

**Notice of Regular Meeting
Board of Trustees
August 25, 2026**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on August 25, 2026, beginning at 6:30 PM, in the Administration Building, 400 East Loop 340, Waco, TX 76705.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on this meeting notice. For more information about public comment, see Policy BED. Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

- I. Board Goals -- Board President
- II. Roll Call, Establishment of Quorum, and Call to Order -- Board President
- III. Opening Ceremony -- Board President
- IV. Consider Listing of Agenda Items -- Board President
- V. Public Hearing to Discuss the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget and Proposed Tax Rate -- Ms. Jamie Shaver
- VI. Recognition Items -- Board President and Dr. Sharon M. Shields
- VII. Public Participation -- Board President and Dr. Sharon M. Shields
- VIII. Special Reports -- Dr. Sharon M. Shields
 - A. Superintendent's Report -- Dr. Sharon M. Shields
- IX. 2025-2026 Accountability Report -- Dr. Sharon M. Shields and Mrs. Denise Bell
- X. Summer Leadership Institute (SLI) Reports -- Board of Trustees
- XI. Consider Consent Agenda Items -- Board President
 - A. Minutes for Meetings Held -- Ms. Betty Bentura
 - B. District of Innovation -- Dr. Charla Rudd and Dr. Sharon M. Shields
 - C. Consider the McLennan County Resolution Request for Extracurricular Status for 4-H -- Dr. Sharon M. Shields
 - D. Consider Monthly Tax Collection Recap and Report -- Mrs. Jamie White
 - E. Consider Budget Amendments -- Mrs. Jamie White
 - F. Consider COOP Purchasing Vendors -- Ms. Jamie Shaver
 - G. Consider Student Code of Conduct Update -- Mrs. Sandra Gibson
 - H. Consider Quarterly Investment Report -- Mrs. Jamie White
 - I. Consider TASB Policy Updates -- Mr. Todd Gooden
 - J. Consider Resolution Regarding Senate Bill 12 and Parent Rights -- Dr. Sharon M. Shields
- XII. Action and Discussion Items -- Board President
 - A. Consider Monthly Budget Analysis Report -- Mrs. Jamie White
 - B. Consider Defeasance order on Interest and Sinking Rate for 2025-2026 -- Ms. Jamie Shaver
 - C. Consider Official Budget for 2025-2026 -- Ms. Jamie Shaver
 - D. Consider Tax Rate Ordinance for 2025-2026 -- Ms. Jamie Shaver
 - E. Board of Trustees Standard Operating Procedures Review -- Mr. Myron Ridge and Dr. Sharon M. Shields
 - F. Consider Teacher and Professional Employee Contract Recommendations -- Dr. Shaunte' Scott
- XIII. Closed Meeting -- Board President

XIV. Adjournment -- Board President

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, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapters D and E or Texas Government Code section 418.183(f). 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. [See TASB Policy BEC(LEGAL)]

For the Board of Trustees

La Vega Independent School District

House Bill 3 Board Goals 2024-2029

The percentage of 3rd grade students scoring meets grade level standard or above on the STAAR math assessment will increase from 25% in June of 2024 to 58% by June 2029.

The percentage of 3rd grade students scoring meets grade level standard or above on the STAAR RLA assessment will increase from 38% in June of 2024 to 55% by June 2029.

The percentage of students that meet the criteria for CCMR will increase from 68% in August 2024 to 90% by August 2029.

ROLL CALL, ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM, AND CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at _____ m.

Board of Trustees Members Present: _____

Board of Trustees Members Absent: _____

School Personnel Present: _____

Others Present: _____

BOARD PRESIDENT:

THE OPENING CEREMONY CONSISTING OF THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

TO THE AMERICAN FLAG AND TO THE TEXAS FLAG WILL BE PROVIDED BY:

(NAME, TITLE, POSITION, LVISD CAMPUS/DEPT.)



PLEDGE TO UNITED STATES FLAG. I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.



PLEDGE TO TEXAS FLAG: "Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible."

APPROVE LISTING OF AGENDA ITEMS

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Dr. Sharon M. Shields and Board President

Background Information:

Board Members are asked to review the listing of agenda items.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

N/A

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against

Abstain:

PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS THE 2025-2026 BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

Presented for:

Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☒

Contact Person:

Jamie Shaver

Background Information:

The Board set the public hearing on the 2025-2026 budget and tax rate for August 26, 2025. At the public hearing, any taxpayer in the District may be present and participate in the meeting.

The Board may hear public comments, discuss, and then vote to adopt the budget and tax rate, all in the same public meeting.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

N/A

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

RECOGNITION ITEMS

Presented for:

Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒ Consent Agenda Item ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☒ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Board President

Background Information:

This portion of the board meeting is reserved to recognize students, staff, and Board Members for exemplary accomplishments beyond the District Level.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

N/A

[illegible]

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Presented for:

Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:

None ☒ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person(s):

Board President and Dr. Sharon M. Shields

Background Information:

LVISD POLICY BED (LOCAL) -- Public Participation: At regular meetings the Board shall allot 30 minutes to hear persons who desire to make comments to the Board. Persons who wish to participate in this portion of the meeting shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins and shall indicate the topic about which they wish to speak.

Limit on Participation: Audience participation is limited to the portion of the meeting designated for that purpose. At all other times during a Board meeting, the audience shall not enter into discussion or debate on matters being considered by the Board, unless recognized by the presiding officer. No presentation shall exceed five (5) minutes. Delegations of more than five persons shall appoint one person to present their views before the Board.

Board's Response—Specific factual information or recitation of existing policy may be furnished in response to inquiries, but the Board shall not deliberate or decide regarding any subject that is not included on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting.

Complaints and Concerns—Complaints and concerns for which other resolution channels are provided shall be directed through those channels. The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether a person who wishes to address the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively. If not, the person shall be directed to the appropriate policy to seek resolution before bringing the matter to the Board at a subsequent meeting.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

N/A

[illegible]

SPECIAL REPORTS

Presented for:

Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

N/A

Background Information:

This portion of the meeting is to provide special reports to the Board of Trustees.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

This report is being provided for informational purposes.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Superintendent's Report

1. Recognition of State Mandated Dates
2. Student Enrollment Report
3. Calendar Events
4. Construction Update

Presented for:

Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☒

Contact Person:

Dr. Sharon M. Shields

Background Information:

This portion of the board meeting is reserved to update the Board of Trustees on calendar and miscellaneous items.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

N/A

Summer Leadership Institute (SLI) Report:

Presented for:

Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:

None ☒ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Board of Trustees

Background Information:

The Board of Trustees attended the Summer Leadership Institute and are given the opportunity to discuss what they took away from the training received.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation: N/A

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

N/A

Background Information:

The consent agenda shall include items of a routine and/or recurring nature grouped together under one action item. For each item listed as part of a consent agenda, the Board shall be furnished with background material. All such items shall be acted upon by one vote without separate discussion, unless a Board member requests that an item be withdrawn for individual consideration. The remaining items shall be adopted under a single motion and vote.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

N/A

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against

Abstain:

Approve Minutes for Meeting(s) Held

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Ms. **Betty Bentura**

Background Information:

The Board shall prepare and retain minutes or make a tape recording of each of its open meetings. The minutes shall state the subject matter of each deliberation and shall indicate each vote, order, decision, or other action taken by the Board. The minutes or tapes are public records and shall be made available for public inspection and copying on request to the Superintendent or designee.

Fiscal Implication:

None.

Administrative Recommendation:

Board review and approval.

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

Consider Amended District of Innovation Plan

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Dr. Charla Rudd and Dr. Sharon M. Shields

Background Information:

H.B. 1842 (84th Session of the Texas Legislature) in part added Chapter 12A to the Texas Education Code (TEC) to create Districts of Innovation. Districts are eligible for designation if certain performance requirements are met and the district follows certain procedures for adoption as outlined in Statute. The designation provides the district will be exempt from certain sections of the TEC that inhibit the goals of the district as outlined in the locally adopted Innovation Plan. A local innovation plan may be amended, rescinded, or renewed if the action is approved by a vote of the district-level committee established under Section 11.251, or a comparable committee if the district is exempt from that section, and the board of trustees in the same manner as required for initial adoption of a local innovation plan under Section 12A.005.

Fiscal Implication: none

Administrative Recommendation:

Administration recommends the Board approved the Amended District of Innovation Plan as presented

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

LA VEGA ISD
DISTRICT OF
INNOVATION



La Vega ISD seeks the freedom and flexibility to make decisions at the local level. The purpose of the plan is to pursue innovations, personalized learning experience for our unique students, and enables the development of approaches to teaching and learning that is tailored to local needs.

September 1, 2025 – August 1, 2027

Amended August 21, 2025

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DOI Committee Members

Dr. Sharon Shields	Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Todd Gooden	Deputy Superintendent for Personnel & Administration
Ms. Jamie Shaver	Assistant Superintendent for Finance
Dr. Charla Rudd	Chief Academic Officer for Acceleration
Mrs. Sandra Gibson	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Ms. Betty Bentura	Parent
Dr. Peggy Johnson	Executive Director of Bilingual Education & Special Programs
Mrs. Angela Ward	Executive Director of Special Education, Assessment & Student Support
Mrs. Allison Vrana	Executive Director Communications & Education Foundation Primary
Dr. Shaunte Scott	Director of Strategic Staffing
Mrs. Denise Bell	Director of Accountability and School Improvement
Mr. Justin Peebles	Director of Technology
Mrs. Heather Franks	La Vega Primary School Phil Bancale Campus Principal
Mrs. Laura Klander	La Vega Elementary School Principal Early College High School
Mrs. Kristi Rizo	La Vega Intermediate School H.P. Miles Campus Principal
Mrs. Ginny Ellis	La Vega Junior High School George Dixon Campus Principal
Mr. Corey McAdams	La Vega High School Principal
Mr. Chris Ward	Dean of Vocational Studies
Mrs. Jeanne Gravitt	Dean of Advanced Studies Cohort Assistant Principal High School
Mr. Maurea Crain	Cohort Assistant Principal, La Vega High School
Mr. Todd Durham	Cohort Assistant Principal, La Vega High School
Ms. Mari Keller	Cohort Assistant Principal, La Vega High School
Mr. Adam Woods	Assistant Principal, La Vega Junior High School George Dixon Campus
Mr. Ryan Sparks	Assistant Principal, La Vega Intermediate School H.P. Miles Campus
Mr. Dikran Bullajian	Instructional Technology Specialist
Mr. Chris Borland	Instructional Technology Specialist
Ms. Sabrina Miles	La Vega Family Engagement Specialist
Ms. Veronica Olvera	La Vega Special Education Diagnostician
Ms. Alex Gomez	Interventionist, La Vega Elementary School

Mrs. Tamara Smith	Multiclassroom Leader, La Vega Intermediate School H.P. Miles Campus
Mr. Kenneth Maedgen	TIA Designated Teacher, La Vega Junior High School George Dixon Campus
Mr. Michael Swift	TIA Designated Teacher, La Vega High School
Ms. Cyndi Sykora	Paraprofessional Representative
Ms. Diana Castro	Parent
Mr. Henry Jennings	La Vega ISD Board of Trustee
Ms. Brenda Rocha	La Vega ISD Board of Trustee

