

## Regular Meeting

Monday, June 16, 2025 5:30 PM

Gatesville ISD Administration Building  
311 S. Lovers Lane, Gatesville, TX 76528

**Present:** Charles Alderson, Charles Ament, Calvin Ford, Loyd Hopson, Linda Maxwell

**Absent:** Cheyenne Kizer, Mary Anne Leib.

### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Charles Ament, President, declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Charles Ament led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 3. INVOCATION

Calvin Ford gave the invocation.

### 4. HORNET LEGENDS SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Barrett Pollard recognized John Westbrook as one of the Hornet Legends. Mr. Westbrook began his teaching career in San Saba ISD as a band director in 1980. After two years there, John came to Gatesville where he would spend the next twenty years (1982-2002) as a junior high band director. He then completed three different assistant principal stints here in GISD: junior high AP from 2002-2006, intermediate AP from 2006-2010, and high school AP from 2010-2011. From 2011 to 2014, he took on the role of high school principal. He ended his career after one additional year as high school principal in Groesbeck resulting in 35 years total in education. Mr. Westbrook impacted a whole generation of students during his time as band director, and was a well-liked and respected administrator. Some of the feedback John received in his evaluations over the years included the following: Bobby Cole stated, "His compassion for others along with his friendly nature all contribute to his effectiveness and make him a pleasure to work with." Charles Ament said, "I am lucky to have Mr. Westbrook. He is highly competent and amazingly self motivated. He seeks to learn every day. He is respected by students and faculty." For all these reasons, John Westbrook is a Hornet Legend.

Regina Baize was under the impression that her husband James was going to be recognized at the board meeting. However, this was a guise in order to truly surprise Regina with the recognition. Regina Balch Baize graduated from Gatesville High School in 1967. While in high school, Regina was a member of the very first drill team in school history. In fact, her mother (Mrs. Balch) was the drill team instructor. After receiving her college degree and her marriage to James Baize, Regina began her teaching career in 1971 and had stints in Killeen ISD (2 years), Lockhart ISD (2 years), and Fredericksburg ISD (3 years). During that time, she took a few years off from education to raise her children. In 1987, she returned to Gatesville ISD and spent the next 18 years teaching children how to read. In 2005, she retired from education but came back as a substitute in later years. Marsha Worthington once wrote the following about Regina in one of her yearly evaluations: "Mrs. Baize works with students to improve their self confidence. She is an excellent communicator of knowledge, caring, and respect. Teachers and students alike are amazed at her positive and caring attitude. She expects the students to follow the rules and corrects them in a loving manner. Mrs. Baize will help do anything at anytime. There is not a better teacher or person than Gina Baize. She is such a blessing to work with and I appreciate her hard work. She is wonderful." For all these reasons, Regina Baize is a Hornet Legend.

## **5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

## **6. PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL GRANTS & THE FY25 COPS SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM GRANT**

Dr. Yancey Sanderson, Asst Supt. of Admin. Services presented the required public notice of Gatesville ISD's intent to to apply for funds through the ESSA Consolidated, Special Education Consolidated, and Perkins V: Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Federal Grant Programs. The application deadline for these grants is 9/3/25. These grant funds will be used to address specific needs as identified by GISD stakeholders. Stakeholders identified these needs by reviewing campus and district data. They provided feedback and recommendations about our Use of Funds plans through our Comprehensive Needs Assessment process. Gatesville ISD will also apply for the FY25 COPS School Violence Prevention Program to enhance critical communication infrastructure across the district. The goal is to minimize communication gaps such as cell service dead zones and digital radio troubles by installing cell service boosters and switching to LTE based radios with a phone app feature. This grant requires a 25% fund match from GISD if awarded. The total cost of the proposed project is expected to be about \$125,000. GISD's would be required to contribute \$31,250 toward the project. If awarded, we will seek approval with a board action item before implementing the project.

## **7. CONSENT AGENDA**

Approve consent agenda items A-F and H as presented.

This motion, made by Linda Maxwell and seconded by Charles Alderson, Passed.

