

Minutes of Board Meeting  
The Board of Education  
Levelland ISD

Vol. 47

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A Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Levelland ISD was held Wednesday, February 12, 2025, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Superintendent's Office, 704 11th Street.

Members Present: Pres. Carrie Ellis, Vice Pres. Joyce Johnson, Sec. Treva Potter and Members Mike Stafford, Kay Franklin, and Brooke Obenhaus

Members Absent: Matt Buxkemper

School Officials Present: Superintendent Becky McCutchen, Assistant Superintendent Rodney Caddell, CFO Teresa Montemayor, Director of Curriculum & Special Programs Donna Pugh, Director of Special Education Lacey Doster, District Assessment Coordinator Terri White, Public Relations Specialist Cristal Isaacks and Secretary to the Superintendent Crystal Hill

Media Present: News Channel 11

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1. Presentation

Levelland High School Principal Dr. Birdwell introduced the Culinary Arts Teacher Kris Oaks and students from the LHS BBQ Team. Each student introduced themselves and shared information about being on the BBQ team. Mrs. Oaks informed the board of awards and accolades the team has received in recent competitions.

2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

Vice President Joyce Johnson gave the invocation and students from the Levelland Academic Beginning Center lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Call to Order

Trustee Ellis called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m. and declared a quorum.

4. Public Forum

1. Veronica Muniz shared her concerns regarding budget spending.

2. Chrystal Simpson shared her concerns regarding her grandchildren attending Levelland ISD.
3. Jellica Meza Morales shared her concerns regarding the spending on buses, teacher frustrations and student ratios.
4. Jennifer Del Campo shared her concerns regarding wages for employees, class size ratios and absorption of teachers.
5. Joshua Randol shared his concerns regarding financials and addressed President Carrie Ellis about numerous concerns.
6. Jalee Vela shared her concerns regarding previous employment.

5. Public Hearing

A TAPR Report

Superintendent McCutchen reviewed the 2023-2024 Texas Academic Performance Report. She broke it down into 8 sections. Her report represents the final review of the 2023-2024 improvement plan and is an extensive progress report. This report is available digitally online and copies will be available on each campus. She answered questions as needed.

6. Consent Item

A motion to approve the consent items as presented was made by Trustee Obenhaus and seconded by Trustee Stafford and passed unopposed to approve the following:

A. Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes for January 13, 2025 special meeting.

Approval of minutes for January 15, 2025 regular meeting.

B. Approval of Superintendent Credit Card Expenses

Approved the credit card expenses for January for the Superintendent.

7. Consider Financial Report

CFO Teresa Montemayor presented the financial report for the period ending January 31, 2025. She discussed each fund, and answered questions regarding the financials as needed. Trustee Stafford made a motion to approve the financial report. Trustee Potter seconded the motion and it passed unopposed.

8. Budget Planning Calendar 2025-2026

CFO Teresa Montemayor presented the Budget Planning calendar for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year and answered questions as needed.

9. Budget Parameters 2025-2026

Chief Financial Officer Teresa Montemayor went over the Budget Parameters for the 2025-2026 School Year. The purpose is to develop parameters that enable the district to provide a financially solvent budget that meets all short term and long term obligations and is aligned to the vision, mission, and goals alignment with the LISD balanced scorecard. She went through the budget parameters and answered questions as needed.

10. Consider Student Chromebook Purchase

CFO Teresa Montemayor Presented the Dell Technologies quote for \$207,615.25 to replace Chromebooks for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade.

Board Policy CH(LOCAL) states that the Board delegates to the Superintendent or designee the authority to make budgeted purchases for goods or services. However, any single, budgeted purchase of goods or services that costs \$50,000 or more, regardless of whether the goods or services are competitively purchased, shall require Board approval before a transaction may take place.

She answered questions as needed. Secretary Potter made the motion to approve the quote Vice Pres. Johnson seconded the motion and it passes unopposed.

11. Consider TASB Policy Update 124

Superintendent, Becky McCutchen presented the TASB Policy Update 124.

Policy Update 124, affecting local policies was presented to review the (LOCAL) policy updates and consider approval of the (LOCAL) policy updates.

She reviewed the changes on the policy update and answered questions as needed. Trustee Obenhaus made the motion to approve the updates, Trustee Franklin seconded the motion and it passed unopposed.

