

MINUTES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SMITHVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Smithville Independent School District was held on Monday, May 19, 2025 beginning at 6:00 PM at the Smithville ISD Administrative Building, PO Box 479, 901 N.E. 6th Street, Smithville, Texas 78957.

Members present: Grant Gutierrez, Michael Hancock, Chelsa Vinklarek, Chris Hinnant, Josh Magden, Candice Parsons, Bryan Jones

Others present: Tracy Johnson, Theresa Ritchie, Holly Brockman, Lindsey Saunders, Wayne King, Bethany Logan, Stacy Wilhelm, Cheryl Gilmore, Sarah Vinklarek, Amanda Hudspeth, Scott Warnke, Bryden Coughlan, Amelia House, Angie Westerfield, Bridget Sampson, Burtis Sampson, Bryanna Sampson, Sara Goertz, Clifton Goertz, Brent Goertz, Brenda Ricketts, Holly Gigout, Brandon Gigout, Tyler Gigout, Paul Espinoza, Jenny Espinoza, Briana Lunsford, Helen Lunsford, Heather Goertz, Barrett Goertz, Whitney Brown, Sheila Namken, Marie Waneck, Kalynn Hodges, Christine Hodges, Kalie Hodges, Stacy Tiner, Layne Neumann, Cheryl Moore, John Moore, Tiffany Waneck, Brian Waneck, Addison Waneck, Trish Kubena, Shannon Hall, Krystel Gutierrez, Courtney Baja, Tessa Otten, Jean Ann McCarthy, Kellen Hall, Rosalie Silvey, Faith Silvey, Tyler Saunders, Misty Vasquez, Tara Helgren, Witten Helgren, Jaxson Frazier, Ana Berryann, Christine Colosky, Amaris White, Ronnie McKeown, Zack Harris, David White, Brylee Johnson, Marty Johnson, Rorry Johnson, Michele Mullens, Grayson Mullens, Luke Goertz, Cyndee Johnson, Candy Biehle, Cheryl Burns, Denise Behrens

Call to Order - The Board President called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call – The Board President called the roll of members. All members were present.

Student Led Pledge of Allegiance – Students from Smithville Elementary who have received the most Tiger Tokens for the month led the group in the pledge. Those students were Savannah Tisdell, Jaquelyn Gonzales, Bryson Bales Anderson, Ansley Dawson and Wyatt Hall.

Administer Statement of Officer to Elected Trustees – Article XVI, section 1 of the Texas Constitution requires all elected or appointed state and local officers to take the official oath of office and to subscribe to the anti-bribery statement (Form 2201-Statement of Officer) before entering upon the duties of their office. Local officers must retain the signed statement with the official records of the office. The Statement of Officer was administered as required.

Oath of Office for Newly Elected or Re-Elected Board Members – At the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees in January the Board called for its regular election to be held on May 3, 2025. The election was later canceled due to lack of opposition to current incumbents. However, in accordance with the election code, the new (returning) Board members, Candice Parsons, Place 5, Joshua Magden, Place 6, and Michael Hancock, Place 7, must be sworn in at the next regular meeting following the regular election date. Denise Behrens, acting in her capacity as a public notary, administered the oath of office for the newly re-elected School Board Trustees Candice Parsons, Place 5, Josh Magden, Place 6 and Michael Hancock, Place 7.

Reorganization of the Board of Trustees – Board policies BDAA [Legal] and BDAA [Local] specify that the Board will elect a president, vice-president, and secretary at the first meeting after each election and qualification of Trustees. Candice Parsons moved to nominate Grant Gutierrez as President. Josh Magden seconded the motion and it passed 7-0. Candice Parsons then moved to nominate Chris Hinnant as Vice-President. After a second from Bryan Jones, the vote passed 7-0. Chris Hinnant moved to nominate Josh Magden as Secretary. Michael Hancock seconded the motion and it carried 7-0.

