking for help from the administration and Board of Trustees.

Mr. Bob Simmons shared comments about the non-disclosure agreement sent to Lamar CISD staff.

PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Bronsell opened the public hearing on the budget and proposed tax rate for the 2023-2024 fiscal year at 6:55 p.m.

Ms. Jill Ludwig presented information on the budget and proposed tax rate for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Ms. Box asked if the cost of opening a new school is included in bond funds. Ms. Ludwig said some funds are included, but most of the cost is for construction.

Mr. Welch asked why the tax rate is lower if we are growing. Ms. Ludwig explained the set growth percentage the State uses.

Mr. Welch asked what the current total bond debt is. Ms. Ludwig said it is \$2.834 billion.

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Dr. Nivens clarified the difference between opening a school and building a school and the funding that can be used for each.

Ms. Bronsell closed the public hearing on the budget and proposed tax rate for the 2023-2024 fiscal year at 7:14 p.m.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT OF APPROVAL:

Mrs. Bronsell asked if the Trustees would like to pull any items from the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Box asked to pull consent agenda items *9.J. Consider approval of resolution proclaiming Hispanic Heritage Month, K.1. Consider approval of adoption of resolution per law and legal policy EHBK (Legal) – Women’s Independence Day* and *K.6. Consider approval of adoption of resolution per law and legal policy EHBK (Legal) – American Indian Heritage Day.*

It was moved by Mr. Welch and seconded by Mr. Hubenak that the Board of Trustees approve the consent agenda items with the exception of items *9.J. Consider approval of resolution proclaiming Hispanic Heritage Month, K.1. Consider approval of adoption of resolution per law and legal policy EHBK (Legal) – Women’s Independence Day* and *K.6. Consider approval of adoption of resolution per law and legal policy EHBK (Legal) – American Indian Heritage Day.* The motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consider approval of minutes from June 20, 2023 Regular Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees approved the minutes from the June 20, 2023 Regular Board Meeting.

Consider approval of minutes from August 1, 2023 Special Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees approved the minutes from the August 1, 2023 Special Board Meeting.

Consider ratification of donations to District

The Board of Trustees ratified the donations to District.

Consider ratification of monthly financial and investment reports and quarterly report of investment activity

The Board of Trustees ratified the monthly financial and investment reports and the quarterly report of investment activity.

Consider approval of budget amendment requests

The Board of Trustees approved the budget amendment requests.

Consider approval of Lamar CISD Investment Policy

The Board of Trustees approved the Lamar CISD Investment Policy.

Consider approval of resolution for commitment of fund balance as of August 31, 2023

The Board of Trustees approved the resolution for the commitment of fund balance as of August 31, 2023.

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Consider approval of RFP #49-2023SE for Child Nutrition (CN) commercial refrigeration kitchen equipment repair and related items

The Board of Trustees approved RFP #49-2023SE for the Child Nutrition (CN) commercial refrigeration kitchen equipment repair and related items.

Consider approval of RFP #53-2023SE for commercial kitchen parts and related items

The Board of Trustees approved RFP #53-2023SE for the commercial kitchen parts and related items.

Consider approval of adoption of following resolutions per law and legal policy EHBK (Legal):

**Hydrocephalus Awareness Month
Texas First Responders Day
Constitution Day
Celebrate Freedom Week
September 11
Father of Texas Day
Sam Rayburn Day
State of Texas Anniversary Remembrance Day
Texas History Month
Texas Girls in STEM Day
Public School Paraprofessional Day
Texas Military Heroes Day
Generation Texas Week
Holocaust Remembrance Week**

The Board of Trustees approved the adoption of following resolutions per law and legal policy EHBK (Legal): Hydrocephalus Awareness Month, Texas First Responders Day, Constitution Day, Celebrate Freedom Week, September 11, Father of Texas Day, Sam Rayburn Day, State of Texas Anniversary Remembrance Day, Texas History Month, Texas Girls in STEM Day, Public School Paraprofessional Day, Texas Military Heroes Day, Generation Texas Week and Holocaust Remembrance Week.

Consider approval of Optional Flexible School Day Program (OFSDP)

The Board of Trustees approved the Optional Flexible School Day Program (OFSDP).

Consider approval of deductive change order and final payment to MScott for Huggins Elementary School renovations

The Board of Trustees approved the deductive change order and the final payment to MScott for the Huggins Elementary School renovations.

Consider approval of GMP #3 for construction of Tomas High School and Banks Junior High School

The Board of Trustees approved GMP #3 for the construction of Tomas High School and Banks Junior High School.

Consider approval of RFQ #57-2023BPO for Bond Program Office Auditor

The Board of Trustees approved RFQ #57-2023BPO for the Bond Program Office auditor.

Consider approval of design development for Transportation Center #3

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The Board of Trustees approved the design development for Transportation Center #3.

Consider approval of schematic design for new elementary school prototype #1

The Board of Trustees approved the schematic design for the new elementary school prototype #1.

Consider approval of schematic design for new elementary school prototype #2

The Board of Trustees approved the schematic design for the new elementary school prototype #2.

Consider approval of new appraisers for teaching staff

The Board of Trustees approved the new appraisers for teaching staff.

PULLED CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Consider approval of resolution proclaiming Hispanic Heritage Month and consider approval of adoption of resolution per law and legal policy EHBK (Legal) – Women’s Independence Day and American Indian Heritage Day

Mrs. Box asked that the statement “Whereas, the Lamar CISD Board of Trustees, through its core values and actions demonstrate a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion within our school division;” be removed from the resolutions.

The Trustees discussed diversity, equity and inclusion.

