

Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting

Board of Trustees
Fabens ISD



A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fabens ISD was held Wednesday July 16, 2025, beginning at 6:30 PM in the Central Office, Board Room, 821 NE G Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838.

Members Present: Luis “Charlie” Estrada
Orlando Flores
Benjamin Morales
Angel Ornelas Jr.
Crystal Ramirez
Julieta Sepulveda Ramirez
Greg Spence

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present:	Dr. Rogelio Segovia	Ms. Roxana Amador
	Mr. Jesus Barba	Mr. Jason Blair
	Dr. April Galaviz	Mr. Justin Kleist
	Ms. Marcela Licerio	Ms. Sofia Maciel
	Ms. Silvia Nunez	Lt. Richard Orozco
	Ms. Rachel Pena	Mr. Michael Perez
	Ms. Aide Polanco	Ms. Corina Ruiz

Maria T. Rodriguez

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance, Mission and Vision Statements

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Board President, Mr. Luis “Charlie” Estrada. All members were in attendance.. The Pledge of Allegiance, Mission and Vision statements were recited by all present.

2. Superintendent Recognitions and Update – 6:31 PM

2.A. Convocation 2025 - 2026 Emcees: Celeste Delgado, Alyson Ortiz, Siena Sierra, Isaiah Sanchez and Rajon Cissoko

2.B. Fabens ISD 2024 -2025 Band Program Recognitions

2.C. Sabrositos Antojitos de Mexico - Steven Ornelas

Ms. Sofia Maciel opened the item and started with the Superintendent Update video highlighting the latest news.

Our FMS students that served as emcees during our 2025 – 2026 Convocation were recognized and thanked by all present for the outstanding job they did.

Mr. Miguel Soto, FHS Band Director recognized all the 2024 – 2025 Band program recognitions and accomplishments.

Mr. Steve Ornelas with Sabrositos Antojitos de Mexico; a local restaurant, was recognized for all his contributions to Fabens ISD and thanked by the Board and all present.

3. Communication and Visitors

Under this portion, no one signed up to address the Board.

4. Consent Agenda

4.A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, July 16, 2025

4.B. Minutes of the Finance Board Meeting, July 19, 2025

4.C. Fabens ISD Monthly Financial Reports / Budget Amendments / Federal Expenditures

4.D. Interlocal Agreement for the Establishment and Operation of the El Paso County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program Pursuant to Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code

4.E. Review and Approval of "I Love to Read with McDonald's Reading Initiative"

4.F. Fabens ISD 2025 - 2026 Student Code of Conduct

4.G. Fabens ISD 2025 -2026 Employee Handbook

4.H. Fabens ISD 2025 - 2026 Facilities and Maintenance Handbook

4.I. Texas Education Agency Maximum Class Size Waiver

Dr. Segovia opened the item and Mr. Ben Morales requested to pull item I for discussion and Ms. Crystal Ramirez pulled item E.

For Items A,B,C,D F,G,and H Mr. Greg Spence motioned and Mr. Orlando Flores seconded to approve as presented.

Motion Carried 7 -0

Item E and I - Mr. Manuel Aldaco, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction answered the questions from Mr. Morales and Ms. Ramirez.

Mr. Orlando Flores motioned and Mr. Angel Ornelas seconded to approve Item E and I as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

5. District Employees and Officers – 7:04 PM

5.A. 2025 -2026 New Hires

Ms. Aide Polanco, Director of Human Resources, introduced the new hires: Noe Avila, Adrian Esparza, Lucia Garcia, Lizette Ibarra-Barrientos, Judith Moreno and Emi Ortiz.

All were welcomed and congratulated by the Board.

6. Board of Trustees Business – 7:07 PM

6.A. Fabens ISD Title 1 Annual Meeting: Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and Federal Grants Presentation

Dr. April Galaviz, Director of Federal Programs, presented a Power Point presentation updating the Board and community present on the federal grants Fabens ISD receives/utilizes and the requirements for the different grants.