Cheyenne Kizer: Absent, Mary Anne Leib: Absent, Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Board member Charles Alderson requested that the district's vital signs be pulled and reviewed separately from the other consent agenda items. Mr. Alderson stated that his specific concern pertained to the number of absences by seniors in the last month of school. Additionally, he would like to see the attendance rates improved at both the primary and high school campuses. Dr. Pollard stated that the principals continue to work on improving student attendance and they will look specifically at those problem areas for the coming year.

Approve consent agenda item G as presented. This motion, made by Linda Maxwell and seconded by Loyd Hopson, Passed.

Cheyenne Kizer: Absent, Mary Anne Leib: Absent, Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

### **A. MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2025 REGULAR MEETING**

### **B. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF MAY 31, 2025**

### **C. BILLS AND PAYROLLS FOR MAY 2025**

### **D. BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

### **E. Y-T-D BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO FUND BALANCE**

### **F. QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT AS OF MAY 31, 2025**

### **G. VITAL SIGNS REPORT**

### **H. FOOD SERVICE REPORT**

## **8. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **A. UPDATE TO FY 2026 HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS**

LeighAnn Goodwin, Asst. Supt. of Finance, reviewed health insurance premiums. Most rates increased by an average of 14%. The district strives to keep the employee health care insurance contribution to

lowest employee only premium rate. In 24-25, the lowest premium rate for employee was \$446. For the 25-26 school year, the rate is now \$506 per month. This is a \$60 increase per employee. This equates to a \$360,000 increase in the school's contribution from last year for a total of \$3 million. All other items in the health care coverage package for 25-26 remained the same.

#### **B. CAMPUS DAILY START & END TIMES FOR 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR**

Dr. Pollard presented the campus start and end times which will remain unchanged for this coming year. These times seem to be working well for each campus as well as the coordination of transportation.

Primary: Pre-K (7:35--3:10); Kindergarten (7:50--3:25)

Elementary: 7:50--3:25

Intermediate: 7:55--3:40

Junior High: 7:55--3:40

High School: 7:55--3:40

DAEP: 8:00--3:00

WINGS Program: All Day Session: 8:00--3:00; Morning Session: 8:00--12:00; Afternoon Session: 11:00--3:00.

#### **C. REVISED VAPE CONSEQUENCES FOR 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR**

Dr. Pollard spoke, trying to balance VAPE consequences that are tough enough to act as a deterrent but not so long that they damage the student's academic performance is a tough task. Currently, vape infractions result in a 45 day DAEP placement with the possibility of a early return to campus after 30 days if the student has been reaching all of their placement goals. Vapes containing THC result in a 60 day DAEP placement with the possibility of an early return to campus after 45 days. Students in possession of VAPES with THC also receive consequences related to our substance abuse policy. Although this was only an information item, the board's discussion regarding the recommended changes was supportive. The board will review this topic again later in the summer when the code of conduct and campus handbooks are presented. We would like to recommend the following:

Students found to be in possession of any tobacco product, electronic cigarette (e-cigarette), or any other electronic vaporizing device or components while on school property or while attending an off-campus school-related activity will be assigned the following consequences (no early outs just the lengths designated below):

Strike 1 = 20 days DAEP

Strike 2 = 25 days DAEP

Strike 3 and beyond = 30 days DAEP

### **9. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

#### **A. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL BASED CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Becky Weatherford, Executive Director of Special Services, recommended the Board renew the memorandum of understanding with Central Counties Services for the 2025-2026 school year.

This motion, made by Linda Maxwell and seconded by Calvin Ford, Passed.

Cheyenne Kizer: Absent, Mary Anne Leib: Absent, Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

#### **B. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING-TEMPLE COLLEGE DUAL CREDIT PROGRAM 2025-2026**

Dr. Scott Harper, Asst. Supt. of Academics and Student Services, recommended that the Board approve the MOU with Temple College so GHS students may continue to take advantage of dual credit coursework offered through the Texas Bioscience Institute.

This motion, made by Calvin Ford and seconded by Charles Alderson, Passed.

