

**WICHITA FALLS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ED CENTER, BOARD ROOM
REGULAR SESSION MEETING AUGUST 17, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING STATEMENT:

The Board of Trustees of the Wichita Falls Independent School District met in a regular session meeting on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Mark Lukert, board president.

Board members present: Mr. Mark Lukert, Mr. Jim Johnson, Ms. Sandy Camp, Ms Susan Grisel, Mr. John Barnard, Ms. Katherine McGregor and Ms. Diann Scroggins. Mr. Lukert noted that a quorum was present and the meeting had been duly called and notice of the meeting had been posted for the time and manner required by law.

Staff members present: Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Leah Horton, Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Ashley Thomas, Communications Officer, Ms. Vanessa Dishman, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Ms. Keli Sims, Administrative Assistant to the Director of HR, Mr. Jeff Hill, Executive Director of Elementary Schools, Ms Jennifer Spurgers, Director of Human Resources, Dr. Cody Blair, Executive Director of Secondary Schools, Ms. Alefia Paris-Toulon, Executive Director of Special Programs, Ms. Trish Potts, Internal Auditor, Chief Anthony Smith, WFISD PD, and Dr. Karen Garza, TEA Conservator.

Also present: Mr. Brian Bibb, Lone Star Texas Governance Coach, Tremco representative and media.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS:

Legacy High School JROTC

INVOCATION:

Ms. Diann Scroggins gave the invocation.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools, reviewed the 2025/2026 TEA ratings that were recently released and compared the growth from 2022-current. He noted improvement at all but 3 campuses and assured the board that the issues are being addressed. Dr Lee also informed the board of the current enrollment number of 11,898 compared to the 25/26 last day of school of 12,222. He feels this should increase as of Labor Day and then will probably level off at that point.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES FROM JULY MINUTES

Mr. Jim Johnson, seconded by Ms. Diann Scroggins, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the July Meeting Minutes as submitted.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

FINANCIAL SERVICES:

ADOPTION OF THE 2026-2027 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS TAX RATE AND DEBT SERVICE TAX RATE

Ms. Susan Grisel, seconded by Mr. John Barnard, motioned that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees sets the Maintenance and Operations tax rate at \$0.6754 per hundred-dollar valuation and sets the Debt Service tax rate at \$0.359277 for the tax year 2026, as submitted by Leah Horton, Chief Financial Officer, and as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

PURCHASE OF CUNNINGHAM ROOF REPAIR

Ms. Diann Scroggins, seconded by Ms. Sandy Camp, motioned that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees award Cunningham Elementary School roof restoration project to TREMCO CPG (dba, Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc-“WTI”) in the amount of \$376,996.61, as submitted by Leah Horton, Chief Financial Officer, and as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

JUNIOR FFA EXTRACURRICULAR

Ms. Katherine McGregor, seconded by Mr. Jim Johnson, motioned that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the resolution to recognize the Junior FFA members as eligible for extracurricular status under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 76.1 pertaining to extracurricular activities as submitted by Dr. Cody Blair, Executive Director of Secondary Schools and recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

TASB RECOMMENDED POLICY UPDATE 127-2ND READING

Ms. Susan Grisel, seconded by Ms. Diann Scroggins, motioned that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees add, revise or delete (LOCAL) policies as offered by TASB Policy Service for consideration and according to the Instruction Sheet for TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 127 with the following changes as submitted by Dr. Cody Blair, Executive Director of Secondary Schools, and as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

HUMAN RESOURCES:

TEACHER APPLICANT POOL ADDENDUM

Ms Katherine McGregor, seconded by Ms. Sandy Camp, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the proposed teacher applicant pool addendum.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

BOARD MATTERS:

None

RECESS:

Mr. Mark Lukert, board president, recessed the work session to go into closed session at 6:42 pm

CLOSED SESSION

1. Personnel Matters Including the Appointment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, Dismissal and/or Compensation of Individual District Employees (Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.074)
2. Deliberations Regarding Abandonment of Contract by Teacher and the Attempt to Resign (Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.074)
3. Deliberations Regarding Notifications to the State Board for Educator Certification of Teacher Contract Abandonment (Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.074)
4. Discussions Regarding Student Transfer Petitions Under Board Policy FDB (Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.0821)

OPEN SESSION:

Mr. Mark Lukert, board president, called the meeting back into open session at 7:53 pm.

TEACHER CONTRACT ABANDONMENT

Ms. Sandy Camp, seconded by Ms. Susan Grisel, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees issue a finding in accordance with Texas Education Code Section 21.210 (c) and 19 Texas Administrative Code 249.14(g), that good cause did not exist for Melody Seoane, a probationary contract teacher, to abandon her employment contract, abandon her position, and attempt to resign from Wichita Falls ISD.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0

NOTIFICATION TO TEA OF CONTRACT ABANDONMENT

Ms Diann Scroggins, seconded by Ms. Katherine McGregor, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees authorize Mr. Mark Lukert, Board President, to send a letter to the State Board for Educator Certification seeking sanctions for Melody Seoane, a probationary contract teacher, for abandonment of her employment contract.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0

STUDENT TRANSFER PETITION

Mr. John Barnard, seconded by Ms. Katherine McGregor, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the transfer request for an elementary school student as presented in closed session.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further action needed, Mr. Mark Lukert, board president, adjourned the meeting from Open Session at 7:55 pm.

President, Board of Trustees

Secretary, Board of Trustees