6.B. Approval of Fabens Veteran Park Committee Landscaping Request – 7:33

Mr. Luis Ramirez, Mr. Alberto Gonzales and Mr. Rafael Ramirez, Veteran Park Committee members requested boulders the district has and has no use of for the decorations at the Veteran Park. He provided pictures of the improvements being made at the park and pending project.

Mr. Benjamin Morales motioned and Mr. Greg Spence seconded to approve the donation of the boulders to the Veteran Park Committee.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.C. Review and Approval of Fabens ISD Board Policy FNCE (Local) Student Conduct - Personal Communication Devices/Electronic Devices – 7:42 PM

Mr. Aldaco, Asst. Supt., opened the item and presented a short video with students explaining the new changes regarding personal communication devices. He then explained that with this past legislative session, districts were required to address student's personal communication devices. The Board received in their packets the policy created by TASB for the changes Fabens ISD will be implementing.

Mr. Benjamin Morales motioned and Mr. Angel Ornelas seconded to approve FNCE (Local) as presented with language provided by TASB Policy Services.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.D. Review and Approval of Fabens ISD Designation of Officer Resolution – 7:53PM

Ms. Siliva Nunez, Director of Finance, presented the item and read the resolution designating the Director of Finance as the district's officer responsible for calculating and reporting the no-new-revenue tax rate and the voter approval tax rate as determined by state law.

Mr. Orlando Flores motioned to approve as presented, Mr. Angel Ornelas seconded.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.E. Approval of No New Revenue Tax Rate and Voter Approval Tax Rate for 2025 – 7:54 PM

Ms. Silvia Nunez, Director of Finance, reviewed the information the Board received in their packets and the requirements prior to setting the 2025 – 2026 tax rate. Fabens ISD Tax Rate is set at .7705 for maintenance and operations and .3307 for payment of principal and interest on debts with a total of \$1.1012.

Mr. Benjamin Morales motioned and Mr. Orlando Flores seconded to approve the 2025 – 2026 tax rate as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 – 0

6.F. Fabens ISD and Clint ISD Interlocal Cooperative Purchasing Agreement

Ms. Silvia Nunez, Director of Finance, presented the item and reviewed and explained the information sent to the Board and explained that Clint ISD has already approved vendors which would now be available to provided any needed services to Fabens ISD.

After the presentation, Mr. Greg Spence motioned and Mr. Angel Ornelas seconded to approve the Fabens ISD and Clint ISD Interlocal Cooperative Purchasing Agreement as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.G. Discussion and Possible Board Approval of Resolution Related to Fabens ISD 2025 - 2026 Compensation Plan Post Legislation House Bill 2 (HB2) – 7:58

Ms. Silvia Nunez, Director of Finance, explained that with House Bill 2 which passed during the 89th Legislative Session introduced new requirement impacting educator compensation, including adjustments to the previously approved salary schedules with allowable incentive structures. Ms. Nunez answered questions and Mr. Angel Ornelas motioned and Ms. Crystal Ramirez seconded to approve the 2025 – 2026 Fabens ISD updated compensation plan as revised to meet the requirements of HB2.

Motion Carried 6 – 1

Voting Against: Mr. Benjamin Morales

6.H. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Early Resignation Incentive for the 2025 - 2026 School Year – 8:08 PM

Ms. Silvia Nunez, Director of Finance, presented the item and explained the information provided to the board in their packet. Mr. Orlando Flores motioned and Mr. Benjamin Morales seconded to approve the early resignation incentive for 2025 – 2026 as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.I. Review and Approval of Fabens ISD Purchases in Excess of \$15,000 – 8:09

6.I.1. Fabens ISD Technology Department - LEAF Capital Funding

Mr. Michael Perez presented the item, Mr. Angel Ornelas motioned and Mr. Benjamin Morales seconded to approve as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.I.2. Fabens ISD Maintenance Department - Skid Steer Loader Purchase

Mr. Jesus Barba, Director of Facilities and Maintenance, presented the item, after a short discussion regarding the equipment requested, Mr. Benjamin Morales motioned and Mr. Angel Ornelas seconded to table the item.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.I.3. Fabens ISD C & I Department - Lexia Learning Systems LLC

Mr. Manuel Aldaco, Asst. Supt, presented the item, Mr. Greg Spence motioned and Mr. Benjamin Morales seconded to approve as presented.