Mrs. Bronsell asked if the resolutions needed to be approved at this meeting. Ms. Cole- Hamilton explained the dates associated with the resolutions and Dr. Nivens said the attorney can clarify the required timelines.

It was moved by Mrs. Box and seconded by Mr. Welch to amend the resolutions proclaiming Hispanic Heritage Month, Women’s Independence Day and American Indian Heritage Day by removing the statement “Whereas, the Lamar CISD Board of Trustees, through its core values and actions demonstrate a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion within our school division;” from the resolutions.

The motion carried 6-1, with Mrs. Danziger voting against.

It was moved by Mr. Lambert and seconded by Mrs. Box that the Board of Trustees approve the amended resolutions proclaiming Hispanic Heritage Month, Women’s Independence Day and American Indian Heritage Day. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

ACTION ITEMS

Consider approval of adoption of 2023-2024 budgets and Compensation Plan

It was moved by Mrs. Box and seconded by Mrs. Hotzel that the Board of Trustees approve the adoption of 2023-2024 budgets and Compensation Plan. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

Consider approval of adoption, by ordinance, the 2023 tax rate for 2023-2024 school year

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It was moved by Mrs. Danziger and seconded by Mr. Lambert that the Board of Trustees approve the adoption of, by ordinance, the 2023 tax rate for 2023-2024 school year. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

Consider approval of 2023 tax year appraisal roll and new property value

It was moved by Mr. Hubenak and seconded by Mrs. Box that the Board of Trustees approve the 2023 tax year appraisal roll and new property value. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

Consider approval of certification of 2023 tax year anticipated collection rate

It was moved by Mrs. Box and seconded by Mr. Hubenak that the Board of Trustees approve the certification of 2023 tax year anticipated collection rate. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

Consider approval of an order by the Board of Trustees of Lamar Consolidated Independent School District calling a bond election to be held within said District; making provisions for conduct and giving of notice of election; and containing other provisions related thereto

Greg Buchanan, Devin Gabbard and Ms. Ludwig presented information regarding the order by the Board of Trustees of Lamar Consolidated Independent School District calling a bond election to be held within said District; making provisions for conduct and giving of notice of election; and containing other provisions related thereto.

Mrs. Danziger asked if the District has to pay additional funds for football games that will be played at stadiums outside the District. Mr. Gabbard said the affected schools are working with the District to help with the associated costs and Lamar CISD is working with other entities to streamline the financial impact.

Mr. Welch asked when the District anticipates going out for another bond referendum. Dr. Nivens said it would be Spring 2025.

Mrs. Hotzel asked about the price of the turf replacement. Mr. Buchanan explained the cost of artificial grass turf compared to the cost of the turf and substrate.

Mrs. Hotzel asked if the District is moving forward on replacing the turf at Traylor Stadium or waiting to see if the Bond passes. Mr. Buchanan said the District is working with vendors to get the purchase order completed now so the vendors can begin producing the turf and then amend the purchase order, if necessary, if the bond passes.

Dr. Nivens stated that the Athletics Department and the Maintenance and Operations Department will be monitoring the foundation and bleachers to ensure both are safe for students and spectators.

Mrs. Box asked if the bond could be separated so the public can vote on each item individually. Dr. Nivens said that is a decision that the Board can make.

Mrs. Bronsell stated that the agenda item would be tabled so that the Board can discuss it with the attorney during Closed Session.

INFORMATION ITEMS

There were not any Information Items presented this month.

FUTURE ACTION ITEMS

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Discussion of design development for Elementary School #35

Mr. Buchanan presented information on the design development for Elementary School #35.

Mrs. Danziger asked if any of the designs included a two-story building. Mr. Buchanan said all the design options are one-story schools.

Discussion of design development for Elementary School #36

Mr. Buchanan presented information on the design development for Elementary School #36.

Mrs. Danziger asked if the designs will be used repeatedly for several campuses. Mr. Buchanan said the plan is for the District to use a prototype for each new school.

Discussion of design development for Middle School #7

Mr. Buchanan presented information on the design development for Middle School #7.

FUTURE CONSENT ITEMS

There were not any Future Consent Items pulled to be presented as action items on the September Board meeting agenda.

ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, and 551.082, THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

1. Section 551.074 - For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear complaints or charges against a public officer or employee.
 - a. Approval of personnel recommendations for employment of professional personnel
 - b. Employment of professional personnel (Information)
 - c. Employee resignations and retirements (Information)
2. Section 551.072 - For the purpose of discussing the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property
 - a. Land
3. Section 551.071 - To meet with the District's attorney to discuss matters in which the duty of the attorney to the District under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Open Meetings Act, including the grievance/complaint hearing.
 - a. Any item listed on the agenda
 - b. Discuss pending, threatened, or potential litigation, including school finance litigation
4. Discussion of Districtwide intruder detection audit report findings

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 8:13 p.m. for the purposes listed above.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 9:25 p.m.

It was moved by Mr. Lambert and seconded by Mrs. Danziger that the Board of Trustees approve an order by the Board of Trustees of Lamar Consolidated Independent School District calling a bond

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election to be held within said District; making provisions for conduct and giving of notice of election; and containing other provisions related thereto, as presented. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

It was moved by Mrs. Danziger and seconded by Mrs. Hotzel that the Board of Trustees approve the land purchase for Secondary #8 schools, Elementary School #41 and Elementary School #45 as discussed in Closed Session. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Lambert said he would like the Board of Trustees to begin to talk about holding a workshop regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

LAMAR CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Signed:

Mandi Bronsell
President of the Board of Trustees

Kay Danziger
Secretary of the Board of Trustees