Cheyenne Kizer: Absent, Mary Anne Leib: Absent, Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

#### **C. MINIMUM GRADE REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES IN ADVANCED COURSES FOR 2025-2026**

Dr. Harper recommended the Board approve the proposal that student-athletes maintain a minimum of a 60 average in any advanced courses to be considered passing with regard to the UIL "No Pass-No Play" rule. This motion, made by Charles Alderson and seconded by Linda Maxwell, Passed.

Cheyenne Kizer: Absent, Mary Anne Leib: Absent, Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

#### **D. BID PROPOSAL FOR BASEBALL UPGRADES**

Goodwin reported that GISD advertised two separate Requests for Proposal (RFP's) to find builders to complete this project. One RFP is for the dug out and back stop. The second RFP is for the netting and poles. RFP's were open two week and due on June 11, 2025 at 9am. After tabulating the bids through a rubric with the committee, the following companies were chosen as the winning bid to present to the board:

RFP Dug Out & Back Stop: none, no bidders, will add details to RFP and re-advertise

RFP Netting & Poles: Containment Systems for \$53,000

Goodwin recommended awarding the Netting and Poles RFP to Containment Systems then administration and athletics will re-advertise to seek bids for the second project.

This motion, made by Calvin Ford and seconded by Charles Alderson, Passed.

Cheyenne Kizer: Absent, Mary Anne Leib: Absent, Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

#### **E. SALARY SCHEDULES FOR 2025-2026 FOR "JULY START" STAFF**

Goodwin presented salary schedules for July start staff. With the passing of HB2 earlier this month, new compensation laws were mandated by the Texas Legislation. Guidance from TEA on how to carry out these laws and how money will be disbursed has yet to be determined.

Today, the administration is presenting only the "July Start" salary pay plans and will present the rest at the July board meeting next month to allow time for guidance from TEA. The pay plans have been adjusted to allow for step increases that better fit the current cost of living/inflation and to meet the anticipated requirements of HB2. This allows for GISD staff to have more ability to increase their maximum salary in the long term and receive on average a 3% raise in the short term for the 25-26 school year contract.

Goodwin recommended the Board approve the new salary pay plan for staff that have a "July Start" contract date that includes cost of living step increases and parameters of HB2.

This motion, made by Charles Alderson and seconded by Calvin Ford, Passed.

Cheyenne Kizer: Absent, Mary Anne Leib: Absent, Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

#### **F. UPDATE CFB (LOCAL) CAPITALIZATION INVENTORIES**

Goodwin presented, on January 30, 2025 TEA released a letter announcing Timeline and Implementation of the New Federal Grant Regulation Changes (or EDGAR Manual). The district was

charged to create, revise, and/or update all applicable grant procedures to align to the implementation of all federal grant changes by July 1, 2025. The policy changes included some items the board must take action on before July 2025 as follows:

The definition of equipment has changed the initial purchase price from \$5,000 per unit of local acquisition threshold, whichever is lower, to \$10,000 per unit or local acquisition threshold, whichever is lower.

Goodwin recommended that the board approve changing the initial purchase price of equipment from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per unit acquisition threshold.

This motion, made by Linda Maxwell and seconded by Loyd Hopson, Passed.

Cheyenne Kizer: Absent, Mary Anne Leib: Absent, Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

#### **G. UPDATE CBB (LOCAL) MICRO-PURCHASES – DEFINITIONS**

Goodwin also presented, that on January 30, 2025 TEA released a letter announcing Timeline and Implementation of the New Federal Grant Regulation Changes (or EDGAR Manual). The district was charged to create, revise, and/or update all applicable grant procedures to align to the implementation of all federal grant changes by July 1, 2025. The policy changes included some items the board can take action on for the 25-26 school year as follows:

TEA allows for flexibility of the micro-purchase threshold. As required under EDGAR, the micro-purchase threshold of \$10,000 is an aggregate amount. The LEA may expend no more than \$10,000 on micro-purchases throughout the fiscal year. The threshold amount applies to the sum of all the federal grants received by the LEA. However, TEA allows LEAs to self-certify a higher micro-purchase threshold (up to \$50,000) if they meet specific criteria (e.g., being a low-risk auditee). GUSD meets the criteria of being a low-risk auditee.

Goodwin recommended changing of CBB(LOCAL) to allow the superintendent to self-certify and change the micro-purchasing threshold from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

This motion, made by Loyd Hopson and seconded by Linda Maxwell, Passed.