Timeline

January 12, 2022	Superintendent and Curriculum & Instruction Department discuss parameters and process for renewing the DOI Renewal.
January 18, 2022	Board Meeting – La Vega ISD Board of Trustees discuss rules and process for renewal DOI. Board Meeting – Board directs Superintendent to review and develop the La Vega ISD Innovation Plan.
January 20, 2022	Executive administrative team meets to discuss current plan and propose additional areas to investigate.
February 7, 2022	Superintendent, District Leadership, and Campus Administrators meet to review data and discuss DOI options and focus areas.
February 24, 2022	Vision in Action Team meets to review the focus areas and consider viable DOI options. VIA team approves draft DOI with suggested edits.
February 28, 2022	Administrative team meets to discuss innovative ideas and make edits as suggested by VIA.
February 28, 2022	DOI draft review completed with approval from all central administration officers, curriculum and instruction, and campus administrators.
March 1, 2022	District Quality Improvement Council meets to review, discuss, and provide input on the DOI draft.
March 3, 2022	Proposed 2022-2027 DOI plan posted on district website for public comment.
March 10, 2022	Superintendent’s Advisory Committee meets to review, discuss, and provide input on a DOI draft submitted from all central administration officers, curriculum and instruction, and campus administrators.
March 10, 2022	Proposed version of La Vega ISD Innovation Plan posted to district webpage for public comment.
April 8, 2022	Public comments on La Vega ISD Innovation Plan reviewed. <u>Finding 0 public comments</u> , plan placed on agendas for review.
April 11, 2022	Superintendent and Executive Administrative team meets to review public comments and make edits La Vega ISD Innovation Plan.
April 11, 2022	Campus administrators and District administrators meet to review public comments and review La Vega ISD Innovation Plan.
April 19, 2022	Board approves presented La Vega ISD Innovation Plan.
April 20, 2022	Board authorizes the superintendent to notify the Commissioner of Education of the Board-approved La Vega ISD Innovation Plan.
May 18, 2022	Superintendent and Executive Administrative team meets to review TEA comments.
May 24, 2022	Superintendent and Executive Administrative team meets with legal counsel to review DOI.
May 31, 2022	Campus administrators and District administrators meet to review legal counsel comments and make final amendments to La Vega ISD Innovation Plan.
June 8, 2022	District Quality Improvement Council reviews, discusses, and approves the amended DOI plan.
July 19, 2022	Board approves Amended La Vega ISD Innovation Plan.

July 9, 2025	Executive Team reviews legal opinions centered around HB 2 legislative mandates adopted
July 24, 2025	Executive Team reviews legislative changes to HB 2 in connection to DOI Plan.
August 11, 2025	Executive team reviews recommendations from legal counsel to La Vega ISD DOI plan
August 13, 2025	DOI draft review with legal counsel review of language completed by central administration team.
August 15, 2025	Amended La Vega ISD DOI Plan sent to all DOI Committee members for review
August 20, 2025	DOI Committee review and discussion of amended plan and approval
August 21, 2025	DOI Amended plan posted for public comment on district website.
August 25, 2025	Public comments and suggestions from campus administrator's revisions made to the DOI copy and reviewed by the DOI Committee and Leadership.
August 26, 2025	Board reviews and approves 2025 Amended La Vega ISD Innovation Plan.

Introduction

On July 8, 2025, the La Vega ISD Executive Administrative Team began reviewing the La Vega ISD District of Innovation (DOI) Plan” in light of legislation recently passed during the 2025 Regular Legislative Session.

La Vega ISD DOI Plan, originally adopted in April of 2017, are requirements that hamper meeting the unique needs of La Vega ISD student population. La Vega ISD seeks the freedom and flexibility to make decisions at the local level in order to pursue innovations in curriculum, instructional methods, governance of campuses, parent and community involvement, modifications to the school day and year, budgeting and sustainable program funding, accountability and assessment above state requirements, or other innovative ideas.

As a DOI, La Vega ISD has the ability to pursue flexibility choices, especially with respect to the school calendar and attendance, which could impact funding calculations positively. The district will seek relief from unfunded and partially funded mandates that are counter to effective and efficient use of taxpayer dollars for educating students of the district.

The impact of DOI designation on local policies may necessitate adjustments to legal policies to reflect that some legal provisions may be affected by the district’s innovation plan. Under 19TAC §102.13131 (a), the plan may be extended for up to an additional five years, and it may be amended, rescinded, or renewed during that time period.

Review of the plan included teachers (Vision in Action team (VIA), Superintendent Advisory Committee (SAC)) parents, community and business partners through the District Quality Improvement Committee (DQIC). Revisions to the proposed plan as requested by each group.

Summary

The DOI plan is intended to enhance the environment and capabilities of teachers and other instructional staff of La Vega ISD. The ultimate goal of the proposed plans are to advance innovative curriculum, instructional methods, community participation, governance of campuses, and parental involvement – primarily by ELIMINATING costly and/or counter-productive compliance requirements – in an effort to focus resources and energy on what really matters ...student success at all levels.

Texas Education Code Exemptions

La Vega ISD intends to investigate ALL permitted exemption categories as specified by the DOI legislation (TAC 102) of 2015. The following items identify exemptions immediately sought. La Vega ISD reserves the right to examine and approve changes in all additional areas identified by statute or Commissioner Rules. TAC Title 19, Part 2, Chapter 61

Chapter 11 – School Districts

Subchapter F – District-Level and Site Based Decision-Making

- ☒ §11.251 Planning and Decision-Making Process
- ☒ §11.252 District-Level Planning and Decision-Making
- ☒ §11.253 Campus Planning and Site-Based Decision-Making
- ☒ §11.255 Dropout Prevention Review

Chapter 21 – Educators

Subchapter A – General Provisions

- ☒ §21.003 Certification Required
- ☒ §21.0031 Failure to Obtain Certification, Contract Void

Subchapter B – Certification of Education

- ☒ §21.053 Presentation and Recording of Certificates

Subchapter C – Probationary Contracts

- ☒ §21.102 Probationary Contract

Subchapter D – Continuing Contracts

- ☒ §21.158 Notice under Continuing Contract

Subchapter I – Duties and Benefits

- ☒ §21.401. Minimum Service Required

Subchapter J – Staff Development Requirements

- ☒ §21.451 Staff Development Requirements
- ☒ §21.458 Mentors

Chapter 25 – Admission, Transfer, and Attendance

Subchapter C – Operation of Schools and School Attendance

- ☒ §25.0811 First Day of Instruction
- ☒ §25.0812 Last Day of School
- ☒ §25.083 School Day Interruptions
- ☒ §25.092 Minimum Attendance for Class Credit or Final Grade

Subchapter D – Student/Teacher Ratios: Class Size

- ☒ §§25.111 Student/Teacher Ratios
- ☒ §25.112 Class Size
- ☒ §25.113 Notice of Class Size

Chapter 26 – Parental Rights and Responsibilities

Subchapter A – Grievances

- ☒ §26.011 Grievance Policy

Subchapter E – Students and Parents

- ☒ §26.0061 Right to Request Instructional Material Review
- ☒ §26.007 Access to Board Meetings

Chapter 28 Courses of Study; Advancement

Subchapter B. Advancement, Placement, Credit, And Academic Achievement Record

- ☒ §28.022 Notice to Parent of Unsatisfactory Performance

Chapter 33 - SERVICE PROGRAMS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Subchapter B – Libraries

- ☒ §33.025 Library Advisory Council
- ☒ §33.026 Acquisition of Library Materials

Chapter 44 – Fiscal Management

Subchapter B – Purchases; Contracts

- ☒ §44.031 Purchasing Contracts
- ☒ §44.0331 Management Fees under Certain Cooperative Purchasing Contracts
- ☒ §44.0352 Competitive Sealed Proposals
- ☒ §44.042 Preference to Texas and United States Products
- ☒ §44.043 Right to Work
- ☒ §44.047 Purchase or Lease of Automated External Defibrillator

Subchapter Z – Miscellaneous Provisions

- ☒ §44.902 Long-Range Energy Plan to Reduce Consumption of Electric Energy

Chapter 45 – School District Funds

Subchapter G: School District Depositories

- ☒ § 45.205 Term of Contract



Chapter 11 – School Districts

Subchapter F – District-Level and Site Based Decision-Making

Texas Education Code:

Sec. 11.251. PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

Sec. 11.252. DISTRICT-LEVEL PLANNING AND DECISION –MAKING

Sec. 11.253. CAMPUS PLANNING AND SITE-BASED DECISION-MAKING

Sec. 11.255. DROP OUT PREVENTION REVIEW

Related Board Policy:

BQ: PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

BQ(LOCAL); BQ(LEGAL)

BQA: PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESS DISTRICT-LEVEL

BQA (LOCAL); BQA (LEGAL)

BQA: PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESS CAMPUS-LEVEL

BQA (LOCAL); BQA (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

According to Sec. 11.251 stipulates that the board of trustees of each independent school district shall ensure that a district improvement plan and improvement plans for each campus are developed, reviewed, and revised annually for the purpose of improving the performance of all students. Sec. 11.255 requires each district-level and campus-level planning and decision-making committee analyze information related to dropout prevention. Sec. 11.252, (e), “The district-level committee established under Section 11.251 shall hold at least one public meeting per year.” Sec 11.253 mirrors the language found in the district-level committee for the campus-level committee. The section also requires each “campus-level committee hold at least one public meeting per year.” La Vega ISD holds six to nine meetings yearly. However, considering the various committee roles and responsibilities outlined in both the education code and in board policy require members at a minimum to address the areas of planning, budgeting, curriculum, staffing patterns, staff development, school organization in addition to a host of other responsibilities identified in a number of additional sections of the education code, one – or even nine – meetings are not sufficient to discuss any of the required topics much less “extensive training” to be able to productively contribute to a discussion of the topic.

Furthermore, in addition to effective planning methodology as outlined in Sections 11.251, 11.252, 11.253, and 11.255 including a comprehensive needs assessment, measurable performance objectives, strategies, resources (including staff), and evaluative measure, the number of strategies identified in Sec. 11.252 that must be included are excessive. District Improvement Plans (DIP) and Campus Improvement Plans (CIP) become compliance documents and not as helpful as the district’s strategic plan, Performance Based Improvement Required Plan or Campus Improvement Required plan. While it may be necessary to have some compliance information compiled for federal purposes, others should be researched for elimination or incorporated in innovative instructional methodology.

The district reviews annually dropout records related to graduation rates for junior and senior high campuses. The district utilizes local and county resources to respond appropriately to developing plans and action steps to eliminate dropouts. The effective implementation and planning are measured annually by the Board of Trustees eliminating the cursory requirement found in 11.255.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

Reduce or eliminate plan requirements that are redundant with other local planning processes to enable La Vega ISD to implement a good comprehensive plan.



Chapter 21 – Educators

Subchapter B – Certification of Educators

Texas Education Code:

Sec. 21.003. CERTIFICATION REQUIRED

Sec. 21.0031. FAILURE TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATION, CONTRACT VOID

Sec. 21.053. PRESENTATION AND RECORDING OF CERTIFICATES

Related board policy:

DBA: EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS CREDENTIALS AND RECORDS

DBA (LEGAL); DBA (LOCAL)

DK: ASSIGNMENT AND SCHEDULES

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

TEC 21.003 states that a person may not be employed as a teacher, teacher intern or trainee, librarian, education aide, administrator, educational diagnostician, or school counselor by a school district unless the person holds an appropriate certificate or permit issued by the appropriate state agency.

TEC 21.0031 states that an employee's probationary, continuing, or term contract under this chapter is void if the employee does not hold a valid certificate or permit issued by the State Board for Educator Certification.

TEC 21.053 requires a teacher to present his or her certificate to the district before their employment contract will be binding and prohibits the district from paying an educator for teaching if the educator does not hold a valid certificate at the time.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

La Vega ISD will maintain its current expectations for employee certification. The district will continue to first seek qualified applicants with a TEA certification for all teacher positions. All certification requirements will remain in place for special education and primary ESL (bilingual) teachers.

However, if a satisfactory candidate is not available, the district will have the flexibility to hire individuals who are knowledgeable in the area and equipped to effectively perform the duties of the position in question. Individuals completing an educator preparation program will be considered. Waiving the 21.003 and 221.0031 for a limited time will enable children to be taught by individuals who are knowledgeable in the area and equipped to perform the duties while also receiving support from college and educator preparation programs.

