

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE GALVESTON
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT COVID-19 Virus**

WHEREAS, the Galveston Independent School District Board of Trustees recognizes that officials in the City of Houston and Harris County have declared an emergency regarding the potential spread of coronavirus/COVID-19 (hereafter "COVID- 19") and that the territory included in Galveston Independent School District is within the areas where an emergency has been declared; and,

WHEREAS, the Galveston Independent School Board of Trustees recognizes that COVID-19 is an unforeseen and unavoidable emergency of urgent public necessity, that the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a pandemic, and that additional emergency declarations may follow in the coming days and weeks; and,

WHEREAS, the Galveston Independent School District Board of Trustees has a substantial public interest in protecting the health and safety of its students, staff, and community and therefore desires to ensure that the school and community are prepared to the fullest extent possible to protect the health and safety of students, staff, and community in light of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Galveston Independent School District seeks to retain its employees, reduce turnover, increase morale, help employees focus on work-related matters while at work, and facilitate the return to duty of employees if schools are closed and believes that an additional public purpose exists in doing so; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Galveston Independent School District believes the public purposes described above are fulfilled by efficiently and effectively making certain delegations, as described more fully herein, to the Superintendent to address this ever-changing emergency situation in the best interest of the health, safety, and well-being of its students, staff, community, and the citizenship at-large.

IT IS THEREFORE:

RESOLVED THAT the Board of Trustees of the Galveston Independent School District finds a substantial public purpose exists in protecting the health and safety of its students, staff, and community and therefore in ensuring that the school district and community are prepared to the fullest extent possible to protect the health and safety of students, staff, and community in light of COVID-19; and,

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Trustees of the Galveston Independent School finds a public purpose also exists in retaining its employees, reducing turnover, increasing morale, helping employees focus on work-related matters while at work, and facilitating the return to duty of employees if schools are closed; and,

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT in furtherance of the public purposes so stated in this Resolution, the Board of Trustees of the Galveston Independent School District makes the following delegations to the Superintendent in order to efficiently and effectively prepare the school district in response to the declarations of emergency announced by the City of Houston and Harris County as well as in preparation for the potential declarations of emergencies by other local, state, and/or national and international officials:

- (1) The authority to act in the place of the Board under Board Policy DEA (Local) and thus make all decisions regarding payment of employees during an emergency closure, to implement the provisions of Board Policy DEA (Local), and to make determinations regarding the purpose and parameters of any such payments;
- (2) The authority to make decisions regarding the compensation, if any, of exempt employees during an emergency closure and to implement those decisions;
- (3) The authority to alter the Galveston ISD 2020-2021 school calendar by changing and/or adding school/instructional hours and work/school days as necessitated by any emergency closure or related concerns;
- (4) The authority to create guidelines and make determinations regarding absences, leave time, leave days, and compensation of any employee who is quarantined as a result of COVID-19 and/or who tests positive for COVID-19 and who presents appropriate medical documentation regarding themselves and/or an immediate family member, in the sole discretion of the Superintendent or her designee, in compliance with Texas and federal law;
- (5) The authority to seek any necessary waivers from the Texas Education Agency without further action of the Board of Trustees regarding missed instructional days, low attendance, or any matters related to the emergency closures as part of this Resolution; and
- (6) The authority to declare a catastrophe and take all actions as appropriate in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 552.233 regarding temporary suspension of the Texas Public Information Act.

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT (1) the emergency of COVID-19 and its potential spread constitutes an unforeseen emergency (matter of urgent public necessity); (2) the delays posed by competitive procurement of contracts necessary to restore, replace, and/or repair equipment, personal property, and/or school facilities will prevent or substantially impair the conduct of classes or other essential school activities; and (3) the Superintendent and her designee(s) are authorized to procure, negotiate, and execute for goods and services that are necessary to mitigate, prevent, restore, and repair damage caused to Galveston Independent School District equipment, personal property, and facilities or to protect the safety of Galveston

Independent School District students and staff; and (4) the Superintendent shall inform the Board of Trustees of all emergency purchases made hereunder at the next regular Board meeting following such purchases, the Superintendent's emergency authority as contemplated in this Resolution shall expire when the declarations of emergency have been lifted or by the actions of the Board of Trustees whichever is sooner.

CERTIFICATE FOR RESOLUTION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was presented to the Board of Trustees of the Galveston Independent School District during the regular meeting November 18, 2020, a quorum of the Board of Trustees being then present, it was then duly moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted, and such resolution was then adopted according to the following vote:

Ayes: _____
Nays: _____
Abstentions: _____

To certify which, witness my hand and the official seal of the District this 18th day of November 18, 2020.

Monica Wagner
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Anthony Brown
President, Board of Trustees