12. Reports

A-C. Campus Reports

Principals from each respective campus were present and gave a brief run-down of what is going on at each site.

D. Athletic Department

Athletic Director Lyle Leong presented the athletic department report and answered questions as needed.

E. Student Fundraising Report

Superintendent McCutchen went over the following fundraisers that were submitted and approved.

<u>Date Approved or Denied</u>	<u>Campus</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Fund Raiser Details</u>
1/15/25	LHS	Esports	Esport will start a Local Community Sponsorship program. This will start Jan10 <sup>th</sup> through March 10 <sup>th</sup> . Sponsors can contribute monetary support for the Esports tournament on April 5 <sup>th</sup> 2025. Support will include prizes, t-shirts and supplies. <b>APPROVED</b>

1/9/2025	LHS	Softball	LHS Softball team will be using an app called Raise 365 to ask for donations from family and friends to go towards softball equipment purchases. This fundraiser will start Jan 31st and will end on Feb 17 <sup>th</sup> . <b>APPROVED</b>
1/21/2025	LHS	Choir	LHS Choir will be selling “World’s Finest Chocolate Bars” starting Feb 10 <sup>th</sup> – Mar 10 <sup>th</sup> to raise money to go towards the Choir trip in the spring. <b>APPROVED</b>
1/31/2025	LMS	Cheer	LMS Cheerleaders will be using Mega Dough Company from Mar 14 <sup>th</sup> through Mar 28 <sup>th</sup> to sell cookie dough. The fundraiser will help pay for uniforms and camp. <b>APPROVED</b>

F. Academic Report- HB3 Board Goals Update

TEC §11.185 requires the board of trustees to adopt Early Childhood Literacy and Mathematic Proficiency plans that set annual goals.

TEC §11.186 requires the board of trustees to adopt College Career and Military Readiness plans that set annual goals.

The plans must be reviewed at least annually by the board of trustees.  
Levelland ISD five year plans were presented for board review.

Superintendent McCutchen presented the HB3 Board Goals update and answered questions as needed.

G. Superintendent Report

Superintendent McCutchen reported the following items:

- A) Adam Oliva presented the Facilities Update
- B) Election of Members to the Board of Directors, Education Service Center 17, Places 3 and 6
- C) TASB School Board Spring Workshop for ESC 17
  - a. Wednesday, March 26, 2025
  - b. She asked the board members to let Crystal and herself know by March

14th if they plan to attend

D) May 3, 2025 Board of Trustees Election

a. Deadline to file an application for a place on the ballot for the Board of Trustees Election is Friday, February 14, 2025 at 4:30 pm

E) Balanced Scorecard Update

a. Superintendent Formative Evaluation – Goal 4: Financial Effectiveness and Efficiency

F) Comments – Ms. McCutchen wanted to take the moment to inform admin, faculty and staff about the Wallace Mindplay Sessions that will be offered at various days and locations.

She answered questions as needed.

L. Board Report

Trustee Obenhouse took a moment to voice her concerns regarding staffing issues at her son's school (Capitol) and challenges she fears people may have adapting to sudden staff changes.

President Ellis took this time to clear up rumors that have been circulating. She wanted to clarify information about wages and raises. She discussed years that raises have been given and the facts on who all received them at that time.

13. Personnel

Mr. Caddell presented a personnel update for the board's information. On January 13, 2022 DC(LOCAL) was amended to delegate authority to the Superintendent to hire all professional staff with the exception of administrative positions in order to secure a teacher, diagnostician, LSSP, counselor, therapist, school nurse, etc.

A. Professional New Hire

The Superintendent has approved the hiring and contracts for the following professionals:

B. Personnel Information

Assistant Superintendent Caddell informed the board of the personnel retirement, auxiliary new hire, resignation, and change of assignments.

C. Teacher Turnover Rate Comparison by District

Assistant Superintendent Caddell reviewed Levelland ISD Teacher Retention Rates per the Texas Education Agency Texas Academic Performance Report – 2/14/24.

14. Executive Session

The board did retire into executive session at 9:02 p.m. Executive session ended at 12:10 a.m.

A. Personnel

B. Superintendent Formative Evaluation

15. Open Session

The Board resumed Open Session at 12:11 a.m.

16. Adjourn

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The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 a.m. Trustee Stafford made the motion and was seconded by Vice President Johnson and it passed unopposed.

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Carrie Ellis, President

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Treva Potter, Secretary