The district will utilize Section 21.055 to employ individuals with experience in the non-core academic career and technical education courses. Qualifications will include demonstrated subject matter expertise such as professional work experience, formal training and education, professional relevant industry licensure, certification, or any combination of work experience, training, education, industry license, or certification.

Procedure would be implemented pairing certified mentor teachers with uncertified teachers to provide mentoring, planning, observation and feedback, support in classroom management, professional implementation of instruction resources and other professional develop supports.



Subchapter C – Probationary Contracts

Texas Education Code:

TEC 21.102 (b) PROBATIONARY CONTRACT

Related Board Policy:

DCA (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

For experienced teacher new to the district, the probationary period may not exceed one year if the person has been employed as a teacher in public education for at least five of the previous eight years. The one-year probationary period is not sufficient to evaluate the teacher's effectiveness in the classroom since teacher contract renewal timelines demand that employment decisions be made seven months after the first day of employment and prior to district receipt of state assessment results.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

For experienced teachers, counselors, or nurses new to the district that have been employed as a teacher in public education for at least five of the eight previous years, a probationary contract may be issued for up to two years. All other teachers hired in the district may remain on

probationary status for three years and may be issued a fourth year of probation in accordance with TEC 21.102.



Subchapter D – Continuing Contracts

Texas Education Code:

Sec. 21.158 NOTICE UNDER CONTINUING CONTRACT

Related Board Policy:

DF (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

Sec. 21.158 requires the Board of Trustees to notify the teacher of a proposed suspension without pay.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

The superintendent manages the day-to-day affairs of the district. S/He will have the authority to suspend a teacher without pay. Such decisions can still be appealed to the Board; thus, due process is preserved. Oftentimes, the necessity for the suspension is many days before the next called board meeting. La Vega ISD is seeking relief from Section 21.158 notification requirement.



Subchapter I – Duties and Benefits

Texas Education Code:

Sec. 21.401 MINIMUM SERVICE REQUIRED

RELATED BOARD POLICY

DC (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

TEC 21.401 states that a contract between the district and an educator must be for a minimum of ten months of service. An educator employed under a ten-month contract must provide a minimum of 187 days of service.

TEC 25.081 references the Commissioner may reduce the number of days of service, but such a reduction by the Commissioner does not reduce an educator's salary.

TEC 25.081 requires that a school district provide at least 75,600 minutes of instruction each school year, including intermission and recess. However, when the required number of minutes are met, teachers are required to work well beyond the instructional and professional development days needed for the school year.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

Relief from Section 21.401 will allow LA VEGA ISD the flexibility to consider the reduction in contract days to align with the 75,600 minutes required of students. Should the district experience financial distress or need to remain competitive with surrounding districts, as stated in TEC 25.081, teacher contract days may be reduced without reducing teacher pay. The benefits of this plan will naturally increase the daily rate paid to teachers with no additional cost. A reduction in days will enhance teacher retention and recruitment.



Subchapter J – Staff Development Requirements

Texas Education Code:

Sec. 21.451 Staff Development Requirements
Sec. 21.458 Teacher Mentor

Related Board Policy:

DL (LEGAL) DMA (LEGAL) DEAA (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

Sec. 21.451 prescribes staff development requirements. TEC 21.458 sets eligibility requirements for teacher mentors and mentors. This provision states that the district may only assign a mentor to a teacher with less than two years of teaching experience, despite the fact that a teacher at any level of experience may benefit from a mentor- mentee relationship.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

La Vega ISD seeks relief from §21.451 by protecting planning and preparation time through scheduled professional learning time and adding additional professional learning days throughout the school year. These professional learning days have been purposefully placed throughout the calendar to allow for teacher teams to analyze data in addition to engaging in relevant, targeted professional development. La Vega ISD seeks relief from 21.451 in order to meet the specific needs of campus educators.

La Vega ISD seeks flexibility to assign mentors to more experience teachers in need of assistance. Section 21.458 sets eligibility requirements for teacher mentors. An exemption from 21.458 would allow for teachers with more than two years of experience to be assigned a mentor that excels in areas that are targeted for improvement or innovation, such as 1:1 technology, project-based learning, and AVID. In addition, mentors would be exempt *from* the qualifications described in Subsection (b), thus increasing the pool of teachers from which the district could draw for these target mentoring programs.



Chapter 25 – Admission, Transfer, and Attendance

Subchapter C – Operation of Schools and School Attendance

Texas Education Code:

Sec. 25.0811 FIRST DAY OF INSTRUCTION

Sec. 25.0812 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Related Board Policy:

EB (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

Sec 25.0811 states that a school district may not begin instruction for students for a school year before the fourth Monday in August unless the district operates a year-round system. Sec. 25.0812 states a school district may not schedule the last day of school before May 15. The current process allows no flexibility in the design of school calendars to fit the need of the community of the wishes of the local Board of Trustees who represent community interests in the matter.

Previously, districts had the option of applying to TEA for a waiver to start earlier, even as early as the 2nd Monday in August. The Texas tourism groups lobbied to have this stopped because they believed it was hurting their tourism business. Therefore, several years ago the legislature took away all waivers and dictated that districts may not begin until the 4th Monday, with no exceptions.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

Exemption from Sec. 25.0811 will allow La Vega ISD to determine locally, on an annual basis, what best meets the needs of the students and local community. Altered school start dates allow Early College High School students and dual credit students to have calendars that match the institutions of higher education and provide for increased local control of the instructional calendar in order to be responsive to community needs and align with local universities, college entrance exams, and STAAR timelines. This empowers La Vega ISD to personalize learning, increase college and career readiness, and balance the amount of instructional time in each semester. The district would not need to seek waivers for professional development or early release days.



Subchapter C – Operation of Schools and School Attendance

Texas Education Code:

Sec. 25.083 SCHOOL DAY INTERRUPTIONS

Related Board Policy:

EC (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

The Sec. 25.083 stipulates that the Board of Trustees of each school district will adopt and strictly enforce a policy limiting interruptions of classes during the school day for no academic activities such as announcements to once during the school day except in the course of an emergency. The provision also requires that no more than 10 % of the school day be allocated for school tutorials.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

LA VEGA ISD is seeking relief from Section 25.083 for greater flexibility and local control. Decisions on how to spend each school day should be the sole purview of the campus/district. There are safety and security situations when announcements must be made several times during the day to increase efficiency. There are times when more than 10% of a child's day should be spent in tutoring, studying, and/or intervention.



Subchapter C – Operation of Schools and School Attendance

Texas Education Code:

Sec. 25.092 MINIMUM ATTENDANCE FOR CLASS CREDIT OR FINAL GRADE

Related Board Policy:

FEC: ATTENDANCE FOR CREDIT
FEC (LEGAL) FEC (LOCAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

“A student in any grade level from kindergarten through grade 12 may not be given credit or a final grade for a class unless the student is in attendance for at least 90% of the days the class is offered.” La Vega ISD believes the 90% “seat time” as a determining factor content mastery is an arbitrary rule. Penalizing students for participation in extra- and co-curricular activities, academic competitions, in many cases exacerbates student disinterest and apathy.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

By exempting the state requirement, La Vega ISD can put local policies in place to curb absenteeism, while abstaining from penalizing students who miss class time due to legitimate conflicts. Acknowledgment of scheduling conflicts and accommodating students involved in several extra-curricular activities will reduce dropouts and increase the number of eligible graduates. The relief from Sec. 25.092 does not in any way impact or alter existing compulsory attendance requirements or University Interscholastic League (UIL) rules. Additionally, this exemption does not limit a teacher's right to determine the finality of a grade in accordance with

Texas Education Code Sec. 28.214, nor does it restrict or alter a teacher's right to assign grades in accordance with TEC 28.216.



Chapter 25 – Admission, Transfer, and Attendance

Subchapter D – Student/Teacher Ratios: Class Size

Texas Education Code:

- Sec. 25.111 STUDENT TEACHER RATIOS
- Sec. 25.112 CLASS SIZE
- Sec. 25.113 NOTICE OF CLASS SIZE

Related Board Policy:

EB (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

Sec 25.111 specifies that each school district must employ a sufficient number of teachers certified under Subchapter B, Chapter 21, to maintain an average ratio of not less than one teacher for each 20 students in average daily attendance. Sec. 25.112 requires districts to maintain a class size of 22 students or less for kindergarten–4th Grade classes. When any class exceeds this limit, the district must complete and file a waiver with the Texas Education Agency. These waivers are never rejected by TEA. This is a bureaucratic step that serves no purpose.

Sec. 25.113 requires school districts to notify parents of waivers or exceptions to class size limits. In many cases, the class has returned to a smaller student to teacher ratio before the waiver is even approved negating the need for this notice.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

The district has a goal to begin each school year with enough teachers to establish 22:1 in each Kindergarten through Fourth grade classroom. While we believe that small class size plays a positive role in the classroom, this must be balanced with the logistics of adding staff and the best student/teacher ratio based on student needs. In the event any class size exceeds this 22:1, the Superintendent will report this information to the Board of Trustees. Decisions regarding the most appropriate student to teacher ratios will be made at the local level, taking into consideration the age and grade level of students, the subject matter of the class, and the needs of student groups and the availability of additional instructional staff members.

Relief from TEC 25.111 and 25.112 enables the district to ensure appropriate and highly qualified individuals working with the youngest students. The TEA waiver request will no longer be filed when a K-4 classroom exceeds the 22:1 ratio. Parent notification will occur throughout the year as appropriate eliminating the requirement of TEC 25.113.



Chapter 26 – Parental Rights and Responsibilities

Subchapter A– Grievance Policy

Sec.26.011 Procedures for parents to file complaints

Related Board Policy:

DGBA (LEGAL & LOCAL)

FNG (LEGAL & LOCAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

Current law in TEC Chapter 26A requires each school district to adopt a standardized complaint policy with several burdensome requirements, including extended timelines for filing and compressed timelines for holding conferences at each level. The law requires a policy allowing 60 calendar days for a parent to file a grievance from the date on which the parent or person knew or had reason to know of the facts giving rise to the grievance, unless the parent engaged in informal attempts to resolve the grievance, in which case the parent could have up to 90 calendar days to file a grievance. The law further requires that such complaints be heard within ten calendar days of the complaint being filed. Moreover, in contradiction of existing law in the Texas Government Code, the recently adopted provisions in the Education Code would allow the person bringing the complaint to decide if it is heard in open or closed, rather than the person against whom the complaint is brought. Finally, parents and other grievants would be allowed to add issues and claims at any point during the grievance process, making it difficult to resolve concerns at the lowest possible level.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

La Vega ISD has always and will continue to adhere to an established grievance policy with procedures and timelines outlined in local Board policy. Such policies ensure thorough documentation of each step in the grievance process and provide adequate time for complaints to be filed and for complaints to be heard. All records related to grievances; including submitted forms, communications, investigations, findings, resolutions, and any corrective actions; are systematically maintained at the district level to ensure transparency, accountability, and compliance with legal and policy standards. La Vega ISD is committed to monitoring the legality and appropriateness of every decision and action taken. The district is further committed to hearing, reviewing, and attempting to resolve all parent complaints as quickly and efficiently as

possible, as well as to taking corrective action, where appropriate. It is imperative that grievances and complaints are filed in a timely manner to ensure the best prompt response.

La Vega ISD's long-standing grievance policy will ensure that all such complaints are carefully reviewed and that district responses are in alignment with state and federal regulations, as well as all other local board policies. La Vega ISD seeks to be exempt from a statewide grievance policy and will continue to follow established grievance procedures as outlined in district policy. This will allow the district to hear and consider parent and employee complaints in an orderly and responsive manner and to resolve those concerns as quickly as possible.



