

Minutes of Regular Meeting August 25, 2025

Hays CISD Board of Trustees

These minutes are a record of the actions taken by the Hays CISD Board of Trustees in the meeting held on the above date. The complete video of the meeting is accessible at www.hayscisd.net for those who wish to hear the specific details of the discussions on the agenda topics presented.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Hays CISD was held on Monday, August 25, 2025 beginning at 5:30 PM in the Merideth Keller Board Room at the Hays CISD Academic Support Center, located at 21003 Interstate 35, Kyle, TX 78640.

CALL TO ORDER: Establish a quorum

Board President Byron Severance called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM. All members of the Board were present.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:31 PM to deliberate regarding the Superintendent's recommendations for employment, resignations, extended leave, and other personnel matters, pursuant to Tx. Gov't Code Section 551.071. The Board discussed the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property, pursuant to Tx. Gov't Code Section 551.072, and also deliberated regarding safety and security, including security personnel, systems, infrastructure, and/or devices, pursuant to Tx. Gov't Code Section 551.076.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Board President Byron Severance called the Board back to order to reconvene in open session at 6:46 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES AND TEXAS FLAGS

Board Secretary Geoff Seibel lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the US and Texas flags.

MISSION STATEMENT

Board Vice President Johnny Flores read the Hays CISD Board of Trustees Mission Statement.

SOCIAL CONTRACT

Trustee Courtney Runkle read the Hays CISD Board of Trustees Social Contract.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright addressed the Board to provide an update of enrollment to-date for the 2025-2026 school year. Dr. Wright addressed changes in legislation, many of which take effect on September 1, 2025. He noted that varsity football begins this week for all three of our comprehensive high schools. Dr. Wright then responded to questions and feedback from Trustee Esperanza Orosco, Trustee Courtney Runkle, and Board President Byron Severance.

PUBLIC HEARING of the Proposed Amendments to the Hays CISD Compensation Plan

Christina Courson, Chief Human Resources Officer, provided a summary of the updates to the compensation plan. There were no guests present requesting to address the Board.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were two guests at the meeting requesting to address the Board of Trustees. Billy Norton addressed the Board regarding the District memo regarding newly-adopted Senate Bill 12. Amy Russell addressed the Board regarding GPA/Class Rank policy inequity.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item, asking if there were any consent agenda items a trustee wished to pull for discussion. Board Vice President Johnny Flores requested to pull item J.2b, renewal of an agreement with Communities in Schools and item J.4, adoption of the Student Code of Conduct for the 25-26 school year. Trustee Esperanza Orosco requested to pull agenda item J.5, approval of the Student Health Advisory Committee members for the 25-26 school year, and Board Secretary Geoff Seibel requested to pull item J.7, property, liability, automotive, and workers' compensation insurance – TASB Risk Management. After discussion of each item pulled, Board President Byron Severance read the suggested motion that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve consent agenda items J.1 through J.6, as presented. Johnny Flores moved and Trustee Vanessa Petrea seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0. Approval of agenda item J.7 is listed below, as it was voted separate from other consent items.

Consideration and possible approval of meeting minutes

There were no questions from the Board of Trustees regarding this agenda item.

Agreements, Contracts, and MOUs

Consideration and possible adoption of a Resolution to recognize the 4-H Organization of Hays County as a Hays CISD Extracurricular Activity and name the Hays County Extension Agents as Adjunct Faculty Members

There were no questions from the Board regarding this agenda item.

Consideration and possible approval of the renewal of an Agreement between Hays CISD and Communities in schools for Services for the 2025-2026 School Year

Board Vice President Johnny Flores pulled this item for discussion. As part of the initial discussion of Consent items, Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer, responded with information for clarity. There was no further discussion.

Consideration and possible approval of Certified Appraisers and Future Certified Administrators for the 2025-2026 School Year

There were no questions from the Board regarding this agenda item.

Consideration and possible Adoption of the Student Code of Conduct for the 2025-2026 School Year

Board Vice President Johnny Flores pulled this item for discussion. As part of the initial discussion of Consent items, Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer, responded to questions and feedback from Vice President Flores and Trustee Courtney Runkle. Cynthia Zapata, Director of Student Services, also provided information.

