

Meeting of the Board of Trustees
GOOSE CREEK CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Baytown, Texas

December 16, 2024

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

The Board of Trustees and the Administrative Staff of the Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District met in a Special School Board meeting on Monday, December 16, 2024, 6:00 p.m. at the Administration Building with the following Board members present.

PRESENT: Mrs. Helen Berrott-Tims, President; Mrs. Tiffany Guy, Vice President; Mr. James “Jim” Campisi, Secretary; Mr. Mercedes Renteria, III, Assistant Secretary; Mr. Jessie Martinez, Mr. Richard Clem, and Mr. Howard Sampson

ABSENT: None

Mr. Renteria arrived at 6:04 p.m.

OPENING EXERCISES

Board Vice President Tiffany Guy led the prayer. The Pledges of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags was recited by Board Secretary James Campisi.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

The following registered to address the Board of Trustees regarding Lamar Elementary:

1. Ginger McKay, community member – resident, asked the Board of Trustees to deliberate all the options and make a decision that will continue a promising path that moves us forward and thru the progress of change
2. Stacy Romeo, teacher – shared a student experience at Lamar, against the repurposing of Lamar Elementary
3. Katrina Mericle, teacher – no transparency, against repurpose of Lamar Elementary
4. Aurelia Yznaga, Campus Student Success Specialist – against repurpose of Lamar Elementary
5. Robert B Martin Jr., community resident – transparency, property value, against repurpose of Lamar Elementary
6. Lucero Guzman., parent – against repurpose of Lamar Elementary
7. Aleyda Suarez, parent – transparency, alternative options, against repurpose of Lamar Elementary
8. Gonzalo Espinosa, community member – lack of transparency, against repurpose of Lamar
9. Terry Martino, teacher – against repurpose of Lamar Elementary
10. Kristen McDowell and Anya McDowell, parent and student against repurpose of Lamar Elementary

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent’s Reports

1. Board Recommendation to Repurpose Lamar Elementary School

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Dr. Matt Bolinger, Executive Director of Community Engagement Kendall David, Director of Facilities and Construction Brenda Garcia presented on the Board’s recommendation to repurpose Lamar Elementary School as listed below:

WHY CONSOLIDATE?

Demographic Study

- Declining student population highlighted by the 2024 demographic study indicates an underutilization of facilities on the south-side of the District.

Efficiency with Tax Dollars

- Campus consolidation maximizes District resources, significantly lowering per-pupil expenditures and generating annual cost savings of \$2.5 million.

Rezoning

- Aligns with the District’s comprehensive rezoning plan to maximize building utilization throughout the District.

Programming

- Allows for the District to expand Peter E. Hyland and the daycare + move POINT out of old San Jacinto Elementary.

State Challenges

- Lack of funding has forced a statewide trend of leveraging school consolidation as a budget reduction strategy.

CAMPUS REPURPOSE TIMELINE:

March 2024 – Budget Reduction Workshop: Consideration of School Consolidation as a tier 2 budget reduction strategy.

June 2024 – Demographic Study: Complete a demographic study and presented to the Board.

October 2024- GC2035: GC2035 reached consensus that Lamar would be repurposed

November 2024 – GC2035 Update: Board and Lamar community informed of the upcoming GC2035 recommendation.

December 2024 – Board Recommendation: GC2035 Presentation of the Long-Range Facility Plan

ELEMENTARY CAMPUS CAPACITY

	24-25	33-34
Smith	58%	56%
Lamar	60%	59%
Carver	70%	81%
Hopper	71%	79%
Harlem	73%	72%

Austin	80%	86%
San Jacinto	80%	75%
Walker	81%	148%
Banuelos	82%	96%
De Zavala	82%	80%
Alamo	83%	95%
Bowie	83%	79%
Crockett	87%	81%
Travis	102%	107%
Clark	110%	107%
Pumphrey	122%	131%
Highlands	131%	152%

GC 2035 REPURPOSE SUMMARY

- GC2035 Reviewed the following:
- Facility Condition Assessments
- Site, Acreage, Traffic Flow, Entrances
- Campus Accessibility and Classroom Use
- Demographic Study

LAMAR ELEMENTARY

Less Playground Space

Higher RI by 5.3 million

4 Additional Priority 1 Projects

Minimal Entrance Modifications

Restroom Accessibility in First

Floor Classrooms

SMITH ELEMENTARY

More Playground Space (6.5 Acres)