Subchapter E – Students and Parents

Sec.26.0062 RIGHT TO REQUEST INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL REVIEW

Related Board Policy:

EFA(LEGAL)
EFA (LOCAL)
DL (LEGAL)
FA (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

La Vega ISD is committed to supporting all efforts of each campus to involve parents and community members as active participants in the education of La Vega ISD students. The district strives to support the actions of our teachers and other instructional staff as they develop curriculum and effective instructional strategies. Under current law, each school district must post on the district's website at the beginning of each semester an instructional plan or course syllabus for each class offered in the district for that semester. The policy would require each teacher to provide to district administration and to the parent of each student enrolled in the class such an instructional plan or syllabus before the beginning of each semester for each class for which the teacher provides instruction.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

Because teachers use data-driven instruction aligned with student mastery of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), instructional plans are regularly adjusted to support student learning. Teacher autonomy to modify instruction based on real-time data and effective strategies does not align with publishing a fixed, comprehensive semester-long plan. La Vega ISD will not adopt a policy or create a requirement for its teachers to post at the beginning of each semester an instructional plan or course syllabus for each class offered in the district. However, La Vega ISD will ensure that course overviews are available at the request of parents or guardians.



Subchapter E – Students and Parents

Sec.26.007 ACCESS TO BOARD MEETINGS

Related Board Policy:

EFA(LEGAL & LOCAL)

DL (LEGA)

FA (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

Board meetings comply with all other requirements found in the code.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

The district seeks relief from requirements found in 26.007 which requires each board of trustee meeting to be held outside of typical work hours. There are occasions in which the board must meet to adopt a policy or take action to maintain effective district functioning.



Chapter 28 Courses of Study; Advancement

Subchapter B. Advancement, Placement, Credit, And Academic Achievement Record

Texas Education Code:

Sec. 28.022 NOTICE TO PARENT OF UNSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE

Related Board Policy:

EI (LEGAL)

EIF (LEGAL)

EIC (LOCAL)

EIE (LOCAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

Texas Education Code § 28.022 requires the La Vega ISD Board of Trustees to adopt a policy that provides for at least two opportunities for in-person conferences during each school year between each parent of a child enrolled in the district and the child's teachers.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

La Vega ISD is committed to collaborating and partnering with parents in educating our students, and the district has a practice of offering at least one parent/teacher conference per year. In addition, Board policy provides for additional conferences to be scheduled upon request by a teacher or parent, as needed.”

Each campus encourages parents to schedule time to meet with teachers, counselors, principals and other staff members, as needed to address concerns regarding their child’s education. La Vega ISD believes the number of in-person parent/teacher conferences required each year is best left to the discretion of the Board of Trustees and district educators, in full collaboration with parents.



Chapter 33 – Service Programs and Extracurricular Activities

Subchapter B – Libraries

Texas Education Code:

Sec. 33.025 LIBRARY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Related Board Policy:

EFB (LEGAL &LOCAL)

EHB (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan

La Vega ISD encourages and supports all campus efforts to involve district parents and community members as active participants in the education of La Vega ISD students. Current law requires the school district to establish a School Library Advisory Council at any campus where either 10% of parents or 50 parents (whichever is fewer) submit a written request for such a council. The council would then be tasked with reviewing library materials, providing input on the selection and removal of resources, making recommendations to ensure materials are age-appropriate, and aligned with community values, reviewing all books and other material objected to by any district parent, and advising on such objections.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

While these councils are not required to be formed until such a petition is received, once the petition is received, the Board will be statutorily required to create these councils. At that time, the council(s) will not be optional for the district. La Vega ISD seeks to be exempt from Texas

Education Code §33.025, which mandates the creation of a School Library Advisory Council upon petition by 10% of parents or 50 parents. The district believes this requirement is redundant and unnecessary, as La Vega ISD already has strong, board-approved procedures in place for selecting, reviewing, and reconsidering library materials – led by certified librarians and educators and aligned with state-mandated requirements and guidance from the Texas Education Agency. Creating such advisory council risks undermining the professional judgment of educators and librarians, introduces the judgment of non-certified individuals, introduces potential for politicization of instructional resources, and could very easily lead to inconsistency across campuses. Furthermore, the statute presents an administrative burden, requiring staff time and resources that would be better directed toward student learning and support. La Vega ISD’s existing processes already allow for meaningful parental review and involvement, including access to their child’s library checkout records, formal challenge procedures, and transparency in material selection. In addition, concerned individuals may also speak with teachers, administration, and/or the school board through District complaint processes and/or during the open forum of any regularly scheduled board meeting. The district remains committed to ensuring age-appropriate and educationally sound resources while maintaining an efficient and effective oversight structure that includes educator expertise and parent input, without the disruption and/or duplication caused by the statutory requirements in §33.025.



Subchapter B – Libraries

Texas Education Code:

Sec. 33.026 ACQUISITION of LIBRARY MATERIALS

Related Board Policy:

EFB (LEGAL &LOCAL)

EHB (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan

The current law outlines specific procedures school districts must follow before acquiring library materials. The law requires that materials be reviewed and approved in advance by a certified school librarian and be verified for compliance with age-appropriateness, educational suitability, and community standards. Additionally, it mandates a multi-step vetting process, documentation of acquisition decisions, and the public posting of selected materials for 30 days before they are made available to students. Finally, current law requires the Board of Trustees to approve every library book or other resource material acquired by or donated to the district.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

La Vega ISD will be exempt from this statutory provision because the district already has robust, board-approved policies in place that govern the acquisition of library materials in a manner that ensures transparency, appropriateness, and educational value. These policies and

procedures are implemented by certified librarians and are fully compliant with the standards required by Texas law and guidance from the Texas Education Agency. The statutory process under §33.026 introduces redundant and restrictive requirements that may delay access to timely instructional and enrichment resources. It also places bureaucratic barriers in front of trained library professionals who are certified to select age-appropriate, curriculum-aligned materials, that are consistent with standards set by Texas law. Furthermore, the mandated documentation process creates an administrative burden that consumes time and resources better allocated to instructional support. While La Vega ISD fully supports transparency and parental engagement in the school library process, the rigid requirements of TEC §33.026 are unnecessary and duplicative of local safeguards already in place. This exemption allows La Vega ISD to preserve instructional flexibility, uphold librarian professionalism, and provide students with timely access to enriching and appropriate materials—without compromising accountability or community trust.



Chapter 44 – Fiscal Management

Subchapter B – Purchases; Contracts

Texas Education Code:

- Sec. 44.031 PURCHASING CONTRACTS
- Sec. 44.0331 MANAGEMENT FEES UNDER CERTAIN COOPERATIVE PURCHASING CONTRACTS
- Sec. 44.0352 COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS
- Sec. 44.042 PREFERENCE TO TEXAS AND UNITED STATE PRODUCTS
- Sec. 44.043 RIGHT TO WORK
- Sec. 44.047 PURCHASE OR LEASE OF AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR

Related Board Policy:

CH (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

The district seeks relief from requirements found in TEC 44.031, 44.0331, 44.0352, 44.042, 44.043, and 44.047 to maximize the operational efficiency of the district.



Subchapter Z – Miscellaneous Provisions

Texas Education Code:

Sec. 44.902 LONG RANGE ENERGY PLAN TO REDUCE CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY

Related Board Policy:

CL (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

Chapter 44 establishes their requirement of districts to reduce annual electric consumption by 5 percent and to develop plans for that purpose

Proposed Innovation Plan:

The statewide arbitrary 5% rule is indicative of a “one size fits all” mentality. Energy consumption and savings are a building by building, district by district calculation. Districts that have older facilities struggle to cut energy consumption by the very nature of the building’s age. Therefore, relief from the requirements to develop plans are not necessary.



Chapter 45 – School District Funds

Subchapter G. School District Depositories

Texas Education Code:

Sec. 45.206 TERM OF CONTRACT

Related Board Policy:

BDAE (LEGAL & LOCAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goal of the plan:

Current statute stipulates (A) except as provided by Subsection (b), the depository bank when selected shall serve for a term of two years and until its successor is selected and has qualified. (B) A school district and the district’s depository bank may agree to extend a depository contract for two additional two-year terms. An extension under this subsection is not subject to the requirements of Section 45.206. (C) The contract term and any extension must coincide with the school district’s fiscal year.

Proposed Innovation Plan:

La Vega ISD would be able to allow the district's existing bank contract to be extended beyond the total 6-year allowable term if the district determines contract pricing remains competitive and there is no operational or financial reason to send the district's banking services out to bid. This exemption would lessen the administrative burden related to preparing and reviewing a Request for Proposal (RFP) when there are no other banking institutions within district boundaries available to bid on the district's business. In addition, this would further mitigate any impact to employees that would have to alter their direct deposit instructions and afford district flexibility with respect to local banking relationships.



The La Vega ISD reserves the right to add/delete changes in the areas permitted by this legislation – with the consent of the VIA and/or Board when applicable.

Consider McLennan County Adjunct Faculty Agreement and the Resolution for Extracurricular Status of 4-H Organization

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Dr. Sharon M. Shields

Background Information:

See attached.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

The administration recommends approval of the resolution regarding extracurricular status of the 4-H organization and recognition of the Texas Cooperative Extension staff members as adjunct faculty members of La Vega ISD.

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

EXTRACURRICULAR STATUS REQUEST

Request for Extracurricular Status for 4-H

MCLENNAN COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
 EXTENSION

July 24, 2025

Dr. Sharon Shields, Superintendent
 La Vega ISD
 400 E. Loop 340
 Waco, TX 76705

Dear Dr. Sharon Shields:

On behalf of the 4-H members of McLennan County, I/we hereby respectfully request that the 4-H organization, by the attached resolution, be sanctioned as an extracurricular activity. We request the enclosed RESOLUTION be presented for consideration at the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of the La Vega ISD. I/we further request that questions regarding this RESOLUTION be directed to me/us in a timely manner so that I/we may prepare and present an appropriate response so as not to delay action on this request.

Finally, I/we request that a signed copy of this RESOLUTION, along with a copy of the minutes of the Board meeting, be forwarded to me/us for my/our files.

Thank you and members of the Board of Trustees for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


 Madeline Makovy
 CEA, 4-H & Youth Development


 Dr. Shane McLellan
 CEA, Ag & Natural Resources


 Jerod Meurer
 CEA, Natural Resources


 Rachel Esquivel
 CEA, Family & Community Health


 Chisa Brigham
 CEA, 4-H & Youth Development

Attachment: Resolution for Extracurricular Status of 4-H Organization

McLennan County Extension
 4224 Cobbs Drive
 Waco, Texas 76710
<https://mclennan.agrilife.org/> | Tel. 254.757.5180 | Fax. 254.757.5097

EXTRACURRICULAR STATUS REQUEST

Resolution requesting Extracurricular Status for 4-H

RESOLUTION**EXTRACURRICULAR STATUS OF 4-H ORGANIZATION**

Be it hereby resolved that upon this date, the duly elected Board of Trustees of the

La Vega Independent School District

meeting in public with a quorum present and
 certified, did adopt this resolution that recognizes
 the

McLennan County

County Texas 4-H Organization as approved for recognition and eligible for
 extracurricular status consideration under 19 Texas Administrative Code,
 Chapter 76.1, pertaining to extracurricular activities.

Participation by 4-H members under provisions of this resolution are subject
 to all rules and regulations set forth under the 19 Texas Administrative Code
 as interpreted by this Board and designated officials of this school district.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
 will request academic eligibility for all 4-H competitive activities,
 regardless if a school absence is or is not required, and
 for non-competitive purposes when an absence is required.

