

Regular Meeting

Monday, January 27, 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.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Charles Ament, President, declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Loyd Hopson arrived at 5:32 PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Charles Ament led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION

Dr. Barrett Pollard gave the invocation.

4. STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Barrett Pollard, Superintendent, recognized the band program, which has made three back-to-back-to-back state marching contest appearances, and has placed progressively higher each time. This past November they pushed to an 8th place finish, which is the highest in program history. We want to thank the board for their continued support through new instruments, new uniforms, and a 5th director. We also want to thank Teresa Johnson and the band boosters for helping with the 18 wheeler to carry all of the band equipment. Jose Sanchez, Michael Hamilton, Corbin Myers, Johanna Reynolds, and Alexa Sanchez directed the band, while Jeannie Collins and Jennifer Blanchard directed the Color Guard. Despite the pressures of performing at the Alamodome, the students have learned how to compete at a high level on a consistent basis. The parents and band boosters helped out tremendously as well. We could not invite the whole band program, but we have some great representatives here tonight: Alex Johnson (drum major), Josh Appelman (drum major), Emery Wood (color guard captain), Sara Kiphen (color guard captain), Alaynah Wrisk (color guard captain), and Jaycee Shelton (leadership member).

5. STAFF SPOTLIGHT

The staff spotlight was included with the student spotlight as we recognized the band program.

6. SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION PROCLAMATION

Coryell County Judge Roger Miller always makes it a point to recognize the hard work and dedication of our school board. He was not able to attend our January school board meeting so Dr. Pollard presented the proclamation of appreciation to our trustees.

7. SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION PRESENTATION

Dr. Pollard gave recognition to the board and thanked them for all of the time and effort they have sacrificed in these past months. Some months may require multiple meetings and trainings. Most citizens do not realize the amount of effort it requires to be a board member. An unpaid position that listens to complaints and requests is a difficult task. It takes special people who truly care about the community to volunteer for these roles. The board was instrumental in all the successes the district achieves achieved, whether it be in band, football, choir, academics, etc. Despite no financial assistance from the state, they were able to issue each staff member a modest raise, which was especially important given the inflation. Most importantly, the board passed a balanced budget in the face of a severe financial decline in public schools across the state. Dr. Pollard presented the board with custom-created plaques created by students in Charles Lisenbe's Principles of Construction class.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

9. PUBLIC HEARING ON 2023-2024 TEXAS ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE REPORTS (TAPR)

Scott Harper, Ed.D., Asst. Supt. of Academics and Student Services presented a public hearing on the district's latest TAPR each year. The report provides information on student achievement, and school progress. Data listed on the TAPR is used by the State to issue its accountability grade (A-Not Rated). The State accountability grade has not been issued because of pending litigation on the fairness of TEA's accountability system/practices.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

Approve consent agenda items A-G as presented.

This motion, made by Cheyenne Kizer and seconded by Loyd Hopson, Passed.

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

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

A. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16, 2024 REGULAR MEETING

B. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024

C. BILLS AND PAYROLLS FOR DECEMBER 2024

D. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

E. Y-T-D BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO FUND BALANCE

F. VITAL SIGNS REPORT

G. FOOD SERVICE REPORT

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. ANNUAL REVIEW OF EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Dr. Pollard reported on the review of the Educational Philosophy. During the spring and summer of 2017, a strategic planning committee composed of students, parents, school staff, business leaders, and community members worked diligently to create a strategic plan for the district. This was a big undertaking. The beliefs, objectives, parameters, and strategic action plan reflected in AE (Local) was the product of their hard work. They did not want their work to just "sit on a shelf," so it continues to guide the district. The Portrait of a Graduate was updated and approved by the board in April of 2019. In June of 2021, "Doing what is best for kids" was elevated from the school slogan to our official mission statement. That phrase was coined by Dr. Willie Clarke while he served on the GISD school board from 1984 to 1987. Our educational philosophy continues to help guide the vision and work of the district. We review all of these items annually, and they continue to be timely. We will likely add a statement about Artificial Intelligence to our Portrait of a Graduate soon. That will be an action item in the coming months.