Cheyenne Kizer: Absent, Mary Anne Leib: Absent, Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

#### **H. STAFF DEVELOPMENT MINUTES WAIVER FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR**

Dr. Pollard recommended the board approve management pursuing the staff development minutes waiver.

This motion, made by Charles Alderson and seconded by Linda Maxwell, Passed.

Cheyenne Kizer: Absent, Mary Anne Leib: Absent, Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

#### **I. SB 401: PARTICIPATION OF NON-ENROLLED STUDENTS IN UIL ACTIVITIES**

Dr. Pollard explained SB 401, a Texas Senate Bill, relates to the participation of non-enrolled students (such as homeschool students) in UIL activities. Specifically, it clarifies that public schools can offer this opportunity to students who meet league eligibility standards, but also allows school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to adopt policies declining to grant non-enrolled students access. The bill takes effect for the 2025-2026 school year. This is similar to an option that was presented about four years ago regarding homeschool students participating in public school extra-curricular activities. Our biggest concern with this option is the high likelihood that vast numbers of students would opt for a homeschool option coupled with public school extracurricular activities. If a school declines participation

for non-enrolled students, the bill allows those students to participate at the closest school that does not have such a policy. Our TASB policy expert provided this language for us to add to FD Local and FM Local.

Dr. Pollard recommended the board adopt the policy language to FD Local and FM Local stating that students enrolled in a private school, including a homeschool, shall not be eligible for concurrent enrollment in the District nor for participation in curricular or extracurricular activities.

This motion, made by Charles Alderson and seconded by Linda Maxwell, Passed.

Cheyenne Kizer: Absent, Mary Anne Leib: Absent, Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

## **10. EXECUTIVE SESSION (TEX. GOV'T CODE 551.001)**

The board took a break at 6:16 PM and then went into executive session at 6:21 PM and returned to open session at 7:08 PM.

**A. DELIBERATION REGARDING RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, EMPLOYMENT, REASSIGNMENTS, DUTIES, AND EVALUATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL (TEX. GOV'T CODE 551.074)**

**B. DELIBERATION REGARDING RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, EMPLOYMENT, REASSIGNMENTS, DUTIES, AND EVALUATION OF PERSONNEL (TEX. GOV'T CODE 551.074)**

## **11. ACTION PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**A. RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, EMPLOYMENT, REASSIGNMENTS, DUTIES, AND EVALUATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL**

**B. RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, EMPLOYMENT, REASSIGNMENTS, DUTIES, AND EVALUATION OF PERSONNEL**

Information only; no board action needed.

<b>Resignations</b>	<b>Campus/Position</b>	<b>Last Day</b>
Kennedie Lanham	EL-2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	5/23/25
Shana Wetzel	IN-Counselor (part-time)	5/30/25

<b>Reassignments (2025-2026)</b>	<b>Current Position</b>	<b>Reassigned to</b>	<b>Replacing</b>
Jason Allman	JH-Health/Coach	JH-Special Ed/Coach	New Position
Kari Patterson	DW-ESL Teacher	PR-PreK 4	Jana Richardson
Sarah Pender	IN-6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	HS-CTE Graphic Designs	Sherry Stephens
Mackensie Wilson	JH-Health/Coach	JH-Math	Madeline Necessary
Angela Saldivar	IN-4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	DW-ESL Teacher/Coord	Julia Martin

<b>Employ (2025-2026)</b>	<b>Type Contract</b>	<b>Term</b>
Claudia DeLaTorre	Probationary	10 month
Jake Hood	Probationary	11 month
Brandi Jaegler	Probationary	10 month
Steven McCraw	Probationary	10 month
Anita Paul	Probationary	10 month
Maygan Payan	Probationary	10 month
Ruben Perez	Probationary	10 month
Loren Perry	Probationary	10 month
Misti Ray	Probationary	10 month
Wyatt Reed	Probationary	12 month

**FUTURE BUSINESS**

**A. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Ament adjourned the meeting at 7:08 PM with no voiced objections.

We affirm that these minutes are official, complete and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice President

Date Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_