Consideration and possible approval of Appointments for the Hays CISD School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) for the 2025-2026 School Year

Trustee Esperanza Orosco pulled this agenda item for discussion. As part of the initial discussion of Consent items, Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer, responded to provide clarification. Megan Benthall, Director of Student Health Services, also provided information. The pair also responded to questions and feedback from Trustees Courtney Runkle and Vanessa Petrea.

Consideration and possible adoption of a resolution declaring Hays CISD Investment Officers for the 2025-2026 School Year

There were no questions from the Board regarding this agenda item.

Consideration and possible approval of the Hays CISD Property, School Liability, Automobile, Workers' and Unemployment Compensation Insurance – TASB Risk Management

Board Secretary Geoff Seibel pulled this item for discussion. As part of the initial discussion of Consent items, Deborah Ottmers, Chief Financial Officer, responded to questions and feedback from

Mr. Seibel and Trustee Raul Vela. Board President Byron Severance read the suggested motion that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the property, school liability, automobile and workers' compensation insurance coverages from the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Risk Management Fund for an amount not to exceed \$3,194,458, as presented. Trustee Vanessa Petrea moved and Secretary Geoff Seibel seconded the motion. Trustee Esperanza Orosco noted that she would abstain from this vote as TASB is her employer. There was no further discussion. The motion passed with a vote of 6-0-1, with Trustee Esperanza Orosco abstaining.

ACTION ITEMS

Consideration and possible action, if any, resulting from closed session

Consideration and possible approval of the Superintendent's recommendation to employ administrative personnel

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item and read the suggested motion that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the Superintendent's recommendation to contractually employ the Assistant Principal at Lehman High School and Directors of Special Education, as discussed. Board Vice President Johnny Flores moved and Trustee Raul Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0. Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright addressed the Board to introduce the new assistant principal of Lehman High School as Eric McCune. He also introduced the three new directors of special education as LaShun Gaines, Linda Sedillo, and Lauren Gomez. There was no further discussion.

Consideration and possible adoption of the proposed revisions to the Hays CISD Employee Compensation Plan for the 2025-2026 School Year

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Christina Courson, Chief Human Resources Officer, addressed the Board to summarize the updates and adjustments. Ms. Courson responded to questions and feedback from Board Secretary Geoff Seibel, Board Vice President Johnny Flores, Trustee Esperanza Orosco, Trustee Vanessa Petrea, and Board President Byron Severance. Mr. Severance read the suggested motion that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the proposed revisions to the Hays CISD Employee Compensation Plan for the 2025-2026 school year, as presented. Trustee Raul Vela moved and Board Vice President Johnny Flores seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible adoption of TASB recommended revisions to Local Policy EFT – Library Materials

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer, and Emily Herrin, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, addressed the Board to present slides to summarize the policy revisions. Ms. Sedillo and Ms. Herrin responded to questions and feedback from Trustee Courtney Runkle and Board Vice President Johnny Flores. The Board paused the meeting briefly to gather documents to support this agenda item. President Severance recommended that this agenda item be postponed definitely until the next Board meeting. Trustee Orosco called a Point of Order for clarification of Board action. Trustee Orosco seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion to postpone passed by a vote of 7-0.

Review and possible adoption of TASB-recommended revisions to Local Policy FD - Admissions

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer, Lance Moffett, Director of Athletics, and Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright responded to questions and feedback from Trustee Courtney Runkle, Trustee Raul Vela, Board Vice President Johnny Flores, and Board Secretary Geoff Seibel. President Severance read the suggested motion that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the TASB-recommended revisions

to local policy FD, as presented. Trustee Vanessa Petrea moved and Trustee Esperanza Orosco seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Review and possible adoption of the TASB-recommended revisions to Local Policy FM – Student Activities
Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the TASB-proposed revisions to local policy FM. Trustee Esperanza Orosco seconded the motion. Dr. Eric Wright, Superintendent, and Lance Moffett, Director of Athletics, responded to questions and feedback from trustee Vanessa Petrea, Board Secretary Geoff Seibel, and Trustee Raul Vela. Trustee Orosco moved to amend the previous motion to include, as discussed. Mr. Vela seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the TASB-proposed revisions to local policy FM, as discussed. Trustee Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Review and possible approval of TASB-recommended revisions to Local Policy FNCE – Student Conduct: Personal Telecommunications / Electronic Devices

