

AT A BOARD WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ECTOR COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT HELD ON AUGUST 11, 2026, BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM A/B, 802 NORTH SAM HOUSTON, ODESSA, ECTOR COUNTY, TEXAS, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Present:

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

Absent:

School Officials: Dr. Keeley Boyer, Mike Adkins, Albessa Chavez, Mauricio Marquez, Jessica Redman, Dr. Anthony Sorola, Dr. Matthew Spivy, Dr. Lauren Tavaréz, Dr. Robert Trejo

Others: Alex Reynolds, Yolanda Gordan, Eric Smith, Cheryl Wilson, Shone Lewis, Angela Betancur, Samye Flock, Dallas Kennedy, Nory Leachon, Rita Lopez, Mary Franco

27689 **Meeting Called to Order:** Dr. Steve Brown, Board President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

27690 **Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law:** Dr. Steve Brown, Board President, certified that the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, have been met in connection with public notice of this meeting.

27691 **Opening Remarks by Superintendent:** In her opening remarks, Superintendent Dr. Keeley Boyer noted that it was the first day of school for the 2026–27 school year. She shared that being at the opening of Vasquez Middle School (VMS) was especially meaningful and noted that 358 sixth-grade students attended VMS on the first day. She added that, as only sixth-grade students reported to middle schools that day, VMS had the largest sixth-grade enrollment among the district's middle schools.

27692 **Public Comment:** Individuals who wish to participate during the portion of the meeting designated for public comment shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins as specified in the Board's procedures on public comment and shall indicate the agenda item on which they wish to address the Board. *BED(LOCAL)*

There was no public comment.

Board Policy

27693 **Discussion of TASB Board Policy Update 127:** Chief Operations Officer Dr. Anthony Sorola presented this item for discussion. Trustees reviewed the revisions in TASB Board Policy Update 127 which are driven primarily by the 89th

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Legislative Session from 2025. The Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) regularly sends recommended updates to school districts, keeping local policies aligned with changes in legal policy. This policy update will be brought back for a second reading and vote on August 18, 2026.

No action required.

Report/Discussion Items

27694 **Presentation of the 2026 ECISD Medical Plan Committee Update:** Chief Human Capital Officer Dr. Matt Spivy opened this item for discussion and introduced UBC Benefits Principal Consultant Eric Smith who provided Trustees with an update on the upcoming 2027 ECISD Medical Plan.

Health care costs nationally are increasing – between 7-9% for many employer plans in 2025. The same is true for ECISD's medical plan expenses (9.2%) and it is expected to continue here in 2026.

ECISD is self-insured, meaning the medical costs not paid by employees are paid by the school district. Based on current costs to ECISD, and anticipating the rise in costs, a loss of approximately \$9 million is projected (a loss that would come out of the General Fund budget).

Our local medical plan committee is reviewing all aspects of the health care options to find potential savings. Changes to Blue Cross Blue Shield as a plan administrator and to Lucy RX for pharmacy service have shown promise in saving money for the district and for employees. ECISD's clinic, Care ATC, also seems to be providing a good return on the investment of creating it (866 people have used it in the first six months of 2026). With the district facing a deficit budget, continued losses in the medical fund cannot be sustained. All aspects of the health care plan are under consideration to balance coverage and costs.

No action required.

27695 **Strategic Plan Update: MTSS Pilot and Implementation:** Chief Academic Officer Dr. Robert Trejo presented this item for discussion. Trustees heard an update on the pilot for an MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Support) Behavior framework, an initiative of the strategic plan. Emergent Tree is a framework to model behavior skills. It is designed to help deepen knowledge of behavior science, align practices across the district, and use data-driven decisions; it teaches skills and strategies for behavior; it's done up front to mitigate not in response; and is flexible for long-term sustainability. In 2025-26, thirteen schools participated in a pilot with each school designing a campus behavior system using the common language centering on the words **Safe, Respectful, Responsible**. Disciplinary actions decreased from 3% to 23% at these schools. Another 15 schools will join the work this year.

No action required.

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27696 **Discussion of the 2025-2026 STAAR Results:** Chief Academic Officer Dr. Robert Trejo presented this item for discussion. Trustees discussed the spring STAAR results. Across all subjects and assessments from Grade 3 through high school End-of-Course exams, the district reached 68% passing, an improvement of three points. The district also saw gains in the Meets standard category across all subjects and grade levels. These results will have a significant impact on the district's accountability ratings, which TEA is expected to release this week. Eighth-grade social studies remains a priority area of focus.

No action required.

27697 **Possible Request for Approval to Move to Closed Meeting – Personnel Matters – Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code [Board will deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of public employees of the District, or hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.]; Consultations with Attorney – Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act [The Board will meet in Closed Session in Consultation with the Board's Attorney Regarding all Matters as Authorized by Law.]:**

There was no closed session.

27698 **Closing Remarks by Superintendent:** There were no closing remarks.

27699 **Adjournment:** Board President Dr, Steve Brown adjourned the Board meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Board President
Dr. Steve Brown

Board Secretary
Chris Stanley