



**Agenda of Special Session  
January 28, 2021  
The Board of Trustees  
Wichita Falls Independent School District**

In Compliance with the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapter C, the Board of Trustees of the Wichita Falls Independent School District will meet for a Special Session at 12:00 PM, on January 28, 2021, in the Board Room at the Education Center, 1104 Broad St, Wichita Falls, TX 76301.

The subjects to be discussed, considered, or upon which any formal action may be taken are as listed below.

*Pursuant to the Governor Abbott's Temporary Suspension of Open Meetings Laws issued on March 16, 2020, and consistent with new state and local mandates on public health and social distancing, this Meeting of the Wichita Falls ISD Board of Trustees may be conducted via Google Meet, which will be available online at <http://wichitafallsisdtx.swagit.com/live>. A quorum of the Board of Trustees may not be physically present at one location.*

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING STATEMENT**

**II. INVOCATION**

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**IV. HUMAN RESOURCES**

A. T-TESS and T-PESS Evaluation Waivers for the 2020-2021 School Year

2

**V. BOARD MATTERS**

A. Schematic Design Presentation - Two New High Schools

B. Bond 2021: Athletic Facilities

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

*If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the Board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapters D and E. Before any closed meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in open meeting.*

The notice for this meeting was posted in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act on Monday, January 25, 2021 at 10:00 am.

For the Board of Trustees

**WICHITA FALLS ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**January 28, 2021**

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	Request submission of waiver for educator appraisal COVID-19		
<b>Administrator Responsible:</b>	Cyndy Kohl, Director of Human Resources		
<b>Attachments:</b>	None		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed	<input type="checkbox"/> Future Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Presentation	<input type="checkbox"/> Report

**Administrative Recommendation:**

That the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the submission of an educator appraisal waiver to TEA due to COVID-19 as submitted by Cyndy Kohl, Director of Human Resources, and as recommended by Michael S. Kuhrt, Superintendent of Schools.

**Explanation:**

As of December 10, 2020, under Texas Education Code (TEC), §7.056, the Commissioner will review and approve for school districts and charter schools that, due to circumstances arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, are unable to conduct accurate and relevant teacher appraisals based on requirements captured in TEC, §21.351, §21.352, the applicable rules in Title 19, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 150, and/or are unable to capture accurate and relevant student growth data for the Texas Principal Evaluation and Support System (T-PESS) based on the requirements found in Title 19, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 150.1022.

**Information:**

**Texas Teachers Evaluation and Support System (T-TESS):** Due to the number of staff members who have been off work for COVID-related reasons and the challenge in filling substitute positions across the District, the campus administration has spent an inordinate amount of time ensuring that student supervision and teaching continue to occur for students both on campus and for students who are receiving remote instruction. Additionally, since a significant number of staff members have been required to quarantine, this has limited the campus administrations ability to schedule evaluations.

According to the guidance document provided by the Texas Education Agency, even with a teacher evaluation waiver, the school district may still evaluate a teacher and determine an appraisal and appraisal rating for a teacher based on completed aspects of the appraisal process.

The district will require campus administration to evaluate any teacher or other staff member that is currently employed under a probationary contract. Additionally, campuses will be required to evaluate teachers and other staff members for whom performance concerns have been identified.

Campuses will be required to complete the following evaluation activities for all teachers for the 2020-2021 school year:

- 2 walk-through evaluations
- End of the year conference in which current year goals are reviewed and goals for the 2021-2022 school year are discussed.

**Texas Principal Evaluation and Support System (T-PESS):** The waiver for the Texas Principal Evaluation and Support System (T-PESS) only allows for the waiver of the student growth requirement on the T-PESS appraisal instrument.