

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ECTOR COUNTY
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT HELD ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2025, BEGINNING AT
6:00 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING BOARD ROOM, 802 NORTH SAM
HOUSTON, ODESSA, ECTOR COUNTY, TEXAS, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

Present:

Delma Abalos
Dr. Steve Brown
Tammy Hawkins
Dawn Miller
Christopher Stanley
Robert Thayer
Wayne Woodall

Absent:

School Officials: Dr. Keeley Boyer, Mike Adkins, Albessa Chavez, Mauricio Marquez, Dr. Anthony Sorola, Dr. Matthew Spivy, Alicia Syverson, Lauren Tavarez, Dr. Robert Trejo

Others: Tatiana Dennis, Mary Ramos, Gavin Hinojos, Samantha Hutson, Claudia Ruiz, Gerald Mable, Julie Drainer, Cynthia Talacon, Javier Hernandez, Aaron Hawley, Carole Campbell, Betsabe Salcido, Alicia Gonzales, Phyllis Faulkner, Dawnna Talley, Christi Watson, Consuelo Soto, Jennifer Cooper, Stacy Hayse, JT Hayes, Jami Gatewood, Erika Pocater, Pia Rosaldo, Arely Ramirez, Ricardo Valderaz, Sandra Lopez, Carlos Lopez, Samantha Baker, Benjamin Wills, Rochelle Manalastas, Vanessa Rivas, Bianca Sanchez, Ashley Redman, Kaylea Brooks, Wayne & Patty Mitchell, Shannon Beard, James Beard, Dora Flores, Robert Wills, Summer Percifield, Stephanie Marin, Theresa Mananquil, Abel Avila, Julie Marshall, Rose Valderaz, Ruth Campbell, Nory Leachon, Rita Lopez, and Mary Franco

27330 **Meeting Called to Order:** Tammy Hawkins, Board President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

27331 **Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law:** Tammy Hawkins, Board President, verified that the provisions of Section 551.001 of the Texas Government Code have been met in connection with public notice of this meeting.

27332 **Pledge of Allegiance to United States and Texas Flags:** The United States and Texas flag pledges were led by Cavazos Elementary students Charlotte Kuehlem and Asael Muñiz.

27333 **Invocation:** The Invocation was led by Associate Minister Randy Unruh from Stonegate Odessa Church.

27334 **Special Presentations:**

Introduction of Teacher Incentive Allotment Level Up Teachers: Mike Adkins, Chief Communications Officer presented this item. The Teacher Incentive Allotment is a state program that rewards the most effective teachers with

incentive dollars. Significant dollars. Last year, in ECISD the TIA awards ranged from \$3,425 to \$22,559. Last year 410 teachers received these *big checks*, as we like to call them. More than \$4.2 million was distributed to ECISD teachers last year. The group we are introducing tonight are the Level Up teachers – 71 of them who improved their TIA Designation from Recognized to Exemplary...or Exemplary to Master.

Designated teachers are mentoring and coaching others to become designated, creating a culture of collaborative excellence on our campuses.

A year ago, student data was collected for 900 teachers. This year there are more than 1,300 as we add more teachers who can qualify for TIA awards. This year many Career & Technical Education teachers were added...we are working on Fine Arts teachers for next year.

Announcement of AP Scholars, AP Scholars with Honor, and AP Scholars with Distinction: Mike Adkins, Chief Communications Officer excitedly announced that 113 students have been recognized as AP Scholars this year!

At the end of each Advanced Placement (AP) course, students have the opportunity to take a corresponding AP Exam, which is scored on a scale from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest. In Texas, all public colleges, and universities - and most private colleges and universities - award college credit to students who earn a score of 3 or higher, known as a "Qualified" designation.

These AP Scholar honors are based on exam scores from the previous academic year. Of the 113 students recognized, 63 were seniors at the time and have since graduated. Today, we are proud to introduce you to the current students who have earned this distinction.

AP Scholars with Honor: Students who receive an average score of 3.25 on all AP exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Current Students:

Carlos Lopez, Odessa HS
Ricardo Valderaz, Odessa HS
Sophia Bao, New Tech Odessa
Benjamin Wills, New Tech Odessa
Jacob Knight, Permian HS

AP Scholars with Distinction: Students who receive an average score of 3.5 on all AP exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

Current Students:

Javier Hernandez, New Tech Odessa
Valerie Cervantes, Permian HS
Angela Greer, Permian HS
Nishi Handawela, Permian HS
Gavin Hinojos, Permian HS
Charlette Rose, Permian HS

AP Scholars: Student with scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams.