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Cynthia Zapata, Director of Student Services, addressed the Board to summarize the request and recommended revisions. Ms. Zapata responded to questions and feedback from Board Secretary Geoff Seibel and Trustee Courtney Runkle. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the TASB recommended revisions to local policy FNCE, as presented. Trustee Courtney Runkle seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Second Reading and possible adoption of proposed revisions to Local Policies CCA – Local Revenue Sources: Bond Issues, and GE – Relations with Parent Organizations

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the proposed revisions to local policy CCA and local policy GE, as discussed and presented. Trustee Courtney Runkle seconded the motion. Trustee Esperanza Orosco posed a request to separate policy revisions on their own transmittal moving forward. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Second Reading and possible adoption of TASB Policy Update 125 Affecting Local Policies

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt TASB Policy Update 125 affecting local policies, as presented. Board Vice President Johnny Flores seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Review and possible adoption of Local Policy CDA – Other Revenues: Investments

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Deborah Ottmers, Chief Financial Officer, addressed the Board to summarize the request. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt Local Policy CDA – Other Revenues: Investments, as presented. Trustee Vanessa Petrea seconded the motion. Discussion was had based on comments from Board Secretary Geoff Seibel and Trustee Raul Vela. There was no further comment, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible approval of Pass-through Payments from the Texas Association of School Business Officials and Ector County Independent School District to the Hays CISD Chief Financial Officer

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. The Board engaged in conversation based on questions from Trustees Raul Vela and Courtney Runkle. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the pass-through payments from the Texas Association of School Business Officials (TASBO) and the direct payment from Ector County Independent School District to the Hays CISD Chief Financial Officer, as discussed. Trustee Vanessa Petrea seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Review and possible adoption of the Hays CISD Board of Trustees Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Beliefs Statement, and Social Contract

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item, read each statement, and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the revised mission, Vision, Beliefs, and Social Contract, as presented. Trustee Esperanza Orosco seconded the motion and commented. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible adoption of Revised Hays CISD Board Operating Procedures

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item and stated that action for this topic will be moved to a future meeting to be determined.

Consideration and possible adoption of the Hays CISD Goals for 2025-2026

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright summarized the edits. The group participated in discussion based on comments from Trustee Esperanza Orosco, Trustee Raul Vela, Trustee Courtney Runkle, and Board President Byron Severance. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the Hays CISD Goals for 2025-2026, as discussed. Trustee Esperanza Orosco seconded the motion. There was no further action, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible adoption of the instrument to be used to evaluate the Superintendent for the 2025-2026 school year

Board President Byron Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the 2025-2026 Superintendent Evaluation Instrument, as discussed. Trustee Esperanza Orosco seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible approval of the 2025 Bond purchase of a Fleet of Copiers and Applicable Maintenance & Service Agreements for Hays CISD Campuses and Departments – Sharp Business

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Deborah Ottmers, Chief Financial Officer, addressed the Board to summarize the request. Mrs. Ottmers, Alan Duerr, Chief Technology Officer, and Anston Shockley, Senior Buyer, engaged in conversation with the Board based on questions and feedback from Trustee Vanessa Petrea, Trustee Raul Vela, Board Secretary Geoff Seibel, and President Severance. Mr. Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the 2025 Bond-funded purchase of a fleet of copiers and applicable maintenance and service agreements for Hays CISD campuses and departments from Sharp Business for an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000, as presented. Trustee Raul Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

The Board paused for a short break at 9:26PM, returning to the dais at 9:37PM.

Consideration and possible approval of the 2025 Bond-purchase of Project Management Software - Procore

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Max Cleaver, Chief Operations Officer, addressed the Board to summarize the transmittal and request. Mr. Cleaver and Deborah Ottmers, Chief Financial Officer, responded to questions and feedback from Board Secretary Geoff Seibel, Trustee Raul Vela, Board Vice President Johnny Flores, and President Byron Severance. Mr. Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the 2025 Bond purchase of project management software through Carahsoft Cooperative from Procore for an estimated amount of \$920,987, as presented. Vice President Johnny Flores seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible approval to grant a Utility Easement to CenterPoint Energy

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Max Cleaver, Chief Operations Officer, addressed the Board to summarize the request. Mr. Severance moved that the Hays CISD