Approved this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

 Board of Trustee

 Superintendent

ADJUNCT FACULTY REQUEST

Cover Letter requesting Adjunct Faculty Status

MCLENNAN COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

July 24, 2025

Dr. Sharon Shields, Superintendent
 La Vega ISD
 400 E. Loop 340
 Waco, Tx 76705

Dear Dr. Sharon Shields:

On behalf of the **McLennan** County Extension Staff, I/we hereby respectfully request approval of the attached Adjunct Faculty Agreement with the **La Vega** Independent School District.

The State Board of Education passed an amendment to 19 TAC§129.21 (j). Requirements for Student Attendance Accounting for State Funding Purposes allows public school students to be considered "in attendance" when participating in off-campus activities with an adjunct staff member of the school district. Section 3 of the Student Attendance Handbook states:

- (1) *The student is participating in an activity that is approved by the local board of school trustees and is under the direction of a member of the professional or paraprofessional staff of the school district, or an adjunct staff member who:*
- (A) *has a minimum of a bachelor's degree; and*
 - (B) *is eligible for participation in the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.*

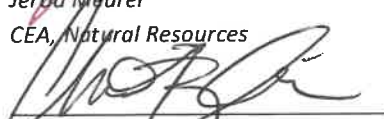
McLennan County requests the agents listed on the enclosed Adjunct Faculty Agreement be awarded adjunct staff member status for the period of time indicated on the agreement.

I hope **La Vega** Independent School District will accept this request. Please let me know if you would like to schedule an appointment to discuss the amendment and request or if you need further information.

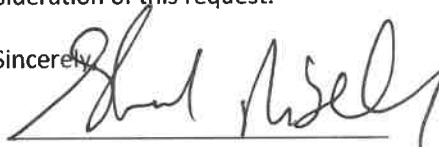
Thank you and members of the Board of Trustees for your consideration of this request.


 Madeline Makovy
 CEA, 4-H & Youth Development


 Jerod Meurer
 CEA, Natural Resources


 Chisa Brigham
 CEA, 4-H & Youth Development

Sincerely,


 Dr. Shane McLellan
 CEA, Ag & Natural Resources


 Rachel Esquivel
 CEA, Family & Community Health

Attachment: Adjunct Faculty Agreement

ADJUNCT FACULTY REQUEST

Adjunct Faculty Agreement

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF McLennan

On this date, at a regularly scheduled and posted meeting, came the Board of Trustees of the La Vega Independent School District, hereinafter referred to as "District." A quorum having been established; the Board proceeded to consider the appointment of the herein named individual(s) as an adjunct member of the La Vega Independent School District.

Upon consideration and vote of _____ in favor, _____ is hereby named as adjunct faculty member(s) of the _____ Independent School District subject to the following considerations and provisions of such appointment to wit:

1. This appointment shall commence on the _____ day of _____, 20____ and remain in effect until the _____ day of _____, 20_____.

2. This appointment will include the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service employees listed below:

NAME	TITLE	DEGREE	INSTITUTION	DATE
Madeline Makovy	CEA, 4-H & Youth Development	B.S.	Tarleton State University	2022
Dr. Shane McLellan	CEA, Agriculture & Natural Resources	Doctor of Education	Texas A&M University	2014
Jerod Meurer	CEA, Natural Resources	M.S.	Texas A&M University – Kingsville	2015
Chisa Brigham	CEA, 4-H & Youth Development	M.S.	Tarleton State University	2017
Rachel Esquivel	CEA, Family & Community Health	B.S.	Texas A&M University	2020

3. Adjunct faculty member(s) will receive no compensation, salary, or remuneration from La Vega Independent School District.
4. Adjunct faculty member(s) is and shall remain an employee, in good standing, of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.
5. Adjunct faculty member(s) is and shall remain under the direct supervision of either the District Extension Administrator of District 8 or Dr. Shane McLellan County Extension Director.
6. Adjunct faculty member(s) shall receive all group insurance benefits, workman's compensation insurance benefits, unemployment insurance, and any and all other plans for the benefit of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service employees. District shall have no responsibility for any of such benefits or plans.

Adjunct faculty member(s) shall direct the activities and participation of students of the school district in sponsored and approved activities as designated from time to time by adjunct faculty members for which notice shall be given to School District administrative personnel. Adjunct faculty members' activities and participation with students of the School District are directed, supervised, and controlled by and through supervisory personnel of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service pursuant to the supervisory authority of the District Extension Administrator or County Extension Director. Adjunct faculty member(s) is not the employee of the School District, and School District does not nor shall not supervise, direct or control the activities and/or participation of such Madeline Makovy, Dr. Shane McLellan, Jerod Meurer, Chisa Brigham, and Rachel Esquivel County Extension Agent(s) who have/has been herein designated as an adjunct faculty member.

This appointment is made by the Independent School District by and through the Board of Trustees of said district for the benefit of allowing voluntary student participation in programs conducted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in recognition of the educational benefits arising from such participation and activities and/or directed by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. This appointment is made in accordance with the provisions of Section 129.21 (j)(1) of the Texas Administrative Code authorizing the school to deem such participating students in attendance for foundation school program purposes.

This appointment of the herein named **McLennan** County Extension Agent(s), **Madeline Makovy, Dr. Shane McLellan, Jerod Meurer, Chisa Brigham, and Rachel Esquivel** (Extension employee) is/are not intended nor shall be construed as a waiver of any claim or defense of sovereign or governmental immunity from liability now p o s s e s s e d by **La Vega** Independent School District or any of its employees, agents, officers, and/or board members in the performance of governmental functions.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20____.

La Vega Independent School District

By: _____

Monthly Tax Collection Recap and Report

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Ms. Jamie Shaver

Background Information:

The District contracts with the McLennan County Tax Office for the collection of the current and delinquent taxes and penalty and interest on those taxes. As part of this service, the Tax Office supplies the District with a monthly cumulative summary of taxes and penalty and interest collected. Attached the Board will find the monthly tax collection recap and report prepared by the Business Office. This report has been reconciled with the summary report received from the tax office.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board approve the Monthly Tax Collection Recap and Report as submitted.

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☐ Provide Later ☐

Contact Person:

Ms. Jamie Shaver

Background Information:

Section 2.10.6 of the Financial Accountability System Resource Guide, version 14.0, dated January 2010, states that budget amendments are mandated by the state for budgeted funds reallocated from one function level, and state and/or federal project to another. These budget changes are usually the result of unexpected levels of expenditures in certain categories and must be amended in the budget for legal compliance.

All budget amendments are required to be adopted by the last day of the fiscal year. All necessary budget amendments must be formally adopted by the school board and recorded in the board minutes.

Fiscal Implication:

Budget amendments are moving from one function to another.

Administrative Recommendation:

Approve the budget amendments as presented.

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

CONSIDER RENEWAL OF ALL PURCHASING COOPS

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☒ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Jamie Shaver

Background Information:

In accordance with state purchasing requirements and District policy, the District participates in cooperative purchasing programs ("co-ops") to leverage volume pricing, ensure compliance with competitive procurement laws, and achieve cost savings on goods and services. Participation in these co-ops requires annual renewal of board approval.

Renewing all purchasing co-operatives including Choice Partners, BuyBoard, Texas Comptrollers (TEXBUY), TIPS/TAPS, US Communities, 1GPA, TXSmartBuy, The Cooperative Purchasing Network

Fiscal Implication:

Will allow La Vega to expand purchases of items without needing to go out for RFP/RFQ as well as significant cost savings.

Administrative Recommendation:

It is recommended that the board approve the list of purchasing cooperatives for 2025-2026.

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

Consider Student Code of Conduct Update

Presented for:

Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached X Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Background Information:

The TASB Model Student Handbook (MSHB) is provided to Policy Service subscribers to help communicate essential information to parents and students for the school year.
The 2024-25 Model Student Handbook is copyrighted by TASB but may be reproduced by the district in the development of student handbooks at the campus or district level.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

Review changes

Motion: _____

Second: _____

For: _____

Against: _____

Abstain: _____

Summary of Student Handbook and Code of Conduct Changes for 2024-2025

[illegible]

Quarterly Investment Report

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Ms. Jamie Shaver

Background Information:

The Business Office prepares an investment report on a quarterly basis for the Board's review and approval. Attached is the report for the current quarter's investments.

Fiscal Implication:

None

Administrative Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board approve the Quarterly Investment Report.

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

TASB Board Policy Updates

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Todd Gooden

Background Information:

Attached are three policies concerning cell phones, home school students, and instructional materials that TASB recommended we adopt as a result of the most recent legislative session. TASB plans to have a complete policy update next month that covers all of the new house and senate bills.

Fiscal Implication:

None

Administrative Recommendation:

Administration recommends that the Board approves the updates as presented

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

PROPOSED POLICY

Note: For information related to the selection of instructional materials, see EFA.

Collection Development Policy

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the District provides a wide range of library materials for students and faculty that support student achievement and present varying levels of difficulty, diversity of appeal, and a variety of points of view. This policy also provides standards for collection development and the selection and evaluation of library materials.

In this policy, “library materials” is defined by law and may include printed and electronic library acquisitions, including online catalogs, and other ancillary or supplementary materials maintained in a campus library. [See EFB(LEGAL)]

The library collection development standards shall apply to all library materials available for use or display, including material contained in school libraries, classroom libraries, online catalogs, library mobile applications used in the District, and any other library catalog a student may access.

In developing library collections, the District shall consider the age groups, grade levels, and access to library material by all students on a campus.

Responsibility

The District shall ensure librarians, professional library staff, and other designated professional staff are trained or receive information on the proper collection development standards.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative procedures to ensure that library collections comply with applicable law, library standards, and the District’s collection development purpose and goals.

Collection Development Goals

In addition to the requirements in state law and rules, the District’s library collections shall:

1. Present multiple viewpoints related to controversial issues [see EMB regarding instruction about controversial issues].
2. Provide a wide range of background information that will enable students to make intelligent decisions in their daily lives.
3. Include accurate and authentic factual content from authoritative sources.
4. Have a high degree of potential user appeal and interest.

5. Offer a global perspective that promotes equity of access, including print and nonprint materials such as electronic and multimedia, to meet the needs of individual learners.
6. Represent diverse viewpoints and cultural groups of the state and their contributions to the state, the nation, and the world, to ensure the collection embodies the background of all students.

Recommendation
and Procurement of
Materials

Library materials shall be recommended and procured in accordance with guidelines adopted by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and the District standards and priorities expressed in this policy.

Librarians and other professional staff shall develop recommendations to be presented to the Board. The librarians and other professional staff shall ensure that the materials:

1. Enrich and support the TEKS and the state and local curriculum, taking into consideration students' varied interests, maturity levels, abilities, and learning styles.
2. Foster growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and societal standards.
3. Encourage the enjoyment of reading, foster high-level thinking skills, support personal learning, and encourage discussion based on rational analysis.
4. Represent ethnic, religious, and cultural groups of the state and their contributions to the state, the nation, and the world.

The Superintendent shall ensure that administrative procedures regarding the development of recommendations of library materials consider at least two of the following factors:

1. Recommendations from students, parents or guardians, teachers, and District residents.
2. Consultation with District teachers and library staff.
3. Consultation with library staff from other districts.
4. Extensive review of the library material.
5. Context of the library material, including overall fit within the existing collection and support of District curriculum.
6. Reviews of the library material from sources such as professional journals in library science, recognized professional education or content journals with book reviews, national and

state award recognition lists, library science field experts, and highly acclaimed author and literacy expert recommendations.

7. Coverage of topics, authors, series, or genres that fill gaps in the school library collection.

The Board shall consider the list of library materials that have been donated or proposed by the administration for procurement. Each Board member may propose changes before the Board takes action on the list of donated or proposed library materials.

The Board shall either approve or reject the library materials that have been donated or proposed for procurement.

Donated and
Proposed
Procurement List

At least 30 days prior to the Board's vote to accept donated library materials or approve procurement of library materials, the Superintendent shall make accessible to the public the list of library materials in accordance with law.

