

MINUTES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SMITHVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Smithville Independent School District was held on Monday, December 16, 2024 beginning at 6:00 PM at the Smithville ISD Administrative Building, PO Box 479, 901 N.E. 6th Street, Smithville, Texas 78957.

Members present: Grant Gutierrez, Michael Hancock, Chelsa Vinklerek, Chris Hinnant, Josh Magden, Bryan Jones

Members absent: Candice Parsons

Others present: Lindsey Saunders, Amanda Hudspeth, Holly Brockman, Tucker Copeland, Sarah Vinklerek, Whitney Brown, Bethany Logan, Jean Ann McCarthy, Tracy Johnson, Devon Behrens, Chris Behrens, Connor Behrens, Preston Behrens, Zack Harris, Ronald Behrens, Allison Mouser, Nathan Mouser, Alma Hajek, Rebecca Hamilton, Stewart Burns, Misty Vasquez, Kristin Burns, Cheryl Burns, Denise Behrens

Call to Order – The Board President called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call – The Board President called the roll of members. Mrs. Parsons was absent.

Student Led Pledge of Allegiance – Students who have earned the most Tiger Tokens at Smithville Elementary led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those students were Casen Allen, Quinn Vanegas, Brant Staton, Anton Hajek, Kyzer Macks, Ja'Maya Parker, Preston Behrens, and Ryan Sanchez. Great job!

Smithville Elementary School Tiger of the Month – Elementary staff nominate students who exhibit characteristics such as kindness, strong character, and helpfulness for the “Tiger of the Month” award. Each month, one exceptional student will be honored by the campus, recognized at the school board meeting, and will receive a special yard sign to proudly display at home. The Tiger of the Month for November is Kash Kellough, a fourth grader in Mr. Vasquez’s class. Congratulations, Kash!

Public Communications – There were no citizens signed up to address the Board.

Consent Agenda – Josh Magden moved to approve Consent Agenda items 1 through 6 as presented. With a second from Grant Gutierrez, the vote passed 6-0.

1. Minutes
2. Financial Statements
3. Investment Report
4. State Aid Comparison - Budgeted vs. Earned
5. Earned vs. TEA Payments
6. Tax Collection Report

Financial Report – The business manager, Sean Sanchez, reviewed the financial disbursements for the previous month with the Board of Trustees. No action was required.

Superintendent's Report – The Superintendent updated the Board on the following important issues pertaining to the District:

- Enrollment numbers as of December 13, 2024 are 1844 students with an attendance rate of 88.94%.
- The Central Office Holiday Social is on Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. You are invited to attend.
- The Lady Tigers hosted a traveling team from Australia for games with the junior varsity and varsity last Wednesday. The Lady Tigers Varsity team also took 2nd place at the Flatonina Tournament.
- There is a slight change in basketball game times on Friday. The junior varsity girls team will play at 1:00 p.m., and the varsity girls team will play at 2:15. The junior varsity boys will play at 3:30 p.m. and the varsity boys will play at 4:45 p.m. These are home games.
- Six high school students competed in the Texas HOSA Competition on December 11th. Sophomore Emorie Jones qualified for the Regional competition, placing in the Top 10 out of 74 participants in the "Clinical Nursing" category.

****A little about HOSA: it is an international healthcare careers organization that is meant to prepare students to enter healthcare and/or similar fields. Mrs. Cassie Kovar, our Health Sciences teacher at the high school, started the first Smithville Chapter of HOSA this year.

Review of District and Campus Improvement Plans Status Reports – A format has been designed for an end of the year status report, which allows the Board to monitor the implementation of the District and Campus Improvement Plan. District and campus site-based committees have reviewed the progress of the implementation of each plan and staff members have prepared the status reports for the respective improvement plans. The principal, staff, and site base committee are responsible for evaluating each improvement plan. With input from the campus principals, Dr. Bethany Logan, Assistant Superintendent, reviewed the status reports with the Board.

Tentative January Agenda Items – Tentative items for the January board meeting include:

- a. Board Recognitions
- b. Public Hearing - Texas Academic Performance Report

- c. District Improvement Plan Mid-Year Update
- d. Call for Regular School Board Election, May 3, 2025
- e. Consider Approval of Election Services Contract with Fayette County, Bastrop County and Joint Election Contract with City of Smithville
- f. Personnel including Superintendent's Evaluation/Contract Renewal

Resignations of Certified Personnel – The Superintendent informed the Board of the resignations of Richard King, teacher/coach at the junior high, and Dorothy King, teacher at Smithville Elementary. No action was required.

Employment of Certified Personnel – There was no employment to recommend.

Superintendent's Self-Evaluation Submission to the Board of Trustees and Distribution of Evaluation Materials – The Superintendent distributed her self-evaluation to the Board of Trustees. Materials for evaluation of the Superintendent was included in the board packet.

Prior to the conclusion of the meeting, Mrs. Burns addressed the board members and meeting attendees. She expressed her intent to retire at the end of the 2024-2025 school year, concluding 41 years of service to public education. We wish her well.

Ajournment – The meeting was moved adjourned by Grant Gutierrez at 7:05 p.m., seconded by Michael Hancock. The vote was 6-0.