

Minutes of Special Meeting

The Board of Trustees Galveston Independent School District

A Special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Galveston Independent School District was held March 16, 2020, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Lovenberg Administration Building, 3904 Avenue T, Galveston, TX.

Present: Mr. Tony Brown, President; Mr. Johnny Smecca, Vice-President; Mrs. Monica Wagner, Secretary; Dr. Matthew Hay, Trustee; Mr. Shae Jobe, Trustee; Mr. David O'Neal, Trustee; Ms. Mindy Lakin, Trustee; and Dr. Kelli Moulton, Superintendent.

- 1) *Mr. Tony Brown called to order Open Session in the Board Room of the Lovenberg Administration Building, 3904 Avenue T, Galveston, Texas at 6pm.*
- 2) *Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and the Texas flag was recited.*
- 3) *Citizen's Request to Address the Board on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items.*
 1. *Ken Jencks, community member, thanked Dr. Moulton, Board, and staff for taking the situation seriously to protect the students and staff in GISD. He wanted to talk about the disadvantaged students that do not have the access to internet or devices to complete online work. They need to have the ability to receive the same instruction that those students have.*
- 4) *Superintendent Report*

Dr. Kelli Moulton addressed the students, staff, and community on the COVID-19 pandemic that is currently within the U.S. She reminded that the District is in an emergency closure from March 16-20th. This means the District is closed and all students and staff should stay home. The essential employees have been notified to come to work to clean, prepare meals for students, and plan instruction for students. She read a resolution that further suspends normal business operation of the District until April 10, 2020.

For more detail on the situation please visit:
<https://gisd.viebit.com/player.php?hash=w8OUjksEmcL1>
- 5) *The Board did not recess into Closed Executive Session in the Library as permitted by the Texas Open Meeting Act Government Code Sections 551.071- 551.090 Subchapter D and E.*
- 6) *REGULAR AGENDA- Action Items*
 - A) *Discuss and consider approval of Resolution to authorize compensation of employees for days when the District is closed due to Coronavirus-19.*

Dr. Matthew Hay moved to approve a resolution to authorize compensation of employees for days when the District is closed due to Coronavirus-19. Ms. Mindy Lakin 2nd the motion. Motion Passed 6/0/1. Mr. Jobe abstained the vote.
- 7) *Suggested Future Agenda Items*

There were no suggested items at that time.

8) Board Comments

Mr. Tony Brown thanked Jennifer Douglas and her staff for their services in prepping and distributing meals to students.

Mr. Johnny Smecca thanked Dr. Moulton for the information that has been provided to the students, parents, staff, and the community. He suggested that any new information to be communicated about the District be sent to the Board ASAP. He also suggested that our maintenance employees be able to work to get some of the deferred items completed while the buildings are unoccupied.

Ms. Mindy Lakin thanked child nutrition for all the work they have done to provide meals to students. She also asked that if the situation continued would the District expanded the pickup locations. Dr. Moulton will look in to this suggestion.

Mrs. Monica Wagner thanked the child nutrition department for stepping up to provide meals for students. She also thanked Odyssey and Hey Mikey's for giving out food to children. She reminded the public that social distancing is important to stop the spread of the virus and to always be mindful of people around you.

Dr. Matthew Hay reminded the public that COVID-19 is a virus you cannot see. People that are over 80 or have underlining medical conditions are at high risk. Although your students will do great if they were to contract the virus, their grandparents will not. Therefore, the school closures are important, so that if a student has the virus they do not bring it home. The trend of the confirmed cases has multiplied substantially causing heightened concern because the U.S. only has a certain number of ICU beds and medical staff. In order for people infected with the COVID-19 virus to get the help they need, we need to slow down the spread of the virus.

Mr. Shae Jobe reminded the public to pick up food at local restaurants in support of the Galveston Community and the Island. Be kind and work together!

Mr. David O'Neal thanked the superintendent and staff for the work they are doing to provide services to the students as the situation grows. He also reminded the public to stay with the plan that is in place to keep everyone safe and healthy.

For more details on this agenda item please watch the meeting in its entirety at <https://gisd.viebit.com>

9) Adjournment

Mr. Tony Brown adjourned the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 7:08pm.

Minutes taken by: Emily Fortune

Approved on: _____

Mr. Tony Brown, President

Mrs. Monica Wagner, Secretary