

Regular Meeting (Rescheduled)

Thursday, January 29, 2026 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, Linda Maxwell, Emily Wuenschel.

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.

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 Amos Phillips for setting six school records in football during his time at GHS. The records include: Season Receptions-83; Season Yards-1,222; Season Touchdowns-15; Career Receptions-131; Career Yards-1,935; Career Touchdowns-25. Amos is also the back-to-back Waco Tribune Herald Super Centex Defensive Player of the Year and he is ranked 9th in his class academically.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Pollard recognized Brit Campbell for his exceptional work as a social studies teacher at the high school and as a very successful boy's varsity basketball coach. In early December, he reached 100 victories here at GHS. His wife (Candice) is a teacher at the primary, while his dad (Ken) helps coach the boy's basketball team. The Campbell family is an important part of our district culture.

5. DPS THANKS PRIMARY STAFF FOR OFFICE SPACE

Tonight, representatives from DPS are here to thank the Primary staff for sharing their office space over the last two years.

6. SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION PROCLAMATION

Coryell County Judge Roger Miller was unable to attend our January school board meeting.

7. SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION PRESENTATION

Dr. Pollard and the campus principals presented gifts for the board members to appreciate for all their time and dedication to our district.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

8. REVIEW AND APPROVE 2024-2025 AUDIT REPORT

Nathan White with Singleton & Clark, presented to the Board of Trustees the District's Annual Financial Audit Report for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2025.

LeighAnn Goodwin, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, recommended board approval of the August 31, 2024 Annual Financial Audit Report.

This motion, made by Loyd Hopson and seconded by Charles Alderson, Passed.

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

Linda Maxwell: Yea, Emily Wuenschel: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

9. PUBLIC HEARING ON 2024-2025 TEXAS ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE REPORTS (TAPR)

Dr. Scott Harper, Asst. Supt. of Academics and Student Services held a public hearing on the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) as required by law. The report provides information on student achievement, school progress and closing achievement gaps. Dr. Harper provided an overview of the district and campus accountability ratings for the 2024-2025 school year. The focus moving forward is to continue to set district expectations for each category to improve from the previous year and outpace the State average. Improve planning process to bolster remediation/enrichment intervention programs.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

Approve consent agenda items A-G as presented.

This motion, made by Linda Maxwell and seconded by Charles Alderson, Passed.

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

Linda Maxwell: Yea, Emily Wuenschel: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

A. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 15, 2025 REGULAR MEETING

B. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025

C. BILLS AND PAYROLLS FOR DECEMBER 2025

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

The Educational Philosophy was reviewed and no changes were discussed.

B. ANNUAL REVIEW OF BOARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

The Board Operating Procedures were reviewed and no changes were discussed.

C. ANNUAL REVIEW OF BOARD ACTIVITY CALENDAR

The Board Activity Calendar was reviewed and no changes were discussed.

D. REPLACEMENT OF ASTROTURF AT MCKAMIE STADIUM IN SPRING OF 2026

Dr. Pollard presented, June of 2020, Astroturf replaced the turf at McKamie Stadium, added a pad under the turf for cushioning, and gave us an 8 year warranty for \$230,000. Over the past five and a half years, the field has taken a lot of wear and tear from the tremendous usage and the extreme heat. Astroturf agreed that the current field must be replaced. Since it is still under warranty, they will replace the field free of charge this spring.

12. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

13. RECOMMENDATION OF JENNIFER DOSS AS THE NEXT GATESVILLE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

Dr. Pollard recommended Jennifer Doss as the next Gatesville Elementary Principal.

Jennifer is a 2001 graduate of Gatesville High School. She then went on to receive her bachelor's degree from Tarleton and her master's degree from Texas A&M International. Jennifer has been in education

for 19 years teaching in both Copperas Cove and Gatesville. For the past ten years, she has been a third grade teacher, instructional coach, and assistant principal at Gatesville Elementary. In her current role, Mrs. Doss oversees student discipline, evaluates teachers, and provides instructional support.

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

Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Cheyenne Kizer: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea, Emily Wuenschel: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

A. RECOMMENDATION OF KRISTEN SULLINS AS THE NEXT GATESVILLE ELEMENTARY ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dr. Pollard recommended Kristen Sullins as the next Gatesville Elementary Assistant Principal.