Access Plan

The District shall allow efficient parental access to the District's library and any available online catalogs.

Online catalogs shall be publicly available. The District shall publish information about library material titles, including how and where material can be accessed.

Each campus shall communicate the following to parents and guardians:

- Access to policies relating to school libraries and library materials;
- Consistent access to library materials and resources; and
- Opportunities for students, parents and guardians, educators, and community members to provide feedback on library materials and services.

Parental
Involvement

Parents and guardians are the primary decision-makers regarding their child's access to library material. In general, a student is afforded the opportunity to self-select library materials as part of literacy development and the library program. District staff may assist a student in selecting library material; however, the ultimate determination of appropriateness remains with the student and parent or guardian. Parents and guardians are encouraged to communicate with the campus librarian and their child's teacher about special considerations regarding library materials self-selected by their child.

In accordance with state law and administrative procedures, parents or guardians may submit to the principal or a staff member

designated by the principal a list of library materials that the parent's or guardian's child shall not be allowed to check out or access for use outside of the school library. The Superintendent shall develop procedures that permit a parent or guardian to submit the request in at least one of the methods permitted by law.

The parent or guardian may select alternative library materials for their child. [For information on parental rights regarding instructional materials and other instructional resources, see EFA(LEGAL).]

The District shall focus on maximizing transparency with parents while meeting student needs and providing enrichment opportunities with library materials. Parental involvement in library acquisition, maintenance, and campus activities is encouraged.

*Access
Procedures*

School Library

A parent or guardian who wishes to access a school's library shall first submit a request to the principal. The principal or a staff member designated by the principal shall work with the parent or guardian to determine a time to access the library that will not interfere with the delivery of instruction or disrupt student use of library services.

Library Catalog

A parent or guardian who wishes to access the catalog of library materials for any school in the District shall submit a written request to the school's principal. The principal or a staff member designated by the principal shall respond to the request in accordance with administrative procedures.

Protection from
Inappropriate
Material

In accordance with law and guidance from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, library materials shall not include "harmful material"; any library material that is pervasively vulgar or educationally unsuitable; any library material containing indecent or profane content; any library material that refers a person to a website, including by use of a link or QR code, containing content legally prohibited under law; or any other material legally prohibited from inclusion in a public school library. [See EFB(LEGAL)]

Obscene material is not protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Library materials shall comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), including technology protection measures. [See CQ]

**Challenge of Library
Material**

A District employee, a parent or guardian of a District student, or District resident may challenge library material maintained in the District's library program.

Guiding Principles	The following principles shall guide the review of a challenge of library material: 1. An individual may challenge library material used in the District's library program, despite the fact that the professional staff and the Board followed the proper procedure and adhered to the objectives and criteria for recommending and procuring library materials set out in this policy. 2. Access to challenged material shall be restricted during the challenge process. In addition to compliance with state law and this policy, a criterion for the final decision on challenged library materials is the appropriateness of the material for its intended use. No challenged library material shall be removed solely because of the ideas expressed in the library material or the personal background of the library material's author or the personal background of the characters in the material.
Informal Challenge	When the District or a campus receives an objection to the appropriateness of a library material, the appropriate librarian or administrator shall try to resolve the matter informally. The librarian or administrator shall explain the selection process and discuss the intended purpose for the library material. The librarian or administrator shall offer a concerned parent or guardian an alternative library material to be used by the child in place of the material and, if requested, shall restrict the child's access to the material objected to by the parent or guardian. If the individual wishes to make a formal challenge, the administrator shall make available to the individual a copy of this policy and the form to request a formal challenge of the library material.
Formal Challenge	The District shall make the Texas Education Agency form to challenge library material available on the District's website. If a District employee, a parent or guardian of a District student, or a District resident wishes to challenge library material, they shall follow the procedures to complete and submit the challenge form. After a challenge form is submitted, the form shall be provided to the Superintendent. Copies of the form shall be provided to the school librarian, the Board, and any other staff designated in administrative procedures.
Challenge Committee	The [insert pos appointing committee] shall appoint a challenge committee and notify committee members in accordance with administrative procedures.

The challenge committee shall include the librarian and at least one member of the instructional staff who is familiar with the material's content. Other members of the committee may include District-level staff, secondary-level students, parents or guardians, and any other appropriate individuals.

The District shall provide members of the committee the relevant materials to review in accordance with the deadlines established in administrative procedures and in accordance with law.

Any meeting of the committee must comply with the meeting requirements under Education Code 33.024(g) and (h), including required notices, meeting minutes, audio or video recordings, and submission of minutes and audio or video recordings of the meeting to the District.

All members of the committee shall review the challenged library material in its entirety and determine whether the material conforms to this policy and whether the material will continue to be available in the library. The committee shall prepare a written report of its findings.

The Superintendent, the school librarian, the individual submitting the challenge, and any other appropriate staff shall receive a copy of the committee's report.

Appeal

An individual who submitted a challenge may appeal the decision to the Board. The individual must provide the notice of appeal in accordance with administrative procedures.

The Board shall hear the appeal and render a decision in accordance with the timelines established in law.

When considering the appeal, the Board shall consider the factors in Education Code 33.027(f). The Board shall consider appeals in accordance with timelines set out in law.

*Frequency of
Review*

After a library material has been challenged and the Board determines not to remove the library material from a school library catalog, it may not be challenged again before the second anniversary of the Board's final decision not to remove the material.

Removal of Library
Materials

If a challenge to a library material results in the removal of the library material from the school library catalog, each teacher assigned as the classroom teacher at the grade level for which the library material was removed shall be notified and instructed to remove any copy of the library material from the teacher's classroom library, if applicable.

**Maintenance of
Library Materials**

In accordance with state guidelines and District administrative procedures, collections shall be evaluated and updated regularly based on the collections' age, relevance, diversity, and variety. The Superintendent shall ensure administrative procedures are established for regular maintenance of the library collection on each campus. Standard maintenance procedures for any library collection include repair, replacement, and removal of materials as necessary. Regular maintenance shall also include scheduled inventories of the collection. Disposal of any District-owned library materials shall be in accordance with District policy and procedures. [See CI]

Gifts and Donations

The Board shall accept gifts and donations of library materials with the understanding that the use and disposition of the materials and monies will be in accordance with District policy and the selection criteria noted above. [See CDC]

Policy Review

This policy shall be reviewed at least every three years and revised as necessary.

PROPOSED REVISIONS

Extracurricular Activity Absences

The District shall make no distinction between absences for UIL activities and absences for other extracurricular activities approved by the Board.

[The District shall not limit an eligible student's absences related to participation in extracurricular activities. \[See Record of Absences in FM\(LEGAL\)\]](#)

A student who is not in school the day after an extracurricular activity will not be permitted to participate in the next scheduled activity unless:

1. The student is given permission by the principal to go home after coming to school.
2. The student has a statement declaring he or she was ill signed by a medical doctor.
3. There is a death in the family.

Use of District Facilities

School-sponsored student groups may use District facilities with prior approval of the appropriate administrator. Other student groups may use District facilities in accordance with policy FNAB.

PROPOSED REVISIONS

Note: For searches of personal ~~tele~~communications ~~s~~ devices or other personal electronic devices, see FNF.

Personal Communication Devices

Prohibited Use

A student who violates this policy or any regulations shall be subject to discipline in accordance with the Board-adopted Student Code of Conduct.

Prohibited Possession

A student in grades 1-12 shall not use a personal communication device on school property during the school day. While on school property the student shall store any personal communication device in accordance with administrative regulations.

Exceptions

A student in prekindergarten or kindergarten is prohibited from possessing or using a personal communication device on school property during the school day.

A student shall be authorized to possess or use a personal communication device on school property during the school day only under the following circumstances:

1. The student's use is necessary for implementation of the student's individualized education program, a 504 plan, or a similar program or plan;
2. The student's use is required due to a documented need based on a directive from a qualified physician; or
3. The student's use is necessary to comply with a health or safety requirement imposed by law or as part of the District or campus safety protocols.

Confiscation

An authorized District employee shall confiscate a student's personal communication device that is used in violation of this policy or any applicable regulations.

If a personal communication device is not retrieved, the District shall dispose of the device after providing the notice required by law.

Implementation

The Superintendent shall develop regulations to implement this policy.

Compliance

Annually, the Superintendent shall report to the Board on the implementation and compliance of this policy.

Personal Use

~~Telecommunications Devices~~

~~An authorized District employee may confiscate a personal telecommunications device, including a mobile telephone, used in violation of applicable campus rules.~~

STUDENT CONDUCT
PERSONAL ~~TELE~~COMMUNICATIONS S DEVICES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

FNCE
(LOCAL)

~~The District shall not charge a fee for the release of a personal telecommunications device. In accordance with the student handbook, the student or the student's parents may retrieve a device after receiving notification from the District.~~

~~If a personal telecommunications device is not retrieved, the District shall dispose of the device after providing notice required by law.~~

~~Other Electronic
Devices~~

~~Guidelines regarding other electronic devices shall be addressed in the student handbook.~~

Instructional Use

~~A student shall obtain prior approval before using personal telecommunications or other personal electronic devices for on-campus instructional purposes. The student shall also acknowledge receipt and understanding of applicable regulations and shall sign the appropriate user agreements. [See CQ]~~

Resolution Regarding Senate Bill 12 and Parents Rights

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ ☐ Provided Later

Contact Person:

Dr. Sharon M. Shields

Background Information: The 89th legislative session passed Senate Bill 12. Senate Bill 12, also known as the Parents' Bill of Rights, is a piece of Texas legislation focused on parental rights in education. It has a broad impact, affecting school policies, curriculum, and parental access to information. The bill also addresses issues like DEI practices, student clubs, and access to health services.

Fiscal Implication:

None at this time

Administrative Recommendation:

Administration recommends the Board approves Resolution Regarding Senate Bill 12 and Parents Rights

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

Resolution Regarding Senate Bill 12 and Parent Rights

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 12 from the 89th legislative session relates to parental rights in public education, including requirements and prohibitions regarding instruction; diversity, equity and inclusion duties; assistance with District student social transitioning; and student clubs;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 12 becomes effective on September 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, local policies relating to matters in Senate Bill 12 will be adopted as soon as practicable, but after the effective date.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of La Vega Independent School District directs all staff and contractors to comply with the following requirements and directives:

1. All policies shall be implemented and followed;
2. Parental rights, including the right to direct the moral and religious training of the parent's child, make decisions concerning the child's education, and consent to medical, psychiatric, and psychological treatment of the parent's child will not be infringed unless required by law or to provide life-saving care to the child;
3. Except as required by state or federal law, employees and contractors may not assign diversity, equity, and inclusion duties to any person, and the District hereby prohibits a District employee, contractor, or volunteer from engaging in diversity, equity, and inclusion duties at, for, or on behalf of the District;
4. An employee or contractor who intentionally or knowingly engages in or assigns to another person diversity, equity, and inclusion duties or engages in prohibited instruction will be appropriately disciplined, up to and including termination;
5. Employees of the District are prohibited from assisting a student enrolled in the District with social transitioning, including providing any information about social transitioning or providing guidelines intended to assist a person with social transitioning;
6. No information about a parent's child may be withheld from the parent unless required by law, and parents are entitled to access all written records of the District concerning the parent's child, including library records and health records. Information may be withheld if disclosure is likely to result in the student suffering abuse or neglect;
7. Information regarding a parent's right to access records relating to the parent's child shall be posted on the District's home page of the internet website;
8. The Superintendent is directed to provide for an internet portal through which parents of students enrolled in the District may submit comments to campus or District administrators and the Board;
9. The Board shall prioritize public comments by hearing comments at the beginning of each Board meeting;
10. Parents are entitled to notice no later than one school business day after the date an employee first suspects that a criminal offense has been committed against the parent's child;

11. Employees are not prohibited from providing parents with information regarding a student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being or a change in services provided to or monitoring of the student related to the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being;
12. No employee will encourage or have the effect of encouraging a student to withhold from the student's parent information about the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being;
13. Employees may not discourage or prohibit parental knowledge of or involvement in critical decisions affecting a student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being;
14. Unless authorized by law, no employee may disclose a child's health or medical information to any person other than the child's parent;
15. Unless authorized by law, no employee may collect, use, store, or disclose to any person other than the child's parent a child's biometric identifiers;
16. Unless authorized by law, no employee will provide health care services or medication or conduct a medical procedure to a student;
17. Before a student may be provided with human sexuality instruction, the District must obtain the written consent of the student's parent in the manner prescribed by law;
18. No employee may provide or allow a third party to provide instruction, guidance, activities, or programming regarding sexual orientation or gender identity to students enrolled in prekindergarten through grade 12;
19. No student club authorized or sponsored by the District may be based on sexual orientation or gender identity;
20. Written parental consent is required before a student may participate in a student club authorized or sponsored by the District or campus;
21. The Superintendent is directed to provide a copy of this resolution to all District employees and contractors electronically and physically.