B. ANNUAL REVIEW OF BOARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Dr. Pollard reported, each year the board reviews and adopts board operating procedures. These procedures regard important functions such as governance, processes for selecting board officers, communication, board meetings, handling complaints, responding to media inquiries or anonymous letters, evaluation of the superintendent, visiting campuses, and code of ethics. Over the years, board members have recommended and we have adopted minor changes. Our school lawyers also review our board operating procedures to ensure they are consistent with new legislation and local policies.

C. ANNUAL REVIEW OF BOARD ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Dr. Pollard reported, the board activity calendar lists by month important items to address during the regular board meetings. It also includes a list of special meetings and events that occur each month. Over the years, board members have recommended and adopted minor changes to the calendar. With any of these documents, let us know if you would like to propose a change, addition, or deletion at a future board meeting.

D. UPDATE ON POTENTIAL 2026 BOND FOR AN ADDITION/RENOVATION OF THE JUNIOR HIGH

Dr. Pollard met recently with our architect from the high school renovation to get an idea of the cost associated with an addition and renovation of the junior high, a new field house, and a new press box and additional bleachers on what is now the visitors side of McKamie Stadium. Here are some of those costs:

Priority 1: A. Building a new junior high band hall, choir room, and theater room to eliminate students having to walk to the high school. This would also include staff and student restrooms. Cost: \$10,606,750.

B. Removing the portable buildings, replacing those 4 classrooms, and connecting the main building to the Mary Bishop Gymnasium: Cost: \$2,926,000.

C. A complete renovation of the current JH auditorium for better lighting, sound, and seating. Cost: \$3,000,000

Priority 2: A. A new field house located behind the current visitor's side of the stadium would house all boy athletes except tennis. Cost: \$12,150,000

B. Construction of a press box at McKamie Stadium on what is currently the visitor side, along with additional bleacher seating. Cost: \$8,000,000

Priority 3: Add 6th grade back to the JH campus through an addition of 10 classrooms, 4 student restrooms, 2 staff restrooms, 2 administrative offices, and 2 intervention rooms. Cost: \$6,979,000

B. The cafeteria would have to expand into the existing library. Cost: \$1,575,000

C. A new library would then need to be constructed. Cost: \$4,290,000

At this time, it appears that only Priority I is financially feasible in 2026. Plus, it has a direct safety component, making it more of a priority.

E. UPDATE ON THE SEARCH FOR THE HEAD FOOTBALL COACH/ASST ATHLETIC DIRECTOR POSITION

Dr. Pollard explained the search process for the Head Football Coach/Asst Athletic Director position. The job was posted on January 15 and we have been receiving applications. We will interview candidates and make our decision public on Friday, January 31. This will ensure the job has been posted for 10 business days. The district has been receiving interest from external candidates as well as internal candidates. Internally, defensive coordinator Jose Aguirre and offensive coordinator Jacob Hunter have both expressed interest. The district feels good that we have quality candidates to choose from.

12. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

Lott, Vernon & Company, normally presents to the Board of Trustees the District's Annual Financial Audit Report for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2024. This report is due to TEA by January 28, 2025. The representative from Lott, Vernon & Company was late to the meeting. He arrived during closed session so he met with the board members to go over the audit report. The Board will vote to approve the report at the next meeting.

B. E-RATE CONTRACT WITH TECHNOLOGY FOR EDUCATION (TFE)

LeighAnn Goodwin, Asst. Supt. of Finance, presented the E-Rate contract selections. For the E-Rate funding year beginning July 1, 2025, the District was eligible to apply for Category 2 funding for internal

connections (including WiFi) products and services. The District requested bid proposals for the following services: cabling, switches and wireless access points (WAP's) upgrades and licenses district wide. We received a total of six bids for Category 2 services, and each bid was scored according to a predetermined evaluation template that meets the purchasing standards established by the State for competitive bidding. Technology for Education (TFE) was selected as the winning bidder. Other bidders included 1 Stop Computer Shop, Inc., TagleRock Technologies, LLC, Optimus Technology Company, Lakeshore IT Solutions, Inc. and EduTEKS Inc. The District is now prepared to execute a contract with TFE for around \$154,843, and management requests board approval. The total cost to the District, net of the 80% portion to be billed to the E-Rate program will come under \$30,969.

