

# Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

## The Board of Trustees Graham ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Graham ISD was held Wednesday, November 13, 2024, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the GRAHAM LEARNING CENTER, 701 TENNESSEE STREET, GRAHAM, TX 76450. President, Chris Blanton, called the meeting to order, announced the meeting had been duly called and posted in the time and manner as required by law, and announced a quorum of Board Members.

### **PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL F.I.R.S.T, Financial Accountability Rating System**

A Public Hearing was held Wednesday, November 13, 2024. The District made a score of 100 and received an A=Superior FIRST Rating. No one from the public spoke on this subject.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chris Blanton, Brandon Bates, John Brown, Lauren Mahaney, Brandon Joy, Kristina Pettus and Jason Smith

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:** Sonny Cruse, Don Davis, Robert Loomis, Natalie Husen, Joe Gordy, Sam Perry, Donna Gatlin, Misti Thompson, and Audra Barrett.

**VISITORS:** Thomas Wallner, Dawna Gage, Lori Brown, Paige Sharpe, Tessa Boenisch, Amanda Mullens, Alli Mullens, Gina Beauchamp, Josh Kidd

### **OPEN FORUM:**

Gina Beauchamp addressed the Board regarding teacher morale and Christmas bonus.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- GJHS Band Hall Update
  - Completion is expected around end of February or beginning of March.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes  
Cash and Investment Report  
Enrollment Report  
Budget Amendments

A motion made by Brandon Bates, seconded by Jason Smith, carried 7 to 0 to approve the consent agenda.

## **REPORTS**

There were no reports to be shared with the Board.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

There were no items to be discussed.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **1. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE A ONE-TIME COMPENSATION FOR GISD EMPLOYEES**

A motion by John Brown, seconded by Brandon Bates, carried 7 to 0 to approve the one-time compensation payment of \$1,000.00 to each full-time and \$500.00 part-time GISD employee and amend the budget accordingly. John Brown abstained on any bonus to Lori Brown.

### **2. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO CONDUCT A PAY SYSTEMS REVIEW BY THE TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS, INC**

A motion by Lauren Mahaney, seconded by Jason Smith, carried 7 to 0 to approve a budget amendment of \$10,500.00 for the Pay Systems Review by TASB.

### **3. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH WEST TEXAS FOOD SERVICE COOPERATIVE**

A motion by Jason Smith, seconded by, Brandon Joy, carried 7 to 0 to approve The Interlocal Agreement with West Texas Food Services Cooperative.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 5:50 p.m. under Texas Government Codes 555.072, 551.076, and 551.074. The Board returned from Executive Session at 6:32 p.m.

**Executive Session: Under the authority of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, the Board will enter into closed or Executive Session to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property Gov't Code 555.072, Deployment or Specific Occasions for Implementation of Security Personnel or Devices Gov't Code 551.076, and Employment, Retirement, Resignation & Discussion of Personnel, Gov't Code 551.074.**

- 1. Employment Recommendations for Teachers and Other Professional Personnel**
- 2. Voluntary Retirement Agreement**
- 3. Superintendent Contract for Lone Finalist, Dr. Mary Johnston**

**The Board Moved into Open Session:**

**1. EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TEACHERS AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL**

None

**2. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT AGREEMENT**

A motion by Brandon Joy, seconded by Kristina Pettus, carried 7 to 0 to approve the voluntary retirement agreement of Mr. Sonny Cruse.

**3. CONSIDER AND ACT UPON THE SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT FOR LONE FINALIST DR. MARY JOHNSTON**

A motion by John Brown, seconded by Lauren Mahaney, carried 7 to 0 to approve and name Dr. Mary Johnston as the new Superintendent of Graham ISD, and approve her contract as presented.

**ADJOURN**

A motion by Kristina Pettus, seconded by Lauren Mahaney, carried 7 to 0 to adjourn the meeting.

**APPROVED**

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Chris Blanton, President  
Board of Trustees  
Graham Independent School District

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Dr. Brandon Bates, Secretary  
Board of Trustees  
Graham Independent School District