Kristen received her undergraduate and graduate degree from Tarleton State University. Mrs. Sullins was a very talented 1st grade teacher at Gatesville Elementary for nine years. During that time she received her GT and ESL certification and served as a grade level leader. For the next three years, Kristen was the campus librarian, RTI coordinator, and campus testing coordinator taking care of all STAAR and MAP testing. For the past year and a half, Mrs. Sullins has served as the campus instructional coach, where she provides curriculum support for our elementary teachers. Kristen is very much a part of the current leadership team and is an expert in instructional leadership and professional development.

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

Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Cheyenne Kizer: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea, Emily Wuenschel: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

B. REPLACEMENT OF RUNNING TRACK AT MCKAMIE STADIUM IN SPRING OF 2026

Dr. Pollard presented, the running track located at McKamie Stadium is 13 years old. After all of those years of wear and tear and extreme heat, it is time for a replacement. We have been working with Mark Ball of Hellas to provide the replacement track. We are aiming to begin the project right after graduation (the week of the Memorial Day holiday). As part of the price, \$24,000 has been allotted to address any asphalt issues.

Dr. Pollard recommended the Board approve the one time payment of \$299,451 out of our fund balance to Hellas to replace the aging track located at McKamie Stadium.

This motion, made by Calvin Ford and seconded by Emily Wuenschel, Passed.

Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Cheyenne Kizer: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea, Emily Wuenschel: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

C. SELECTION OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK FOR JUNIOR HIGH & FIELD HOUSE PROJECT

Dr. Pollard presented, at our August 5th board meeting, the board approved the construction manager at risk (CMAR) method. With this method, a school district contracts with a CMAR to serve as the general contractor during the design and construction of a facility. CMAR provides a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP), offering cost certainty and mitigating financial risks for the school. On December 3rd our Request for Fee Proposals was released, and we ran advertisements soliciting construction companies for the junior high and field house project. By December 17, we had received 7 packets from potential general contractors. With the help of Huckabee, a team of GISD staff ranked the companies according to the attached rubric.

Dr. Pollard recommended the Board select Cloud Construction as the Construction Manager at Risk (general contractor) for the renovations to the junior high and field house.

This motion, made by Charles Alderson and seconded by Emily Wuenschel, Passed.

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

Linda Maxwell: Yea, Emily Wuenschel: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

D. ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION OF BOND PROPOSAL

Dr. Pollard presented, at our December 2024 board meeting, we had our first information item regarding a potential May 2026 bond election to address the junior high campus and field house. During the past 13 months, we selected an architectural firm (Huckabee) to help guide us through the process. The board made a commitment early in the process to work within a budget that would not increase the community's tax rate. Using those parameters, we have made many important decisions on what aspects of the project to address now and what items will have to be handled later. The addition of 6th grade to the JH campus, the creation of a fine arts wing at JH, eliminating portables, building better restrooms, and constructing a new field house remain top priorities. The Gatesville Messenger has done an excellent job of covering the project throughout the past 13 months. In addition, every civic group that we have spoken to has been very supportive of the bond project. During our community input meetings, tours of the current junior high and field house facilities led to even more support of the project. GISD has proven to be very frugal over the decades. However, when a campus turns 60 and student safety needs to be addressed, we feel confident the voters will help us.

Dr. Pollard recommended that a special board meeting be held on February 9 to officially call for the May bond election.

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, Linda Maxwell: Yea, Emily Wuenschel: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

E. SENATE BILL 11 REQUIRES BOARDS TO MAKE A DECISION ON DAILY PRAYER TIME & READING OF RELIGIOUS TEXT

Dr. Pollard presented, Senate Bill 11 from the 89th Legislative Session adds Texas Education Code section 25.0823, which allows school boards to designate time each school day at every campus for students and employees to pray and read the Bible or other religious texts. The bill requires that within six months of the effective date (by March 1, 2026), each district's board must take a recorded vote either to establish the daily prayer time and reading of religious texts by adopting the resolution set out in the new statute or to decline to establish the daily prayer time. If a board adopts the resolution, they should contact their TASB policy consultant for recommended policy language at DGA(LOCAL) and FNA(LOCAL). At GISD we already observe a moment of silence during our morning pledge time, whereby students can pray or reflect upon the day. Thus, we do not feel an additional segment of time is needed, which would take from instructional time. In addition, our students have multiple student-led activities such as before and after school Bible study groups, Fellow of Christian Athletes, National Day of Prayer, and National Bring your Bible to School Day. We believe any lengthy amount of time set aside for prayer and reading of religious text might be difficult for teachers from a classroom management standpoint. Additionally, the Separation of Church and State might become more muddled with something this specific during the instructional day.