Recognition of Student Achievements – Once again, our hats are off to the outstanding achievements of the students at Smithville I.S.D., as well as their instructors. We would like to recognize the following Smithville ISD State Level Competition Accomplishments: We had Karson Tucker, Whitney Yokubaitis, Aidan King and their instructors Ronnie McKeown and Trish Hawkins with Smithville Junior High Future Problem Solvers; Konner Namken, Adan Guerrero and their instructor Ryan Moerbe with Skills USA; Cole Willenburg with UIL Physics; Carina Berryann, Lilliana Arias, Kynzie Behrens, Braxton Berger, Aiden Campbell-Evans, Joseba Castijello, Aundrez Cauch-Taylor, Lacy Copeland, Jayden Cordell, Aiden Cox, Marlene Diaz-Perez, Shelton Espinoza, Matthew Ferrell, Tyler Gigout, Tyler Goertz, Karah Goertz, Dovie Guerra, Adan Guerrero, Arabella Gutierrez, Emeline Gutierrez, Daniel Hernandez, Amelia House, Julian Jaramilo Romero, Ani Jiminez, Lethe Martinez-Sasko, Joshua McLaughlin, Mason McNeil, Chidinima Meremikwu, Will Metcalf, Peyton Nuby, Nicole Olivas, Chris Piraino, Regan Pruettt, Jasper Regier, Kevin Renfroe, Ruby Reza, Callie Ruyle, Leslie Saldana-Garcia, Andrea Sambrano, Mason Scaife, Preston Scaife, Faith Silvey, Julie Sloan, Wesley Summerall, Cassandra Velasquez, Melanie Villalobos, Lyla Vinklarek, Monica Walker, Anyia Washington, Brylee White, Aubrie Winegarner, Kayden Zinsmeyer and their band directors Wayne King, Cathy Sherrill and James Baker; Raya Powell, Shantel Harlow, Emery Bayer, Jacob Moore, Jaxson Frazier, Christian Osorio, Riley Hashaw, Arabella Gutierrez, Grayson Mullens, Kaycee Nutt, Ashlyn Wilhelm, Addison Waneck, Kalynn Hodges and their athletic director Layne Neumann and girl's coordinator Jaimie Kadlecek. We are proud of all of our students and the recognition they have earned for Smithville schools, and are pleased to take this opportunity to recognize them.

Recognition of Outstanding Students for the Fourth Nine-Weeks – Each nine-weeks the middle school and high school faculties select an outstanding student from their respective campus. Students are rated on a scale of 1 to 10 on such criteria as grades, honesty, enthusiasm, cooperation with teachers and their peers, class participation and leadership. Emma Saunders, a sixth grader, and Manuel Camacho, an eighth grader, have been selected as the outstanding students for the fourth nine-weeks from Smithville Junior High. Emma is the

daughter of Tyler and Lindsey Saunders, and Manuel is the son of Felipe and Frances Camacho. Two students have been selected as outstanding students from Smithville High School for the fourth nine-weeks. They are Briyanna Sampson and Tyler Gigout. Briyanna is an eleventh grader and the daughter of Burtis and Bridget Sampson. Tyler is a ninth grader and the son of Brandon and Holly Gigout.

Our congratulations to all of these students!

Tiger Award Recipient Recognition – Tiger Award recipients are nominated by peers. Each campus and department will nominate a representative. Final nominations will be voted on by a select committee. Each campus and department will have an award winner that will be recognized at the board meeting every 9-weeks.

The following employees received the Tiger Award for the fourth 9-weeks:

Deana Zimmerhanel - paraprofessional at Brown Primary

Dakota Hajek - paraprofessional at Smithville Elementary

Briley Johnson - paraprofessional at Smithville Junior High

Tessa Otten - teacher at Smithville High School

Theresa Ritchie - ARD Facilitator for the district

Congratulations to our amazing staff!

