

# Special Meeting

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 5:30 PM

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

**Present:** Charles Alderson, Charles Ament, Calvin Ford, Loyd Hopson, Cheyenne Kizer, Mary Anne Leib, Linda Maxwell.

**Absent:** Calvin Ford. Linda Maxwell arrived at 5:35 PM.

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

Charles Ament, President, declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.

## 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Charles Ament led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 3. INVOCATION

Dr. Scott Harper gave the invocation.

## 4. HORNET LEGENDS SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Barrett Pollard, Superintendent, recognized Lera Lam. Her first year of teaching was at Flat ISD in the 1960-1961 school year. Lera then took time to raise a family, but she received her elementary teaching certification in 1977. That same year she returned to the profession as a 3rd grade teacher at Gatesville ISD. For the next 23 years, Mrs. Lam would teach 4th grade before retiring in the spring of 2001. It is important to note that Lera also earned her master's degree in education in 1979. During her 25 year career, Mrs. Lam was a favorite of students and staff alike. In her evaluations, Principal Don Edwards wrote, "Mrs. Lam is an asset to our staff. It is a pleasure to have her teaching for us. She is professional and extremely interested in her job and students. She gives her students much individual help and give a great deal of praise. She is always positive and caring about her students." Principal Charles Ament wrote, "Mrs. Lam communicates really well. She does an especially nice job with her team as grade level chair. Lera always maintains a courteous environment where she frequently reminds students of how well they are doing. Excellent TAAS scores as a result." For all these reasons, Lera Lam is a Hornet Legend.

## 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

## 6. INFORMATION ITEMS

### A. SPUR CHEVROLET SPONSORSHIP

Rickey Phillips, Athletic Director, announced that Spur Chevrolet has offered to sponsor a new scoreboard at Tommy Davidson field at McKamie Stadium. The sponsorship is for \$43,000. In exchange for that generous donation, GISD will provide the top advertising spot located at the top of the scoreboard and a smaller spot at the bottom for 10 years ending in 2035. The scoreboard will also have 3 other advertising spots for other community businesses to have the opportunity to purchase as well. GISD athletics will also recognize SPUR with a special presentation at one of the GHS football varsity games.

## 7. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

### A. INNOVATIVE COURSES 2025-2026

Dr. Scott Harper, Asst. Supt. of Academics and Student Services, explained that TEA allows districts to offer state-approved innovative courses to enable students to master additional skills not included in

the current required curriculum. TEA has a list of approved innovative courses. With the approval of the board of trustees, Gatesville ISD will offer a new state-approved innovative courses this year for elective credit. The class is Sports and Entertainment Marketing II taught by Michael Hallman.

Dr. Harper recommended the approval of the Sports and Entertainment Marketing II class for the 2025-2026 school year.

This motion, made by Linda Maxwell and seconded by Mary Anne Leib, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

#### **B. REVISED ALTERNATE ATTENDANCE-TAKING TIME FOR MORNING TBI STUDENTS**

Dr. Pollard explained that some of our high school students are members of special programs whereby they are not on campus during the traditional morning attendance-taking time. For example, students attending Temple College's Texas Bioscience Institute in the morning would need an alternate attendance-taking time in the afternoon. We received word last week that our TBI students are in class until 12:35 every day. They are also on the main Temple College campus so their drive is further. They are not able to make it back in time for 6th period (which is when we originally thought we could take their attendance). Thus, we will need to take their attendance at 2:10 during their 7th period.

Dr. Pollard recommended the official attendance-taking time for morning TBI students be 2:10 p.m. for the 2025-2026 school year.

This motion, made by Cheyenne Kizer and seconded by Charles Alderson, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

#### **C. FINAL BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR 2024-2025**

LeighAnn Goodwin, Asst. Supt. of Finance, recommended the board approve the final budget amendments as presented for the 24-25 district operating budget.

This motion, made by Cheyenne Kizer and seconded by Linda Maxwell, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

#### **D. APPROVAL OF FINAL AMENDED 2024-2025 DISTRICT OPERATING BUDGET**

Goodwin recommended the board approve the final amended district operating budget for the 2024-2025 school year as presented.

This motion, made by Charles Alderson and seconded by Loyd Hopson, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

#### **E. ADOPTION OF 2025-2026 DISTRICT OPERATING BUDGET**

Goodwin presented the operating budget. Revenues include local, state, and federal revenue and is an increase of 8.5%. This increase is due to HB2 funding passed by the legislature in June 2025 to accommodate the new Teacher Retention Allotment requirement. Appropriations are a 5% increase from the prior year. The majority of the increase is dedicated to teacher retention allotment, raises for support staff, increased health benefit coverage, and increases in utilities.

Goodwin recommended that the board approve the 25-26 operating budget as presented as its final and adopted budget for the new fiscal year.

This motion, made by Mary Anne Leib and seconded by Charles Alderson, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

#### **F. ADOPTION OF 2025-2026 MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS TAX RATE**

Goodwin recommended the board approve and adopt the 2025 Maintenance & Operations (M&O) Tax Levy Rate of 0.6969 in support of the District's Operating Budget for fiscal year 2025-2026.

This motion, made by Cheyenne Kizer and seconded by Charles Alderson, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

#### **G. ADOPTION OF 2025 INTEREST & SINKING TAX RATE**

Goodwin recommended the board approve and adopt the 2025 I&S Tax Levy Rate of 0.200. This motion, made by Loyd Hopson and seconded by Cheyenne Kizer, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

#### **H. ADOPTION OF TAX ORDINANCE #49**

Goodwin recommended the adoption of Tax Ordinance #49. This motion, made by Loyd Hopson and seconded by Cheyenne Kizer, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

#### **I. FUND BALANCE RESOLUTION FOR AUGUST 31, 2025**

Goodwin recommended the board approve the commitment and assignment of portions of the district's fund balance as presented. This motion, made by Linda Maxwell and seconded by Mary Anne Leib, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

#### **J. RESOLUTION FOR GASB 54 ASSIGNMENT OF CAMPUS ACTIVITY FUNDS**

Goodwin recommended the board approve the assignment of that portion of the district's August 31, 2025 fund balance consisting of the total amount being held in the various campus activity funds. This motion, made by Mary Anne Leib and seconded by Linda Maxwell, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

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

The board took a break at 5:36 PM and went into executive session at 6:03 PM and returned to open session at 6:56 PM.

**A. DELIBERATION REGARDING RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, EMPLOYMENT, REASSIGNMENTS, DUTIES, AND EVALUATIONS 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)**

**9. ACTION PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**A. RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, EMPLOYMENT, REASSIGNMENTS, DUTIES, AND EVALUATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL**-no action needed

**B. RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, EMPLOYMENT, REASSIGNMENTS, DUTIES, AND EVALUATION OF PERSONNEL**-no action needed

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Ament adjourned the meeting at 6:56 PM with no voiced objections.

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

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President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

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