New Tech Odessa | AP Scholars (Photo)

Alexandra Crissinger
Denize Dawn Majella Querikol
Shruthi Rajaprakash
Kole Rivas
Sarahi Rodriguez
Aryssa Salazaar
Esteban Zubia

Odessa HS | AP Scholars (Photo)

Andrew Brem
Zefenaiyah Williams
Ernesto Almance
Nicomedes Carrasco
Krystina Espino
Luis Marin Garcia
Rudy Salcido
Ryan Sanchez
Brylee Smithson
Mia Valderaz
Nancy Vargas

Permian HS | AP Scholars (Photo)

Ethan Burney	Ximena Rodriguez
Alan Boites	Jayden Bonilla
Hiram Brito	Barbara Cordero
Camila Cordova	Jimena Corrales
Serenity Galindo	Chloe Gray
Yaelin Herrera	Devin Martin
Alexander Mejia	Jilliam Mitcham
Miriam Moreno Saoui	Ronaldo Price
Emilio Ramos	Cristian Velasco
Dillon Wagner	Abigail Wells
Lillian Windham	

27335 **Opening Remarks by Superintendent:** In opening remarks, Superintendent Dr. Keeley Boyer noted that Hispanic Heritage Month began yesterday, and that schools will be celebrating throughout the month. She also informed the board that the District currently has only 21 teacher vacancies remaining.

27336 **Public Comment:** Individuals who wish to participate during the portion of the meeting designated for public comment shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins as specified in the Board's procedures on public comment and shall indicate the agenda item on which they wish to address the Board. *BED(LOCAL)*

There was no public comment.

Bond 2023

27337 **Bond 2023 Update:** Associate Superintendent of District Operations Dr. Anthony Sorola and Chief Financial Officer Albessa Chavez provided the Board of Trustees with an update on the progress of Bond 2023 projects.

Career & Technical Education Center:

- Building pads are complete.
- Permits have been received from the City of Odessa.
- Foundation excavation has begun.

New Middle School – West Odessa:

- Walls and roof are in place.
- Utility installation, electrical and plumbing work, and steel erection are ongoing.

Transition Learning Center:

- The construction contract was approved by the school Board last month.
- Work is expected to begin within the next week.

Permian High School Auditorium:

- Demolition is nearly complete.
- Concrete subcontractors are currently working in the drama theater.

Permian High School JROTC Facility:

- Earthwork and pad leveling continue.
- Concrete pouring will begin soon.

Agricultural (Ag) Farm Facility:

- The construction contract is up for school board approval tonight - Item 8-B

Transportation Facility:

- Design work for upgrades is currently underway.

Roofing Projects:

- The first project, at Burleson Early Education Center, is complete.
- Work is in progress at Fly, Travis, and Zavala elementary schools.

Technology Surveillance Project:

- Installation is 50% complete.
- Over 2,000 cameras are being installed, with approximately six months remaining.

Fine Arts Instruments:

- A total of 1,412 new instruments have been ordered.
- 1,312 have arrived, including 232 delivered since the beginning of August.

Financial Update:

- Over \$208 million (49% of bond funds) have been incumbered through purchase orders for specific projects.
- Approximately 25% of the bond funds have already been spent.

No action required.

27338 **Discussion of and Request for Approval Contract with Henthorn Commercial Construction to build the New Ag Farm Facility:** Moved by Woodall, seconded by Brown to approve the contract with Henthorn Commercial Construction to build the New Ag Farm Facility as presented. The cost of the construction is \$6,597,996.

Motion unanimously approved.

27339 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of an A121 Standard Form of Master Agreement to be used in Job Order Contracting (JOC) for Priority 1 and 2 Renovations in the 2023 ECISD Bond Program:** Moved by Stanley, seconded by Thayer to approve an A121 Standard Form of Master Agreement to be used in Job Order Contracting (JOC) for Priority 1 and 2 Renovations in the 2023 ECISD Bond Program as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

Action Items

27340 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Ordinance to Set 2025 Tax Rate for 2025-2026:** Moved by Brown, seconded by Woodall to approve the Ordinance to Set 2025 Tax Rate for 2025-2026 as presented. Trustees adopted a total tax rate of \$1.0048 for the 2025-26 school year. The adopted rate is slightly lower than the tax rate last year. A school district's tax rate is broken into two parts: Maintenance & Operations (M&O) which provides funding for day-to-day operations; and Interest & Sinking (I&S), also known as debt service, which provides the funding for debt (bond) payments. The total tax rate approved by the board breaks down as follows:

\$.7504 for M&O – this rate is lower than last year's rate of .7596
\$.2544 for I&S – this rate is the same as last year
\$ 1.0048 total tax rate – this rate is lower than last year's rate of \$1.014

To note, based on property values in July 2025:

- The total tax rate is less than the prior year.
- The M&O tax rate is less than the prior year.
- The I&S tax rate is the same.
- The total tax rate is at or below the voter approval rate, and therefore, is less than the maximum tax rate allowed without a tax rate election.
- The M&O tax rate is at or below the voter approval tax rate.
- The I&S tax rate is at or below the allowable to cover bond costs.

- The decreased total tax rate exceeded the No New Revenue total tax rate of \$0.9532 calculated by the Ector County Appraisal District

The tax rate will effectively be raised by 5.4% and will raise taxes for Maintenance & Operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$15 for the year.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 27341** **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Purchases over \$50,000:** Moved by Woodall, seconded by Stanley to approve the Purchases over \$50,000 as presented. The single item on this month's list is \$127,043 to Ace Mart Restaurant Supply Co. and Sam Tell and Son for new kitchen equipment.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 27342** **Discussion of and Request for Approval of 2025-2026 Budget Amendment #2:** Moved by Brown, seconded by Stanley to approve 2025-2026 Budget Amendment #2 as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 27343** **Discussion of and Request for Approval of an Easement for Oncor Electric Delivery:** Moved by Abalos, seconded by Woodall to approve an Easement of Oncor Electric Delivery as presented. The easement, behind Buice Elementary, will help Oncor increase the electrical capacity to this area.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 27344** **Discussion of and Request for Approval of the 2025-2026 ECISD Campus Improvement Plans:** Moved by Woodall, seconded by Thayer to approve the 2025-2026 ECISD Campus Improvement Plans (CIP) as presented. Each school, regardless of rating, is required to build a CIP annually. These plans serve as the blueprint for how each school will uniquely address campus-specific needs identified in their comprehensive needs assessment.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 27345** **Consent Agenda:** Moved by Stanley, seconded by Woodall to approve Consent Agenda as presented.

Please Note: Item 10.K was brought back from the June 17, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Consent Agenda for reapproval to formally record the name of the Alternate Approver for the Superintendent, Samantha Sotelo for the submission to the Texas Education Agency (TEA), and for documentation in the official meeting minutes.

- A. Request for Approval of Minutes of Meetings
- B. Request for Approval of Bills for Payment
- C. Request for Approval of Acceptance of Donations Over \$10,000

- D. Request for Approval of Extracurricular Status of 4-H Organization Resolution and Adjunct Staff Members
- E. Request for Approval of New Tech Odessa SkillsUSA Student Out-of-State Travel to Washington, D.C.
- F. Request for Approval of Permian High School Choir Student Out-of-State Travel to Orlando, FL
- G. Request for Approval of Permian High School Orchestra Student Out-of-State Travel to Orlando, FL
- H. Request for Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Ector County ISD and Greater Opportunities of the Permian Basin (GOPB), Inc. Head Start School Readiness Academy – Children with Disabilities
- I. Request for Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Ector County ISD and Greater Opportunities of the Permian Basin (GOPB), Inc. Head Start School Readiness Academy – Parent Power Program
- J. Request for Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Ector County ISD and Greater Opportunities of the Permian Basin (GOPB), Inc. Head Start School Readiness Academy – Transition
- K. Reapproval of Texas Education Agency (TEA) Alternate Approver for Superintendent, to Document Name of Alternate Approver in Minutes

Motion unanimously approved.

27346 **Possible Request for Approval to Move to Closed Meeting - Personnel Matters - Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code [Board will deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of public employees of the District; or hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.] Consultations with Attorney – Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act [The Board will meet in Closed Session in Consultation with the Board's Attorney Regarding all Matters as Authorized by Law.]:**

There was no closed session.

27347 **Information Items:** The Board of Trustees were provided with the following information items: Financials, Purchases Over \$50,000 Informational Report, and Routine Personnel Report.

27348 **Closing Remarks by Superintendent:** There were no closing remarks.

27349 **Adjournment:** Board President Tammy Hawkins adjourned the Board meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Board President
Tammy Hawkins

Board Secretary
Robert Thayer