Dr. Pollard recommended that the Board decline to establish a daily prayer time and reading of religious text because we feel our moment of silence already fulfills the spirit of this law.

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

Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Cheyenne Kizer: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea, Emily Wuenschel: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

F. LIBRARY PURCHASES FOR BOARD APPROVAL

Dr. Pollard presented the list for library purchases. Under Texas Senate Bill 13, the district school board must approve all library book purchases at a public meeting. Before this approval, districts must list the proposed materials publicly for at least 30 days, allowing for public review and comment. On the GISD website, we created another bullet under the Parents tab stating "Proposed Materials for Library Purchase." We post the lists under that page for the required 30 days before bringing the lists before the board for approval. There is a comment tool so that parents can give input on the lists of materials. There have been no comments so far. We have lists of materials tonight for the primary, elementary, intermediate, and junior high campus.

Dr. Pollard recommended the Board approve the list of materials as presented for library purchase. This motion, made by Charles Alderson and seconded by Emily Wuenschel, Passed.

Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Cheyenne Kizer: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea, Emily Wuenschel: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

G. GATESVILLE ISD PLAN TO DELAY IMPLEMENTATION OF HB2 TEACHER CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Dr. Yancey Sanderson, Asst Supt. of Admin. Services, presented that the district seeks approval from the Commissioner of Education to delay implementation of teacher certification requirements for teachers of record in foundation curriculum courses until the beginning of the 2029-2030 school year. This plan outlines the district's strategy for transitioning to full compliance with statutory certification requirements prior to the 2029-2030 school year, as required by House Bill 2 (89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025). This plan is separate from, and independent of, the GISD's District of Innovation plan.

Dr. Sanderson recommended the Board to approve Gatesville ISD's Plan to Delay Implementation of HB 2 Teacher Certification Requirements. This motion, made by Calvin Ford and seconded by Charles Alderson, Passed.

Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Cheyenne Kizer: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea, Emily Wuenschel: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

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

The board took a break at 7:03 PM and then went into executive session at 7:11 PM and returned to open session at 8:06 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)

15. ACTION PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, EMPLOYMENT, REASSIGNMENTS, DUTIES, AND EVALUATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL – The board approved these reassignments during open session, no action needed.

<i>Employ (2026-2027)</i>	<i>Type Contract</i>	<i>Months</i>
Doss, Jennifer	Two Year Term	11 Month
Sullins, Kristen	Two Year Term	11 Month

B. RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, EMPLOYMENT, REASSIGNMENTS, DUTIES, AND EVALUATION OF PERSONNEL - Information only; no board action needed.

<i>Resignations</i>	<i>Campus/Position</i>	<i>Last Day</i>
Cathey, Chance	JH- Science/Boys & Girls Coach	1/20/26
Fast, Michele	HS- Social Studies	5/22/26
Gibson, Darrell (Todd)	JH-English	5/22/26
Kyle-Romel, Stacy	JH- Social Studies	5/22/26
Schuman, Jennifer	PR-Special Education	5/22/26

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

Charles Ament recommended to employ Barrett Pollard as Superintendent for Gatesville ISD for a term of three (3) years, two hundred and twenty-six (226) days per year, commencing on July 1, 2026 and ending on June 30, 2029, with an annual salary of \$182, 268.

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

Charles Alderson: Yea, Charles Ament: Yea, Calvin Ford: Yea, Loyd Hopson: Yea, Cheyenne Kizer: Yea, Linda Maxwell: Yea, Emily Wuenschel: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

16. FUTURE BUSINESS

A. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

17. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Ament adjourned the meeting at 8:07 PM with no voiced objections.

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

President

Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: _____