

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ECTOR COUNTY
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT HELD ON AUGUST 18, 2026, BEGINNING AT 6:00
P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING BOARD ROOM, 802 NORTH SAM
HOUSTON, ODESSA, ECTOR COUNTY, TEXAS, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

Present:

Delma Abalos
Tammy Hawkins
Christopher Stanley
Robert Thayer
Wayne Woodall

Absent:

Dr. Steve Brown

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

Others: Alex Reynolds, Stacey Nunez, Scott Rudes, Morgan Eaton, Magdalena Aguilar, Julie Marshall, Anthony Garcia, Kristen Vesely, Carole Campbell, Tracey Borchardt, Cheryl Wilson, Rose Valderaz, Taylor Laing, Leticia Bernal, Aaron Hawley, Bethany Ibarra, Berta Saldibar, Gena Valentine, Stephanie Galindo, Thelma Chapa, Brianna Inman, Michaela Wisdom, Tonia Chance, Melody E. Herrera, Elizabeth Aranda, Luis Trejo Fuentes, Amanda Bizzell, Mary Gorman, Juan Manuel Huerta, Emerald Pando, Melanie Thayer, Marisela Gonzalez, Guadalupe Valeriano, Aliya Martin, Cheryl Moore, Rachel Brady, Madelyne Martinez, Marta Alvarado, Rene Barrientes, Sandra Talavera, Nory Leachon, and Mary Franco

27700 **Meeting Called to Order:** Robert Thayer, Board Vice-President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

27701 **Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law:** Robert Thayer, Board Vice-President, verified that the provisions of Section 551.001 and Section 551.043(c) of the Texas Government Code have been met in connection with public notice of this meeting.

27702 **Pledge of Allegiance to United States and Texas Flags:** The United States and Texas flag pledges were led by Hays STEAM Academy Students Judah Hufty and Julian Torres.

27703 **Invocation:** The Invocation was led by Children's Minister Rachel Brady, Odessa Bible Church.

27704 **Special Presentations:**

Recognition of Visual Arts Scholastic Events (VASE) State Qualifiers: Chief Communications Officer Mike Adkins introduced the Visual Arts Scholastic Events (VASE) State Qualifiers. VASE is an annual statewide competition where high school students showcase their artwork and engage in discussions about their creative process with a panel of judges.

At the end of last school year, 10 of our talented students qualified for State VASE and received the highest rating of 4 for their artwork. State VASE is hosted by the Texas Art Educators Association.

- Noelia Ybarra, PHS, "Castillo De Amor" - Teacher, Laree Morris
- Bella Harvey, PHS, "Boot Fang" - Teacher, Luis Trejo
- Francisco Morales Rivers, PHS, "Time Goes Bye!" - Teacher, Gena Valentine
- Gorgina Nunez, OHS, "Old Looking At The New" - Teacher, Edlin Van Pelt
- Apollo Martinez, OHS, "The Pages of Redemption And Corruption" - Teacher, Edlin Van Pelt
- Charlotte Mendez, OHS, "Class Of 2029" - Teacher, Wendi Locklar
- Laylah Torres, OCA, "What Once Was" - Teacher Chris Golden

The following were not present:

- Yaretzi Barrera, PHS, "Nostalgia" - Teacher, Laree Morris
- Isabel Reyes, PHS, "Oh Dear" - Teacher, Luis Trejo
- Eanayha Arredondo, PHS, "Koi Mother" - Teacher Emerald Pando

Announcement of District of Distinction Honor from the Texas Art Educators Association: Chief Communications Officer Mike Adkins proudly announced for the 6th consecutive year, ECISD has earned the District of Distinction award from the Texas Art Education Association (TAEA). The District of Distinction award celebrates our commitment to a well-rounded education and outstanding leadership in promoting the arts. ECISD visual arts students participate in competitions, take part in Texas Big Art Day, perform community services, visit museums and galleries and work with artists, receive support and advocacy through media, and integrate other subjects into the lesson plans. In short, our programs encourage individual growth and connect students to their peers, school, and society at large. In ECISD, about 5,000 students participate in visual arts. We are proud to be among the 127 school districts that received this honor that represents only the top 10% of Visual Arts programs in the state!

Announcement of ECISD Named Best Communities for Music Education by National Association of Music Merchants: Ector County ISD once again was recognized for being named Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation. This is the 12th year in a row ECISD has achieved this prestigious, national recognition for its music programs. Best Communities for Music Education is a signature program of The NAMM Foundation, and it recognizes and celebrates schools and districts for their support and commitment to music education and efforts to assure access to music for all students as part of a well-rounded education. It is a comprehensive application and review process that takes into account funding, instructional time, participation rates, facilities, and community support. The applications are independently reviewed and verified. In ECISD, 22,041 students receive weekly instruction in Fine Arts. This is 72% of our student population.