Adopted this 26th day of August 2025, by the Board.

Board President's signature: _____

Board Secretary's signature: _____

ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

N/A

Background Information:

The following items are included for board discussion and possible action.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

N/A

[illegible]

Monthly Budget Analysis Report

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Ms. Jamie Shaver

Background Information:

The District compiles and reports revenue and expenditure data for all funds on a monthly basis. The attached monthly budget analysis reports compare year-to-date revenue and expenditures to the same period from last fiscal year. Monthly budget analysis reports are presented for the General Operating Fund; Child Nutrition Fund; and, Debt Service Fund. The August reports are unaudited and preliminary. There are entries that will need to be made that will adjust these numbers, ie. receivables, payables.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board approve the Monthly Budget Analysis Reports as submitted.

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

CONSIDER I&S DEFEASANCE ORDER FOR 2025-2026

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Jamie Shaver

Background Information:

Consider all matters incident and related to providing for the defeasance and redemption of certain currently outstanding bonds of the District, including the adoption of an order pertaining thereto.

Fiscal Implication:

Will allow La Vega to pay off bond debt sooner

Administrative Recommendation:

It is recommended that the board approve the defeasance order and redemption of certain outstanding bonds of the district.

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

AN ORDER authorizing the defeasance and redemption of certain currently outstanding bonds of the District; and resolving other matters incident and related to the defeasance of such obligations

WHEREAS, pursuant to orders passed and adopted by the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the La Vega Independent School District (the "District"), the following described bonds were duly authorized to be issued and are currently outstanding, to wit: "La Vega Independent School District Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2015," dated November 1, 2015 (the "Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees hereby finds and determines a portion of such bonds should be defeased and redeemed prior to their maturity in the manner hereinafter provided and in accordance with the requirements prescribed therefor and a notice of redemption of such bonds should be approved and authorized to be given at this time by the Board of Trustees; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE LA VEGA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT:

SECTION 1: All or a portion of the Bonds, in the aggregate principal amount of \$950,000 (but to include such additional amounts due to availability of funds, as hereinafter described), shall be defeased to their maturity or prior redemption date, as applicable. The Board hereby authorizes and directs the Superintendent of Schools or the Assistant Superintendent for Finance to ultimately determine the principal amount of Bonds to be defeased and/or redeemed on the basis of the availability of funds for such purpose (the "*Redeemed Obligations*") by August 31, 2026 (the "Funding Deadline"); provided, however, that in no case shall the principal amount of the Redeemed Obligations be less than \$950,000. As directed by an Authorized Official (as defined below), the District shall transfer on or before the Funding Deadline, its lawfully available funds to Regions Bank, the paying agent/registrar for the Bonds or a successor paying agent/registrar (the "Paying Agent/Registrar"), in an amount sufficient to pay all costs of interest due and owing on Redeemed Obligations from the time of such deposit through their redemption plus the principal amount of the Redeemed Obligations due and owing at such time of redemption (together, the "Funding Amount"); provided, however, if, prior to such deposit, the Board authorizes the issuance of refunding bonds for the defeasance and redemption of the Redeemed Obligations (the "Refunding Bonds"), an Authorized Official shall, in lieu of a deposit as heretofore described, cause the Funding Amount to be transferred as either (1) a District contribution in connection with issuance of the Refunding Bonds or (2) for payment of debt service on the Refunding Bonds coming due prior to the Funding Deadline.

SECTION 2: In the event the Superintendent of Schools or the Assistant Superintendent for Finance of the District determines to defease the maturities of the Bonds which are subject to redemption, the principal amount of such Bonds shall be called for redemption and shall be redeemed on the applicable redemption Date, at the price of par plus accrued interest to the date of redemption and the Superintendent of Schools or other Authorized Official is hereby authorized and directed to file a copy of this Order with the Paying Agent/Registrar in accordance with the redemption provisions applicable to such obligations. Additionally, if necessary, the Paying Agent/Registrar is hereby authorized and directed to make a lot selection of the Bonds to be redeemed and make arrangements to notify bondholders of such lot selection as soon as possible thereafter. The Superintendent of Schools or other Authorized Official is hereby authorized and directed to transfer lawfully available funds to the

Paying Agent/Registrar to accomplish the redemption of the defeased bonds in accordance with the order authorizing the Bonds.

SECTION 3: The President, Vice President, or Secretary of the Board, the District's Superintendent of Schools and the Assistant Superintendent for Finance of the District (each of the foregoing, an "Authorized Official"), and Bond Counsel to the District, is authorized to evidence adoption of this Order and to do any and all things necessary or convenient to effect the redemption described herein and otherwise give effect to the intent and purpose hereof.

SECTION 4: The recitals contained in the preamble hereof are hereby found to be true, and such recitals are hereby made a part of this Order for all purposes and are adopted as a part of the judgement and findings of the Board.

SECTION 5: If any provision of this Order or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be held to be invalid, the remainder of this Order and the application of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall nevertheless be valid, and the Board hereby declares that this Order would have been enacted without such invalid provision.

SECTION 6: Though such parties may be identified, and the entry into a particular form of contract may be authorized herein, the Board hereby delegates to the Superintendent of Schools and the Assistant Superintendent for Finance of the District the authority to independently select the counterparty to any agreement or any other contract that is determined by the Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Superintendent for Finance of the District, the District's financial advisor, or Bond Counsel to be necessary or incidental to carry out the provisions of this Order, as long as each of such contracts has a value of less than the amount referenced in Section 2252.908 of the Texas Government Code (collectively, the "Ancillary Contracts"); and, as necessary, to execute the Ancillary Contracts on behalf and as the act and deed of the District. The Board has not participated in the selection of any of the business entities which are counterparties to the Ancillary Contracts.

SECTION 7: It is officially found, determined, and declared that the meeting at which this Order is adopted was open to the public and public notice of the time, place, and subject matter of the public business to be considered at such meeting, including this Order, was given, all as required by Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, as amended.

SECTION 8: This Order shall be in force and effect from and after its passage on the date shown below.

[The remainder of this page intentionally left blank]

PASSED AND ADOPTED, this August 26, 2025.

LA VEGA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
DISTRICT

President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Secretary, Board of Trustees

(District Seal)

CONSIDER OFFICIAL BUDGET FOR 2025-2026

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☒

Contact Person:

Jamie Shaver

Background Information:

The Board set the public hearing on the 2025-2026 budget for August 26, 2025. At the public hearing, any taxpayer in the District may be present and participate in the meeting.

The Board may hear public comments, discuss, and then vote to adopt the budget and tax rate, all in the same public meeting.

Fiscal Implication:

Revenue and expenditures for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year

Administrative Recommendation:

It is recommended that the board approve the 2025-2026 Official Budget for General Operating, Child Nutrition, and Debt Service Fund

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

CONSIDER TAX RATE ORDINANCE FOR 2025-2026

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Jamie Shaver

Background Information:

Now that the Board has approved the 2025-2026 General Operating Fund and Debt Service Fund budgets, it is time to approve the tax rate which will partially fund these budgets. The attached "Ordinance to Set Tax Rate" sets the recommended tax rates for both the General Operating Fund (Maintenance and Operations) and Debt Service Fund (Interest and Sinking). As in the past, the Ordinance contains two statements concerning maintenance and operations tax collections. The Ordinance must be referred to in the minutes of the meeting of the Board, which will state that the Ordinance was in writing and was passed by the Board; will state the rate and purpose for which the tax was levied; and will state the record vote of the Board. A signed copy of the Ordinance should be attached to and incorporated into the minutes. The rate has also been advertised in accordance with applicable laws.

Fiscal Implication:

Attached

Administrative Recommendation:

It is recommended that the board approve the 2025-2026 Tax Rate for General Operating and Debt Service Fund

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

**RESOLUTION TO
ADOPT 2025 AD VALOREM TAX RATE**

A RESOLUTION LEVYING AN ANNUAL AD VALOREM TAX FOR THE YEAR 2025 SETTING SPECIFIC TAX RATES, APPLICABLE TO ALL REAL, PERSONAL AND MIXED PROPERTY SITUATED WITHIN THE LA VEGA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT.

BE IT ORDERED by the Board of Trustees of La Vega Independent School District of McLennan County, Texas:

1. That an ad valorem tax rate for Maintenance and Operations for the general fund of \$ 0.755200 per \$100.00 cash valuation be and the same is hereby levied for the year 2025 on all real, personal and mixed property located and situated within the boundaries of the La Vega Independent School District.
2. That an ad valorem tax rate for Interest and Sinking for the debt service fund of \$0.500000 per \$100.00 cash valuation be and the same is hereby levied for the year 2025 on all real, personal and mixed property located and situated within the boundaries of the La Vega Independent School District.
3. THIS TAX RATE WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE.
4. THE TAX RATE WILL EFFECTIVELY BE RAISED BY 7.91 PERCENT AND WILL RAISE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS ON A \$100,000 HOME BY APPROXIMATELY \$0.00.

PASSED AND APPROVED AND EFFECTIVE THIS 26TH DAY OF AUGUST 2025.

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED

President, Board of Trustees

Secretary, Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees Standard Operating Procedures

Presented for:

Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Mr. Myron Ridge

Dr. Sharon M. Shields

Background Information:

The Board of Trustees' Standard Operating Procedures are attached for review. The Board must review the Standard Operating Procedures annually.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

The board members will review and discuss the Standard Operating Procedures.

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La Vega ISD Board of Trustees Standard Operating Procedures and Code of Ethics
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- I. Governance
- II. Process for Selecting Board Officers
- III. Communications
- IV. Board Meetings
- V. Citizen Request/Complaint to Individual Board Member
- VI. Employee Request/Complaint to Individual Board Member
- VII. Media Inquiries
- VIII. Anonymous Phone Calls/Letters
- IX. Evaluation of Superintendent
- X. Board Members Visits to Campuses
- XI. Evaluation of the Board
- XII. LVISD Board of Trustees Code of Ethics
- XIII. Board Member Travel Guidelines
- XIV. Reviewing Board Operations

I. Governance

- A. The La Vega ISD School Board is committed to a participative process-driven governance style. Board level decision making processes shall therefore include the following elements to whatever extent is practical and appropriate for the matter at hand.
 - Clearly stated objectives
 - Reconciliation with policy and past practices
 - Timelines
 - Community input
 - Communication plan.
 - Define the mission and goals of the district
 - Set policy and goals to accomplish the mission
- B. Board members as individuals shall not exercise authority over the District, its property, or its employees. [BBE (Local)]
- C. President: [BDAB (Local)]
 - 1. shall preside at all Board meetings
 - 2. appoint committees
 - 3. shall call special meetings
 - 4. sign all legal documents required by law
- D. Vice-President: [BDAC (Local)]
 - 1. shall act in capacity of President in absence of President
 - 2. automatically become President of the Board if a vacancy in that office occurs
- E. Secretary: [BDAD (Local)]
 - 1. keep, or cause to be kept, an accurate record of the proceedings of each Board meeting
 - 2. in the absence of the President and Vice-President of the Board, the Secretary shall act in the capacity of the President
 - 3. counter-sign all warrants

II. Process for Selecting Board Officers

- A. Selection of Board Officers shall take place at the first regular Board Meeting following the election of School Board Trustees.
- B. The election of Trustees of the District shall be on May uniform election date. Gov't Code 573.042. [BBB (Legal)]
- C. The Superintendent or designee shall request nominations for Board Officer Positions and hold the election.
- D. All sitting Board members, as well as newly elected members, are eligible to hold office regardless of their tenure serving on the Board.