Modification Needed to Student Pathways
 And Center Stairwells

BUDGET REDUCTION

Lamar Consolidation Staff Savings	\$1,728,000
San Jacinto Yearly Utilities	\$96,479
San Jacinto Yearly Average Maintenance Hours	\$12,922
San Jacinto Yearly Average Maintenance Material Costs	\$35,309
San Jacinto Yearly Average Custodial Supplies	\$7,900
San Jacinto Yearly Average HVAC Upgrades and Repair	\$550,00
Total Yearly Cost Savings	\$2,430,610

TENTATIVE TRANSITION PLAN

1. Pending Board approval, a survey will be sent on January 6th for Lamar teachers to select preferences.
2. Administrative Guidelines will be followed when reassigning Lamar teachers between Carver and Ashbel Smith
3. Teachers will not interview for carver or Ashbel Smith, but will interview if they choose the transfer list, the same process for anyone on the transfer list.
4. March 17th, assign teachers to Carver and Ashbel.
5. April 1st, transfer window opens, allowing principals to interview teachers interested in their campus.
6. Lamar Teachers not selected from the transfer list will be assigned to vacancies in the District.

Currently 38 teachers at Lamar with the majority will follow students and retaining every Lamar employee. The name (Lamar) will be voted on separately.

ACTION ITEMS

9530. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE REPURPOSING OF LAMAR ELEMENTARY AS OUTLINED WITHIN THE GC2035 COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Clem moved and Mrs. Guy seconded the motion **THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE REPURPOSING OF LAMAR ELEMENTARY AS PRESENTED.** The motion passed with Mrs. Berrott-Tims, Mrs. Guy, Mr. Campisi, Mr. Martinez, Mr. Clem, and Mr. Sampson voting for motion. Mr. Renteria voted against the motion.

The District administration recommends repurposing Lamar Elementary School to accommodate the needs of Peter E. Hyland Alternative School and expand the District's day care services. This recommendation is part of a broader effort to optimize District resources in response to shifting enrollment patterns and aligns with the district's strategic plan goals of financial stewardship and operational excellence. Lower enrollment on the south side of the District has created an opportunity to consolidate facilities, ensuring resources are utilized effectively and equitably. Repurposing Lamar Elementary will allow for the expansion of critical programs while addressing the District's strategic priorities.

The name of Lamar Elementary School will be addressed separately the next Board agenda item.

CLOSED MEETING

At approximately 7:45 p.m., President Helen Berrott-Tims recessed the Regular Meeting into a Closed Session with the following statement:

This Board will now recess into a Closed Session pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Openning Meetings Act: 551.071, Private consultation with the Board's Attorney; 551.072, Discussing purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property with representatives of employee groups; 551.073, Discussing negotiated contracts for prospective gifts or donations; 551.074, 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; and 551.083, Considering the standards, guidelines, terms, or conditions the Board will follow, or will instruct its representatives to follow, in consultation with representatives of employee groups."

Board Reconvenes into Regular Session

At approximately 8:08 p.m., the Board reconvened into Regular Session with President Helen Berrott-Tims presiding. No action was taken while in Closed Session.

9531. CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL

Mrs. Guy moved and Mr. Clem seconded the motion **THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE EIGHT (2) ELECTIONS, FOUR (4) RESIGNATIONS AND RETIREMENTS AS PRESENTED.** The motion passed with Mrs. Berrott-Tims, Mrs. Guy, Mr. Campisi, Mr. Renteria, Mr. Martinez, Mr. Clem, and Mr. Sampson voting for the motion.

Superintendent Approved Elections:

1. Carli Lawley, teacher, assigned to Ross S. Sterling High School.
2. Victoria Short, teacher, assigned to Highlands Junior School.

Accepted Resignations and Retirements:

1. **Dori-Marie Adams**, CTE – culinary arts/food science teacher at Goose Creek Memorial High School, is resigning effective December 20, 2024.
2. **Daniel Raymundo**, CTE – food science teacher at Goose Creek Memorial High School, is retiring effective December 31, 2024. Mr. Raymundo is in his 25th year of experience with the District.
3. **Janet Tello**, counselor at San Jacinto Elementary School, is retiring effective December 20, 2024. Ms. Tello is in her 23th year of experience with the District.
4. **Jeremy Williams**, special education – inclusion teacher at Ross S. Sterling High School, is resigning effective December 20, 2024.

Administrative Personnel:

Educational Technology Specialist

Mr. Clem moved and Mrs. Guy seconded the motion **THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE ELECTION OF KATHARINE WARD AS AN EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST.** The motion passed with Mrs. Berrott-Tims, Mrs. Guy, Mr. Campisi, Mr. Renteria, Mr. Martinez, Mr. Clem, and Mr. Sampson voting for the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Board President Helen Berrott-Tims adjourned the Special Board meeting at 8:09 p.m.