Board of Trustees grant a utility easement to CenterPoint Energy Resources, and authorize the Board President and/or Superintendent to execute documents necessary and convenient to close the transaction, as presented. Trustee Vanessa Petrea seconded the motion. Trustee Raul Vela commented. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible approval of a Non-Standard Water Service Agreement with Goforth Special Utility District

Board President Byron Severance moved that the Hays CISD board of Trustees approve the non-standard water service agreement with Goforth Special Utility District for an amount not to exceed \$338,400, and authorize the Superintendent and/or Board President to execute documents necessary and convenient to complete the transaction. Trustee Vanessa Petrea seconded the motion. Board Secretary Geoff Seibel commented and questions with Max Cleaver, Chief Operations Officer, responding. Trustee Vanessa Petrea moved to amend the motion and postpone. Trustee Raul Vena seconded the motion to amend. Secretary Seibel and Trustee Petrea commented. The motion to amend passed by a vote of 7-0. President Severance moved to postpone definitely the non-standard water service agreement with Goforth Special Utility District for an amount not to exceed \$338,400, and authorize the Superintendent and/or Board President to execute documents necessary and convenient to complete the transaction, until next month. Board Vice President Johnny Flores seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible approval of 2025 Bond Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment Vendors and Budgets

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Chief Operations Officer Max Cleaver summarized the request. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve multiple vendors to facilitate the purchase of furniture, fixtures, and equipment for general fund purchases and bond projects, approve the 2025 bond project FF&E spending limits show, and authorize the Superintendent to execute satisfactory contracts, as presented. Trustee Raul Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible approval of the Design Development for 2025 Bond Renovations and Additions at Fuentes Elementary School and McCormick Middle School

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Chief Operations Officer Max Cleaver summarized the request and responded to feedback and questions from Board Secretary Geoff Seibel. Mr. Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve for future consideration the design development for 2025 Bond renovations and additions at Fuentes ES and McCormick MS, designed by O'Connell Robertson Architects, as presented. Trustee Vanessa Petrea seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible approval of the Assignment of Construction Manager-at-Risk for 2025 Bond Renovations and Additions at Fuentes Elementary School and McCormick Middle School

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Chief Operations Officer Max Cleaver summarized the request and responded to questions and feedback from Trustee Raul Vela, Board Secretary Geoff Seibel, and President Severance. Nathan Wensowitch, Executive Director of Facilities, Construction, and Bond Programs along with Randy Martinez of Joeris General Contractor, also provided information in response to trustee questions. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the assignment of construction manager-at-risk for 2025 Bond renovations and additions at Fuentes ES to Bartlett Cocke General Contractors and McCormick MS to Joeris General Contractor, and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate and execute satisfactory contracts for services, as presented. Trustee Vanessa Petrea seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible approval of the 2025 Bond Purchase of a 20-Ton Tow Truck – Wrecker Warehouse

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Chief Operations Officer Max Cleaver, along with Director of Transportation Cassandra Behr, addressed the Board to provide a summary of the request. The pair responded to questions and feedback from Trustee Courtney Runkle, Trustee Raul Vela, and President Byron Severance. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the 2025 Bond purchase of a 20-ton tow truck from Wrecker Warehouse for an amount not to exceed \$197,185, as presented. Trustee Raul Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Hays CISD Appraisal Calendar and Timeline

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Chief Human Resources Officer Christina Courson addressed the Board and responded to questions from Trustee Vanessa Petrea.

Update on district bond, Construction, and Renovation Projects

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Max Cleaver, Chief Operations Officer, responded to questions and feedback from Trustee Courtney Runkle, Vice President Johnny Flores, Trustee Raul Vela, and Trustee Vanessa Petrea.

Quarterly Investment Report for the 4th Quarter of the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Chief Financial Officer Deborah Ottmers addressed the Board to provide information to summarize the report for clarity and understanding. Mrs. Ottmers responded to questions and feedback from Board Secretary Geoff Seibel.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Requests for information were received from Trustee Vanessa Petrea, Trustee Raul Vela, Board Vice President Johnny Flores. Trustee Esperanza Orosco stated that she would submit her requests via email.

ADJOURN

Board President Byron Severance noted that the next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 15, 2025 at 5:30 PM. No further business was conducted, and President Severance announced that the meeting was adjourned at 10:31 PM.