27705

Opening Remarks by Superintendent: In opening remarks, Superintendent Dr. Keeley Boyer spoke about the start of the school year. During the first week of school, enrollment was approximately 1,000 students less than at the same time

last year: however, enrollment remains in line to meet projected numbers. The teacher fill rate is currently 98%, with 11 elementary and 26 secondary teacher vacancies. The Superintendent then introduced a video highlighting the first day of school on August 11.

27706 **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)*

In public comment, Mireya Millan, an enrollee at Ector Acceleration Academy, shared how the dropout prevention program changed her life. She noted that she graduated from high school, has been accepted to college, and aspires to become a nurse.

Zoey Puente then shared her experience working through the ECISD Community Outreach Center (COC), which helped her graduate from high school and prepare to pursue her future goals.

Board Policy

27707 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of TASB Local Policy Update 127:** Moved by Woodall, seconded by Stanley to approve TASB Local Policy Update 127 as presented. These updates are based on recommendations from the Texas Association of School Boards to keep local board policy in line with legislative changes to state policy.

For: Abalos, Hawkins, Stanley, Thayer, Woodall

Motion unanimously approved.

Bond 2023

27708 **Bond 2023 Update:** Chief Operations Officer Dr. Anthony Sorola and Chief Financial Officer Albessa Chavez provided the Board of Trustees with an update on the progress of Bond 2023 projects.

ATLAS Career & Technical Education Center:

- Structural steel is now complete.
- Electrical, plumbing, and masonry work are ongoing
- Roofing scheduled to begin soon
- Scheduled to open in August 2027

Adela & Gilbert Vasquez Middle School:

- The school is now Open!
- Work continues on the competition gym, auditorium, landscaping, and other sitework.

PHS Auditorium:

- The auditorium renovation is complete, marking the eighth Bond 2023 project to be completed.

Transition Learning Center:

- Metal stud framing is ongoing and is anticipated to be completed later in the fall semester.

PHS JROTC Facility:

- The building is nearing completion
- Technology installation is underway
- Furniture delivery is scheduled over the next two weeks
- Final inspection will be scheduled soon

Agricultural (Ag) Farm Facility:

- Structural steel for both barns and academic buildings is complete

New Transportation Facility:

- Preparations for demolition of specific buildings on site are underway
- The Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for the construction and renovation phase is on tonight's agenda for approval

Priority 1 & 2 Renovation/Replacement Projects:

- Replacement and renovation projects are underway throughout the district
- Roofing Package 1 is complete
- Projects at eighteen schools and the School Nutrition Department were completed this summer or are currently in progress

No action required.

27709 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Bond 2023 Purchases over \$100,000:** Moved by Hawkins, seconded by Stanley to approve the Bond 2023 Purchases over \$100,000 as presented.

For: Abalos, Hawkins, Stanley, Thayer, Woodall

Motion unanimously approved.

27710 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of AIA Document A133-2019 Exhibit A Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment for Construction and Renovation for the Transportation Facility Project:** Moved by Hawkins, seconded by Woodall to approve the AIA Document A133-2019 Exhibit A Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment for Construction and Renovation for the Transportation Facility Project as presented.

For: Abalos, Hawkins, Stanley, Thayer, Woodall

Motion unanimously approved.

27711 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of AIA Document G802-2017 Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with PBK – Ector County ISD CTE Center (ATLAS CTE Center)**: Moved by Woodall, seconded by Stanley to approve the AIA Document G802-2017 Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with PBK – Ector County ISD CTE Center (ATLAS CTE Center) as presented.

For: Abalos, Hawkins, Stanley, Thayer, Woodall

Motion unanimously approved.

Action Items

27712 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Purchases over \$100,000**: Moved by Woodall, seconded by Thayer to approve the Purchases over \$100,000 as presented. The items on this month's list are for full-time site coordinators from Communities in Schools to support At-Risk students, and Emergent Tree behavioral framework.

For: Abalos, Hawkins, Stanley, Thayer, Woodall

Motion unanimously approved.

27713 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of 2026-2027 Budget Amendment #1**: Moved by Stanley, seconded by Hawkins to approve the 2026-2027 Budget Amendment #1 as presented.

For: Abalos, Hawkins, Stanley, Thayer, Woodall

Motion unanimously approved.

27714 **Discussion of and Request for Approval to Sell Property for Less than Market Value**: Moved by Hawkins, seconded by Woodall to approve the sale of property at 2573 West Bell Street, Odessa, Texas for less than market value. Taxes for this property have been delinquent since 2015, and its sale will put it back on the tax roll.

For: Abalos, Hawkins, Stanley, Thayer, Woodall

Motion unanimously approved.

27715 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Application to Renew Optional Flexible School Day Program (OFSDP)**: Moved by Stanley, seconded by Woodall to approve the Application to Renew Optional Flexible School Day Program (OFSDP) as presented. The goal of the Optional Flexible School Day Program is to allow students an opportunity to have flexible hours to be successful and receive a high school diploma by offering courses needed for graduation while the district receives funding for students in attendance. The program has two main objectives.