Management recommends board approval to enter into a contract with Technology for Education (TFE) for Category 2 E-Rate products and services as noted above.

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

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

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

C. 6TH GRADE HANDS-ONLY CPR INSTRUCTION

Yancey Sanderson, Ed.D., Asst Supt. of Admin. Services, presented the 6th grade CPR instruction recommendation. Representatives from Coryell Health would like to partner with GISD to provide hands-only CPR instruction to 6th grade students.

From Coryell Health: The CENTEX RAC, composed of medical professionals from surrounding hospitals and EMS, is excited to be working toward increasing children's competency with hands-only CPR. Our goal is to provide age-appropriate instruction and hands-on practice for students. We will provide trained volunteers, including nurses, doctors, and EMS personnel, to guide the students through the hands-on portion of the training.

The SHAC committee reviewed their proposal at the December 11 meeting and voted to bring this to the School Board for approval. If approved, Laura Winkler will work with Coryell Health representatives and the Intermediate to set up the event.

It is my recommendation that the Board approve Coryell Health representative and the CENTEX RAC to provide hands-only CPR instruction to 6th grade students.

This motion, made by Linda Maxwell and seconded by Loyd Hopson, Passed.

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

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

D. CREATION OF GIRLS ATHLETIC COORDINATOR POSITION

Dr. Pollard proposed a new position. With Aaron Hunter leaving the head football coach/assistant athletic director position, it has given us time to re-evaluate the structure of the athletic department. For a new head football coach, the additional assistant athletic director duties may be too much as they navigate the very difficult position of head football coach. Additionally, the athletic director is often spread too thin and must monitor and attend countless different sports during the fall and spring. Therefore, a position dedicated solely to leading and aligning girl's sports in grades 7 - 12 would be very beneficial. This position could also monitor the girls' pre-athletics class in 6th grade as well as the skills being learned by our girls in PE classes from PK-5th grade. Recruiting girls to sports, retaining female athletes, and encouraging our girls to be multi-sport athletes would greatly increase the success of our girls team sports. I would recommend the creation of a girls athletic coordinator position to begin in the 2025-2026 school year.

This motion, made by Linda Maxwell and seconded by Calvin Ford, Passed.

Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Cheyenne Kizer: Yea,

Mary Anne Leib: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION (TEX. GOV'T CODE 551.001)

The board took a break at 6:24 PM and then went into executive session at 6:36 PM and returned to open session at 7:50 PM.

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

C. DELIBERATION REGARDING SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION, CONTRACT, AND COMPENSATION (TEX. GOV'T CODE 551.074)

14. ACTION PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, EMPLOYMENT, REASSIGNMENTS, DUTIES, AND EVALUATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

Information only

<i>Resignations</i>	<i>Campus/Position</i>	<i>Last Day</i>
Hunter, Aaron	HS-Head Football Coach/Asst Athletic Director	6/25/2025

B. RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, EMPLOYMENT, REASSIGNMENTS, DUTIES, AND EVALUATION OF PERSONNEL – No action taken.

C. SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION, CONTRACT, AND COMPENSATION (TEX. GOV'T CODE 551.074)

Mary Anne Leib made a motion to employ Dr. Barrett Pollard as Superintendent for Gatesville ISD for a term of three (3) years, two hundred and twenty-six (226) days, commencing on July 1, 2025 and ending on June 30, 2028.

This motion, made by Mary Anne Leib and seconded by Loyd Hopson, Passed.

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

Calvin Ford made a motion to set Dr. Barrett Pollard's annual salary at \$170,000.

This motion, made by Calvin Ford and seconded by Mary Anne Leib, Passed.

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

15. FUTURE BUSINESS

A. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Approve Annual Financial Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

16. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Ament adjourned the meeting at 7:52 PM with no voiced objections.

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

President

Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: _____