

Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees Sweetwater Independent School District

A Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Sweetwater Independent School District was held on Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at 5:30 pm at the J P Cowen Cafeteria, 400 W. 4th St., Sweetwater, Texas.

Members Present: Jeff Allen, Domingo Castillo, Dennis Cumbie, Mark Garcia, Kelly Sheridan, Tasha Soto, Brenda Valdez, Reggy Spencer.

Others Present: Casey Bills, Krystal Woolard, Ann Allen, Sonya Davison, representatives from Schneider Electric, community & staff members

1. Call to Order

Board President, Mark Garcia called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and announced that a quorum of 7 Board members were present. Everyone in attendance stood and recited the pledges to the American and Texas flags. Brenda Valdez read the Board Social Contract.

2. Public Forum

No one was present or had requested via email to have a statement read.

3. Bond Update

Mr. Spencer reported to the Board that everything was on schedule for the CTE building competition, furniture should be delivered the week of July 28. The gym will not be completed until closer to Oct. 1.

Mr. Spencer also reported that we are fortunate to possibly have an extra 2 million dollars left from the Bond money. Some possible projects that are being considered are: instead of the landscaping that was earlier proposed installing turf grass around the backside of the gym and other areas. A bid of \$7.90 a sq foot has been received. Board members discussed options and Mr. Spencer answered questions.

Mr. Spencer gave an update on the retaining wall around the tennis courts that would alleviate the flooding issues when it rains.

Additional information was presented by Mr. Spencer and the glass at the gym entry and the costs of each option.

Mr. Spencer presented information and cost estimates on possibly paving the west parking lot at the Bowl with asphalt to replace the rock/and caliche.

4. Action Items

A. Discuss, Reject, Approve TASB Policy Update 125

Mr. Spencer reviewed with the Board TASB Local Policy Update 125.

Tasha Soto made the motion to accept the changes in Local Update 125, seconded by Domingo Castillo, motion passed 7-0.

B. Discuss, Reject, Approve Oil & Gas Lease with Stockyards Energy

After a brief discussion the Board decided to table this proposal at this time.

C. Discuss and possible action on Schneider Electric Energy Services contract

Ryan Wunder and Charlie Davis, representatives from Schneider Electric were present to present two proposals concerning HVAC, HVAC controls and lighting and the proposed costs of each.

Dennis Cumbie made the motion to move forward with Option 2, seconded by Tasha Soto, motion passed 7-0.

D. Discuss, Reject, Approve SISD Day Care & Lease

Mr. Spencer gave an overview of the history of the SISD Day Care. It was first created after COVID using ESSER funds and those funds no longer exist. The Day Care was expanded to admit non-SISD employee children last year with funds from SEED that are uncertain for the future. Mr. Spencer praised Savannah DeLeon and her staff for their dedicated work. Mrs. DeLeon was called on to present her plans for the Day Care and the name she has chosen for the Day Care moving forward. Mr. Spencer recommended to the Board that we lease the building and equipment to Savannah DeLeon. Sweetwater ISD will continue to provide support by paying the electricity & building insurance and providing maintenance & custodial services. Mrs. DeLeon reported that community and staff rates will likely increase. Mr. Spencer said SISD will continue as the Day Care provider through August 29, 2025. Mrs. DeLeon will begin her lease on Monday, September 1, 2025. The centers name going forward will be Cub House Learning Center. Tasha Soto made the motion to offer the lease to Mrs. DeLeon, seconded by Domingo Castillo, motion passed 7-0.

E. Discuss, Reject, Approve Credit By Exam dates 2025-2026

Mr. Spencer presented the Credit By Exam dates for the 2025-26 school year. Dennis Cumbie made the motion to accept these dates, seconded by Tasha Soto, motion passed 7-0.

5. Consent Agenda

- A. Act on Monthly Minutes
- B. Act on Financials
- C. Act on TexBuy Membership
- D. Act on Grading Guidelines

Board members discussed the proposed Grading guidelines and asked that it be removed from the Consent Agenda for further review. Mark Garcia made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item D, seconded by Brenda Valdez, motion passed 7-0.

6. Superintendent Reports

A. Budget

Mr. Spencer and Mrs. Bills updated the Board on plans for teacher pay raises, and other stipends for those who are not “teachers” and won’t be receiving the state mandated raise. It was reported that \$240,000 has been spent on ordering curriculum for next year that the teacher requested.

7. Announcements

Mr. Spencer reminded the Board that the Administration Offices will be CLOSED Monday, June 30 through Friday, July 4 and the July Board Meeting will be Monday, July 21 at 5:30 pm

8. Adjourn

Domingo Castillo made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm.

School Board President

Date Approved

School Board Secretary