The first is to allow a student who has dropped out of school or is in danger of dropping out of school an option other than the regular classroom setting or school day. The second objective is to enable a student the opportunity to recover credits lost due to lack of attendance. OFSDP is offered at the Community Outreach Center, Ector Acceleration Academy, and on campus. This year 304 students were recovered after dropping out, or prevented from dropping out, and of those 134 graduated and 93 are continuing in school (82%).

For: Abalos, Hawkins, Stanley, Thayer, Woodall

Motion unanimously approved.

27716 **Consent Agenda:** Moved by Stanley, seconded by Woodall to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. Request for Approval of Minutes of Meetings
- B. Request for Approval of Bills for Payment
- C. Request for Approval of Acceptance of Donations Over \$10,000
- D. Request for Approval of Annual Investment Report
- E. Request for Approval to Enter into the Participation Agreement that will Extend the Interlocal Agreement with Purchasing Cooperatives (COOP) and Ector County ISD
- F. Request for Approval of Resolution Amending Authorized Representatives
- G. Request for Approval of Board T-TESS and T-PESS Appraisers for the 2026-2027 School Year
- H. Request for Approval of Board T-TESS and T-PESS Calendar for the 2026-2027 School Year
- I. Request for Approval of Personal Services by Dr. Cheryl Wilson for Adjunct Professor for Odessa College Pursuant to Texas Education Code §11.006 (c)
- J. Request for Approval of Interlocal Agreement between the Ector County Independent School District and Communities in Schools of the Permian Basin, Inc.
- K. Request for Approval of Partnership Agreement between Ector County Independent School District and Acceleration Academies
- L. Request for Approval of UIL Exemption List for the 2026-2027 School Year
- M. Request for Approval of 2026-2027 Scripps National Spelling Bee, Inc. Regional Partnership Agreement
- N. Request for Approval of Extracurricular Status of 4-H Organization Resolution and Adjunct Staff Members

For: Abalos, Hawkins, Stanley, Thayer, Woodall

Motion unanimously approved.

Report/Discussion Items

27717 **Discussion of 2025-2026 Board Goals and Indicators of Success:** Chief Academic Officer Dr. Robert Trejo presented this item for discussion. Trustees discussed their goals established for the 2025-2026 school year and reviewed the

corresponding Indicators of Success. ECISD's strategic plan is organized around five Board Goals. The first three goals—Student Achievement, including all STAAR assessments; third-grade reading; and College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) - all showed improvement.

Trustees also reviewed the 19 key Indicators of Success included in the strategic plan. During the first year of the plan, 16 of the 19 indicators met or exceeded the established goals. Highlights included an 89.1% graduation rate: the District's highest in 24 years. These results contributed to improvement across all four STAAR Domain scores and an overall accountability rating of 77, resulting in a C rating.

The district's newly released CCMR score was also shared. The score of 95%, which will be reflected in next year's accountability ratings, represents another area of improvement.

No action required.

27718 **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.] (The Board of Trustees will deliberate on the retroactive hiring of Principal for Burnet Elementary School and Principal for Bonham Middle School); (The Board of Trustees will deliberate the selection of Single Member District – Position 1 Applicants for Interview); 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.]:**

Board Vice-President Robert Thayer convened to closed session at 7:37 p.m.

Board Vice-President Robert Thayer reconvened to open session at 7:49 p.m.

27719 **Request for Approval of Retroactive Personnel Recommendation to Hire Principal for Burnet Elementary School:** Moved by Woodall, seconded by Stanley to approve the Retroactive Personnel Recommendation to hire Lety Amalla as the Principal at Burnet Elementary as presented.

For: Abalos, Hawkins, Stanley, Thayer, Woodall

Motion unanimously approved.

27720 **Request for Approval of Retroactive Personnel Recommendation to Hire Principal for Bonham Middle School:** Moved by Hawkins, seconded by Woodall to approve the Retroactive Personnel Recommendation to hire Amanda Bizzell as the Principal at Bonham Middle School as presented.

For: Abalos, Hawkins, Stanley, Thayer, Woodall

Motion unanimously approved.

27721 **Possible Action to Select Single Member District – Position 1 Applicants for Interview:** Moved by Woodall, seconded by Stanley to interview all four applicants who applied for appointment to the currently vacant Position 1 seat as presented.

For: Abalos, Hawkins, Stanley, Thayer, Woodall

Motion unanimously approved.

27722 **Information Items:** The Board of Trustees were provided with the following information items: Financials, Quarterly Donations Informational Report, Purchases Over \$100,000 Informational Report, and Routine Personnel Report.

27723 **Closing Remarks by Superintendent:** There were no closing remarks.

27724 **Adjournment:** Board Vice-President Robert Thayer adjourned the Board meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Board Vice-President
Robert Thayer

Board Secretary
Christopher Stanley