Communications from the Public – The Board heard from Scott Warnke and Bryden Coghlan in support of the Board’s approval of an interlocal agreement with the City of Smithville and Bastrop County for the Community Development Block-Grant-Mitigation (MOD), which includes an additional detention pond at the high school/junior high property. The detention pond would help to mitigate flooding that occurs to adjacent properties during heavy rain events.

Consent Agenda – Josh Magden moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Candice Parsons seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The Consent Agenda included:

1. Minutes
2. Financial Statements
3. State Aid Comparison – Budgeted vs. Earned
4. Earned vs. TEA Payments
5. Tax Collection Report
6. Re-designation of Fund Balance Funds
7. Budget Amendments

Superintendent's Report – The Superintendent updated the Board on important issues pertaining to the District including the following:

- Current district enrollment is 1831 students.
- The Senior Walk took place on every campus today.
- The FFA Banquet, the Spring Athletics Banquet, the Cheer Banquet and the Robotics Banquet were held last week.
- The Honors Banquet is tomorrow at 6pm at the UMC Fellowship Hall.
- The End of Year Breakfast is Tuesday, May 27th beginning at 8:00 a.m. All board members are invited to attend.

Graduation Ceremony Procedures – High School Graduation will be held on Friday, May 23, 2025 at 8:00 p.m. at Tiger Stadium in Smithville, Texas. The Board is invited as a group to participate in the ceremony. Mr. Tucker Copeland, high school principal, was present at the board meeting to go over the events of graduation night.

Tentative June Agenda Items – Tentative items to be included on the June regular agenda:

- a. Financial Report
- b. Superintendent’s Report
- c. First Draft of the 2025-2026 District Budget
- d. Technology Report
- e. SISD Strategic Plan 2023-2027 Update
- f. Schedule Board Meeting Dates for 2025-2026
- g. Consider Approval of Student Dress Code
- h. Consider Approval of 2025-2026 Salary Schedules
- i. Board Self-Evaluation
- j. Personnel

Discussion and consideration of an interlocal agreement with the City of Smithville and Bastrop County for the Community Development Block-Grant-Mitigation (MOD) – At the regular board meeting in April, Robert Tamble, with the City of Smithville, Tim Sanders, with BEFCO Engineering, and Clara Beckett, with Bastrop County, presented information about a grant received and the potential partnership with Smithville ISD to utilize the funds available. The grant would pay for upgrades and an additional retention pond for possible future growth. The detention pond will help with the continued need for drainage. After discussion, the Board of Trustees decided to place the item on the May agenda for possible action. The Board did decide to take action at the May agenda. Josh Magden moved to approve the interlocal agreement with the City of Smithville and Bastrop County for the Community Development Block-Grant-Mitigation (MOD), with permission for the Superintendent to negotiate and sign, with the understanding that the final agreement would be available to the Board of Trustees for review. Chelsa Vinklerek seconded and the motion carried 7-0.

Consider and Approve Superintendent Resignation Agreement – Chris Hinnant made a motion to approve the superintendent resignation agreement as presented. Michael Hancock seconded and the motion carried 7-0.

Consider Approval to Amend Signatures on Bank Depository – As a result of the reorganization of the Board of Trustees there is a change in officers. The Board President and the Board Secretary must be authorized to sign on the District accounts at First National Bank, the District’s depository. In addition, with the hiring of a new superintendent, it is necessary to add Dr. Perry as an authorized signer on the istrict accounts at First National Bank and remove Cheryl Burns, former superintendent, effective June 3, 2025. Candice Parsons moved to remove Chris Hinnant, former board president, and to add Grant Gutierrez, newly elected board president, and to add Dr. Perry as an authorized signer on the district accounts at First National Bank and remove Cheryl Burns, former superintendent, effective June 3, 2025; the signers on all accounts with First National Bank of Bastrop will be Grant Gutierrez, Board President, Josh Magden, Board Secretary, Dr. Molley Perry, Superintendent, and Stacy Tiner, Business

Manager; in addition to the safe deposit box Denise Behrens, Secretary to the Superintendent, as a signer. With a second by Michael Hancock, the vote passed 7-0.