III. Communications

- A. The Superintendent will communicate with Board members via memorandum and telephone when appropriate.
- B. The Superintendent will communicate to Board members in a timely fashion information concerning discussion and action items that will be on the agenda of monthly Board meetings.
- C. Board members may request information and/or reports from the Superintendent. [BBE (Local)]
- D. Individual Board members cannot speak in an official capacity outside of properly convened and conducted meetings. [BBE (Legal)]

- E. The Board will communicate with the community through public forums, public hearings, regular Board meetings and the District's calendar of events.

IV. Board Meetings

A. Developing the agenda:

1. In consultation with the Board President, the Superintendent shall prepare the agenda for all Board meetings. [BE (Local)]
2. Any Trustee may request that a subject be included on the agenda for a meeting, and the Superintendent shall include on the agenda of any meeting all Trustee requested topics that have been timely submitted. [BE (Local)]
3. The deadline for submitting items for inclusion on the agenda is noon of the fourth working day before regular meetings and noon of the fourth working day before special meetings. [BE (Local)]
4. In accordance with Government Code 551.043, no item may be placed on the agenda less than 72 hours in advance of a meeting unless in the case of an emergency or when there is an urgent public necessity. In these exceptions, posting of a supplemental agenda item is allowed if posted for at least two hours before the meeting is convened. [BE (Legal)]

B. Items that cannot be on the agenda:

1. All personnel issues must be conducted in closed session unless specifically required by the Texas Open Meeting Law to be conducted in Open Session.
2. Anything that violates right to privacy, i.e. Texas Open Meeting Law, Texas Open Records Act cannot be placed on the agenda.

C. Use of Consent Agenda

- * Routine Items
- * Budget Amendments
- * Financial Statements
- * Minutes of Previous Meetings

D. Called Special Meetings

1. The President of the Board shall call a special meeting at the President's discretion or on request by two of the members of the Board.
2. A special meeting notice shall be posted for at least 72 hours before the meeting is convened. [BE (Local)]

E. Closed Session

1. The Board can discuss in closed session only those items specifically allowed by law. [Government Code Section 551], [BEC (Legal)]
2. A final action, decision, or vote on a matter deliberated in a closed meeting shall be made only in an open meeting for which proper notice has been given. [BEC (Legal)]
3. All discussion occurring during closed session must remain confidential. [BEC (Legal)]

F. Conduct of the Open Session

1. The Board will observe the parliamentary procedures in **Robert's Rules of Order**.

G. Discussion of Agenda Items

1. Discussions shall be addressed to the President of the Board and then the entire membership.
2. Discussion shall be directed solely to the business currently under deliberation, and the Board President shall halt discussion that does not apply to the business before the Board. [BE (Local)]

H. Citizens Addressing the Board [BED (Local)]

1. Public participation is limited to the designated open forum portion of the meeting. At all other times, the audience shall not enter into discussion or debate on matters being considered by the Board, unless recognized by the President.
 2. Thirty minutes shall be allotted to hear persons who desire to make comments to the Board.
 3. No presentation shall exceed five minutes. Delegations of more than five persons shall appoint one person to present their views before the Board.
 4. Persons who wish to participate in the open forum portion of the meeting shall sign up as they arrive, indicating the topic about which they wish to speak.
 5. Specific factual information or recitation of existing policy may be furnished in response to inquiries, but the Board shall not deliberate or make a decision regarding any subject that is not included on the agenda posted with notice of the meetings.
 6. The Board will **not** entertain comments concerning individual personnel or individual students during the public open forum or during the course of the regular open session.
- I. Voting - Voting shall be done verbally or by hand, as directed by the president. Any member may abstain from voting, and a member's vote or failure to vote shall be recorded upon that member's request. The board president shall have the right to discuss, make motions and resolutions and vote on all matters coming before the board. (BDAA Local)

V. Citizen Request/Complaint to Individual Board Member

- A. When a citizen complains to a Board member, the member should listen to the citizen to obtain a full understanding of the complaint.
- B. The Board member should remind the citizen of due process and that the Board member must remain impartial in case the situation goes before the Board.
- C. Refer the citizen to appropriate person/chain of command.
- D. The Board member will inform the Superintendent of the complaint within 24 hours.
Note: Citizens must pursue established resolution channels with regards to complaints and concerns before they will be allowed to address the Board. After pursuing these established resolution channels, Board Policy GF (Local) provides citizens the opportunity to formally present their complaint or concern to the Board. (Level III)

VI. Employee Request/Concern to Individual Board Member

- A. Individual Board members will follow the same steps A, B, and C and D above in responding to an employee request or complaint.
- B. Employees will follow the resolution procedures outlined in Board policy when filing a complaint. [DGBA (Local)]
- C. After following the proper resolution procedures of DGBA (Local), employees will be permitted to present their complaint or concern to the Board. (Level III)

VII. Media Inquiries

- A. The Superintendent is the official spokesperson for the District. The Board President is the official spokesperson for the Board.
 1. All Board members who receive calls from the media concerning particular Board action shall direct them to the Board's spokesperson.
 2. All Board members who receive calls from the media concerning school district operations, personnel, or other issues separate from specific Board action, shall direct them to the Superintendent.

VIII. Anonymous Phone Calls/Letters

- A. The La Vega Board of Trustees encourages community input: however, anonymous phone calls or letters will not receive Board attention, discussion or response and will not result in directives to the administration.
- B. Anonymous phone calls or letters that allege misconduct on the part of district personnel will be referred to the Superintendent.

IX. Evaluation of the Superintendent

- A. The Superintendent evaluation instrument will be distributed to all Board members before the formal evaluation.
- B. In September:
 - Board of Trustees provides a written evaluation presented to the Superintendent
 - 1. Board may take action in Open Session to extend Superintendents Contract and make salary adjustments.
 - 2. The Superintendent will receive a composite evaluation instrument that contains an average score for each indicator as rated by the individual Board members.

X. Board Member Visits To School Campuses

- A. All Board members are encouraged to attend any school's events as their time permits.
- B. Board members are not to go unannounced into teachers' classrooms or individual buildings.

XI. LVISD Board of Trustees - Code of Ethics

As a member of the Board, a trustee shall promote the best interests of the District as a whole, and, to that end, a trustee shall adhere to the following educational and ethical standards:

- 1. Bring about desired changes through legal and ethical procedures, upholding and enforcing all laws, State Board of Education rules, and court orders pertaining to schools.
- 2. Make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of all children in the District, regardless of ability, race creed, ethnicity, sex, or social standing.
- 3. Recognize that decisions must be made by the Board as a whole and make no personal promise or take private actions that may compromise the Board.
- 4. Focus Board action on policymaking, goal setting, planning, and evaluation, and insist on regular and impartial evaluation of all staff.
- 5. Support and protect school personnel in the proper performance of their duties.
- 6. Vote to appoint the best-qualified personnel available after consideration of recommendations of the Superintendent.
- 7. Hold confidential all matters pertaining to school that, if disclosed, may needlessly injure individuals or the schools, and respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged under applicable law.
- 8. Attend all regularly scheduled Board meetings insofar as possible and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings.
- 9. Delegate authority for the administration of the school to the Superintendent.
- 10. Endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held Board meetings, and render all decisions based on the available facts and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special groups.

11. Encourage the free expression of opinion by all Board members and seek systematic communications between the Board and students, staff, and all elements of the community.
12. Communicate to Board members and the Superintendent at appropriate times expressions of public reaction to Board policies and school programs.
13. Become informed about current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information, such as those sponsored by state and national school boards associations.
14. Refrain from using the position of Trustee for personal or partisan gain.
15. Make certain the Board remains responsive to the community.
16. Remember always that the first and greatest concern of a Trustee must be the educational welfare of all the students attending the public schools. [BBF (Local)]

XII. Cause for Removal of a Board Member [BBC (Legal)]

Board members may be removed from office for:

1. Incompetency," which means:
 - a. Gross ignorance of official duties;
 - b. Gross carelessness in the discharge of those duties; or
 - c. Unfitness or inability to promptly and properly discharge official duties because of a serious physical or mental defect that did not exist at the time of election.
2. "Official misconduct," which means intentional, unlawful behavior relating to official duties by a board member entrusted with the administration of justice or the execution of the law. The term includes an intentional or corrupt failure, refusal, or neglect of a board member to perform a duty imposed on the board member by law
3. Intoxication on or off duty caused by drinking an alcoholic beverage, but not if it was caused by drinking an alcoholic beverage on the direction and prescription of a licensed physician.
4. Conviction of a board member by a jury for any felony or for misdemeanor official misconduct. The conviction of a public officer by a petit jury for any felony or for a misdemeanor involving official misconduct operates as an immediate removal from office of that officer.

XIII. Board Member Travel Guidelines

1. Legitimate expenses incurred by Board members while traveling on official school business shall be reimbursable consistent with Board policy and state and federal laws. Specific requirements for reimbursements include, but are not limited to the following:
 - a. No alcoholic beverages
 - b. No spouse, children, or other family member expenses
 - c. Convention sponsored hotel or the equivalent or the Board Member pays the difference (single or double room is allowable)
 - d. Board members may attend conferences as follows: 1 in state, 1 out-of-state conference; additional conferences may be considered.
 - e. Meals, hotel, travel, rental cars, and registration, and other reasonable expenses are allowable.
 - f. Members desiring to join organizations in addition to TASB will be considered.

XIV. Reviewing Board Operating Procedures

Board Operating Procedures will be reviewed annually and updated as needed.

Consider Teacher and Professional Employee Contract Recommendations

Presented for:

Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:

None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Mr. Todd Gooden

Background Information:

The Board of Trustees of any independent school district may employ by contract a superintendent, a principal or principals, teachers, or other executive officers for a term not to exceed the maximum specified in this section. In those independent school districts with a scholastic population of fewer than 5,000, the term of such contracts shall not exceed three years. The personnel department, campus principals, and management teams interview and check references on each applicant who makes application to become a member of the staff of the La Vega Independent School District.

Fiscal Implication:

Personnel salaries are a budgeted item.

Administrative Recommendation:

Board approval of the contract recommendations as presented.

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

CLOSED MEETING

Presented for:

Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:

None ☒ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☒

Contact Person:

Board President

Background Information:

The Board may enter into a closed meeting after the following requirements have been met:

1. A quorum of the Board has first been convened in open meeting for which notice has been given.
2. The presiding officer has publicly announced in open meeting that a closed meeting will be held.
3. The presiding officer has identified the section or sections of the Open Meetings Act or other applicable statutes that authorize the holding of such closed meeting.

Fiscal Implication:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation:

N/A

A closed meeting was declared:

_____ Beginning Time

_____ Date

_____ Sections of the Texas Government Code

_____ Ending Time

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: _____

Second: _____

For: _____

Against: _____

Abstain: _____

Date and Time: _____