Motion Carried: 7- 0

6.I.4. Fabens ISD C & I Department - Region 19 TEKS Resources Purchase

Mr. Manuel Aldaco, Asst. Supt, presented the item, Mr. Orlando Flores motioned and Mr. Angel Ornelas seconded to approve as presented.

Motion Carried: 7- 0

6.I.5. Fabens ISD C & I Department - Region 19 Reading Academies Purchase

Mr. Manuel Aldaco, Asst. Supt, presented the item, Mr. Benjamin Morales motioned and Mr. Angel Ornelas seconded to approve as presented.

Motion Carried: 7- 0

6.I.6. Fabens ISD Business Office - Frontline Renewal of District Operating Software

Ms. Silvia Nunez, Director of Finance, presented the item, Mr. Angel Ornelas motioned and Mr. Greg Spence seconded to approve as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.I.7. Fabens ISD Business Office - Annual Contract Paper Group Purchase

Ms. Silvia Nunez, presented the item, Mr. Angel Ornelas motioned and Mr. Benjamin Morales second to approve as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.I.8. Fabens ISD District Insurance Policy – USI

Mr. Silvia Nunez, introduced Mr. Philip Brisco with USI who presented the item and answered questions, on the coverage and increases for the district insurances.

Mr. Orlando Flores motioned and Ms. Julieta S. Ramirez seconded to approve as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.I.9. Fabens ISD - Workers Compensation Insurance - Deep East Texas Shelf

Mr. Silvia Nunez, introduced Mr. Philip Brisco with USI who presented the item and answered questions, on the coverage and increases for the district insurances.

Mr. Orlando Flores motioned and Ms. Julieta S. Ramirez seconded to approve as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.I.10. Fabens ISD Child Nutrition Purchases

6.I.10.a. Labatt, Segovias, GH Dairy, Brady, Southwestern Mill, Ivans Services, and First Degree

Ms. Silvia Nunez presented the item, Mr. Benjamin Morales motioned and Mr. Angel Ornelas seconded to approve purchase as presented.

Motion Carried: 7- 0

6.J. El Paso Central Appraisal District Board of Directors Vacancy Nominations

Mr. Luis “Charlie” Estrada opened the item and no action was taken.

6.K. Discussion and Selection of Fabens ISD Board Town Hall Meeting Date and Possible Topics – 9:06 PM

Dr. Segovia opened the item and reviewed the information regarding to have a town hall meeting. Dates were discussed and Ms. Crystal Ramirez motioned and Ms. Julieta S. Ramirez seconded to approve December 3, 2025 as a meeting date – 6:00 PM – Wildcat Den.

6.L. Discussion and Possible Action on Job Postings for Fabens ISD Substitute Counselors and Custodians – 9:21 PM

Ms. Aide Polanco, Director of Human Resources, presented the item and explained the need to add substitute counselors and custodians for vacancies due to absences / leaves or separation of employment. These employees would be on a on call as needed basis only.

Mr. Greg Spence motioned and Mr. Benjamin Morales seconded to approve as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.M. Closed Session per Texas Government Code 551.074 for:

6.M.1. Child Nutrition and Human Resources Director Update

6.M.2. Superintendent Evaluation Update

This item was closed per Texas Government Code 551.074 at 9:27 PM.

6.N. Reconvene to Open Session for Announcement / Possible Action on:

6.N.1. Child Nutrition and Human Resource Directors

6.N.2. Superintendent Evaluation

The item reconvened at 9:56 PM.

#6.N.1 - Mr. Angel Ornelas motioned and Mr. Benjamin seconded to move both directors to pay grade #5.

Motion Carried: 6 – 1

Voting Against: Mr. Greg Spence

#6.N.2 – Mr. Angel Ornelas motioned and Ms. Crystal Ramirez seconded to use the template as discussed in closed session.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

7. Adjourn

There being no further business, Mr. Angel Ornelas motioned and Mr. Benjamin Morales seconded to adjourn at 9:58 PM.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0