Designate Investment Officers – With the employment of a new business manager, Stacy Tiner, and a new superintendent, we would like to ensure that Smithville ISD meets Section 2256.005(f) of the Public Funds Investment Act (Texas Government Code Chapter 2256) in regard to designating investment officers for the district. Historically, the superintendent and business manager have been designated as the investment officers. For the 2024-2025 school year, we are designating Stacy Tiner (Business Manager) and the newly hired superintendent as investment officers for Smithville I.S.D. Michael Hancock made a motion to designate Stacy Tiner and Dr. Molley Perry as investment officers for Smithville I.S.D. for 2024-2025. Candice Parsons seconded and the vote passed 7-0.

Remove Superintendent Currently Listed as User for TexPool, Lone Star Investments, First National Bank and all other Financial Accounts Associated with Smithville I.S.D., and Add New Superintendent as of June 3, 2025 – Due to the retirement of Superintendent Cheryl Burns the district representative for TexPool, Lone Star Investments, First National Bank and all other financial accounts associated with Smithville I.S.D. will be Superintendent Molley Perry, as of June 3, 2025. Chris Hinnant made a motion to remove Cheryl Burns and to designate Dr. Molley Perry as district representative for all financial accounts associated with Smithville I.S.D. as of June 3, 2025. Michael Hancock seconded the motion and it carried 7-0.

Approval of Expenditure in Excess of \$50,000 – The purpose of this agenda item is to authorize expenditure for an upgrade to the speaker system at Tiger Stadium. Michael Hancock moved to approve the expenditure as presented. Candice Parsons seconded and the vote was 7-0 to approve.

Consider Appointment of Delegate to Represent Smithville ISD at the 2025 TASA/TASB Convention Delegate Assembly – The TASB Delegate Assembly is a crucial component of the Association’s governance structure. Each active member (school board) of the Association is entitled to have a delegate and an alternate attend the Assembly and cast our district’s vote on action items coming before the Assembly. The TASA/TASB Convention this year is September 11-14, 2025 and will be held at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas. The 2025 Delegate Assembly will meet on Saturday, September 13th. Josh Magden moved to appoint Bryan Jones as the district’s delegate for the 2025 convention. Candice Parsons seconded and the motion passed 7-0. Chris Hinnant moved to appoint Grant Gutierrez as alternate. Candice Parsons seconded and the motion carried 7-0.

Distribution of Board Self-Evaluation Materials – The Board Self-Evaluation Instrument was included in the board packet. The Board will address its self-evaluation at the regular June meeting.

Resignations of Certified Personnel – The Superintendent advised the Board of the resignations of Alfonso Vasquez, teacher at Smithville Elementary and Caralisa Mayo, teacher at Smithville Junior High. No action was required.

Employment of Certified Personnel – According to Board Policy DC [Local], the Superintendent has the authority to make recommendations to the Board regarding the selection of all personnel. The Superintendent recommends employment of the following individuals: Angie Westerfield as Brown Primary Principal, Johnathon Sample, Michele Mathis, and Maddison Stafford as teachers at Smithville Elementary; Ruben Garcia and Dustyn Nelson as teachers at Smithville Junior High; Rolando Riojas as a teacher at Smithville High School, Alica Sexton as assistant principal at Smithville High School and Martha DeLeon as educational diagnostician for the district and to renew the current contract of Cheyenne Peavy for the 2025-2026 school year. Chelsa Vinklerek moved to approve the employment of staff as presented. Chris Hinnant seconded and the vote passed 7-0.

Adjournment – Josh Magden moved to adjourn the board meeting at 8:07 p.m. Candice Parsons seconded and the motion passed 7-0.