

Minutes of the September 3, 2026,
Workshop and Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees of the Abilene Independent School District met in a Workshop and Regular Meeting at 5:00 p.m., September 3, 2026, in the Boardroom at the District Support Center 241 Pine Street, Abilene, Texas 79601. Mr. Blair Schroeder, President of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., observed that a quorum was present, and stated that notice of the meeting had been duly posted in the time and manner prescribed by law.

Trustees present for all or part of the meeting: Mr. Blair Schroeder, President; Dr. Taylor Tidmore, Vice President; Mr. Rodney Goodman, Secretary; Mrs. Angie Wiley, Assistant Secretary, Dr. Danny Wheat, Mrs. Alana Jeter, and Mrs. Amanda Pittman. Members absent: None.

Administrators present for all or part of the meeting: Dr. Joseph Waldron, Superintendent; Dr. Gustavo Villanueva, Chief of Schools; Mrs. Lyndsey Williamson, Chief Academic Officer; Mrs. Jennifer Hinds, Chief Financial Officer; Mrs. Alison Sims, Chief Talent Officer; Dr. Jordan Ziemer, Chief Communications Officer; Mr. Jay Ashby, Chief of Strategic Operations; and Mrs. Robin Jones, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees

- I. Call to Order
- II. Board Workshop Agenda

Mr. Blair Schroeder asked Dr. Joe Waldron to give an overview of the Workshop portion of the agenda.

A. 2027-2028 AISD Academic Calendar

Mrs. Chris Bailey, Executive Director for Human Resources, shared the process for developing the 2027-2028 instructional calendar which included the timeline, the roles of committees involved in the process, and upcoming key discussion. It is anticipated that a recommended calendar will be presented to the Board in December.

B. TASB Policy Update 127

Dr. Gustavo Villanueva shared an overview of the policies included in Update 127 requiring board action and adoption based on final recommendations from the district. He also highlighted the process involved in policy updates and the next steps for approval and adoption.

C. Head Start Governance and ERSEA Training

Mrs. Julie Wilson, Director of Early Childhood, presented the annual Shared Governance and ERSEA (Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, Attendance) training which included the Head Start Shared Governance Model and Overarching Board Responsibilities. She also shared Head Start Specific Responsibilities, Program Basics, Systems, Program Planning Cycle, and Eligibility Requirements.

- III. Closed Session: A Closed Session may be held under the provisions of Texas Government Code, Chapter 551 including but not limited to Section 551.071, Section 551.072, Section 551.074, Section 551.076, and Section 551.082, and Section 551.0821.

Mr. Blair Schroeder announced that a Closed Session would be held under the provisions of Texas Code, Chapter 551. The Board convened in Closed Session at 5:50 p.m.

- A. The Board may deliberate matters of Personnel, i.e. appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee. (Section 551.074)
 - I. Professional Employment Contracts
- B. Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding Pending or Contemplated Litigation and/or Privileged Legal Advice (Section 551.071)
- C. The Board may discuss the Value, Exchange and/or Disposition of Real Property. (Section 551.072)
- D. The Board may discuss matters of Safety and Security. (Section 551.076)
- E. The Board may consult with the District's attorney, in person or by phone, on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the District under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, including the appeal of the discipline of a public school child. (551.071)
- F. The Board may conduct a meeting to deliberate in a case involving an appeal of the discipline of a public school child. (551.082)
- G. The Board may conduct a meeting to deliberate a matter regarding a public school student if personally identifiable information about the student will necessarily be revealed by the deliberation e.g. Student Discipline. (Sections 551.082, 551.0821)

- IV. Reconvene from Closed Session (Approximately 7:00 p.m.)

The Board reconvened at 7:07 p.m.

- A. Invocation

Mr. Blair Schroeder called on Dr. Jordan Ziemer to give the invocation and lead the pledges.

B. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flags of the United States of America and the State of Texas

C. Board/Superintendent Announcements/Information

Dr. Joe Waldron shared the following announcements:

- 9/4 – Crosstown Showdown
- 9/7 – Labor Day Holiday
- 9/9 & 9/10 – Dr. Waldron will be attending FTSA in Round Rock
- Excellent Start to the School Year!

I. Teaching Minute

The Teaching Minute video highlighted Taylor Wise teaching expectations and routines to her Kindergarten students on Day 5 at Ward Elementary.

V. Oral Communications from the Public

Mr. Blair Schroeder asked if anyone wishing to address the Board had completed a public comment card. There was none.

VI. Consent Agenda

Mr. Blair Schroeder asked if there was a motion regarding the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Angie Wiley made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and presented. Dr. Taylor Tidmore seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

Ayes: Jeter, Tidmore, Wheat, Goodman, Pittman, Wiley, and Schroeder

Nays: None

- A. The Board will consider accepting the July Financials.
- B. The Board will consider approval of the Minutes of the August 6, 2026, Workshop Meeting, August 10, 2026, Regular Meeting, and August 24, 2026, Special Budget and Tax Rate Meeting.
- C. The Board will consider approval of the Appointment of Members of the Local School Health Advisory Council (SHAC).
- D. The Board will consider approval of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Resolution and Adjunct Agreement
 - I. Callahan County
 - II. Taylor County
- E. The Board will consider approval to reauthorize the Superintendent's Hiring Authority for Contractual Personnel (Policy DC LOCAL - Employment Practices).
- F. The Board will consider approval of the 2026-2027 Professional Development Plan.
- G. The Board will consider a 2026-2027 Staff Development Waiver.
- H. The Board will consider approval of Acquisition of Library Materials.

VII. Reports

A. Academic Performance Update

Mrs. Lyndsey Williamson provided an overview of the District's A-F Accountability Ratings including campus ratings. Context around the three accountability domains, Student Achievement, School Progress, and Closing the Gaps were also presented. Highlighted areas of strength and opportunities for continued improvement were shared and the District's ongoing efforts to address areas of need and the support of continued progress in student outcomes were also discussed.

VIII. Business Items Requiring Board Action

- A. The Board will consider the selection of a professional service provider for Facilities Assessment Request for Proposal #019, 25-26 and delegation of authority to negotiate and enter into a contract.

Mr. Jay Ashby presented the primary objective and strategic impact of the Facilities Assessment Request for Proposal #019, 25-26. He discussed the evaluation weighting and rubric used in this process and shared that Huckabee is the highest ranked bidder based on experience, alignment and support for the Long Range Facility Planning Committee process, schedule, and past work completed in Abilene ISD.

Mr. Blair Schroeder asked if there was a motion regarding the Facilities Assessment Request for Proposal. Dr. Taylor Tidmore made a motion to approve the ranking of bidders for Facilities Assessment Request for Proposal #019, 25-26 and authorized the Superintendent or designee to negotiate a contract with the highest-ranked bidder. If an agreement cannot be reached with the highest-ranked bidder, negotiations will close and may proceed to the next highest-ranked bidder. This process will continue until a contract is reached or the District ceases negotiations and returns to the market. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Amanda Pittman and passed 7-0.

Ayes: Goodman, Schroeder, Pittman, Tidmore, Jeter, Wiley, and Wheat

Nays: None

B. The Board will consider SB 12: Annual Certification of Compliance with Certain Laws.

I. Open Public Hearing

Mr. Blair Schroeder opened the Public Hearing at 7:48 p.m. and called on Mrs. Alison Sims to give a brief summary of Senate Bill 12: Annual Certification.

Mrs. Alison Sims shared that the annual certification focuses on compliance with the following two specified legal requirements:

- TEC 11.005 – Prohibition on diversity, equity, and inclusion activities
- TEC 28.002 – Prohibition on instruction regarding sexual orientation and gender identity

SB 12 also addresses broader district responsibilities for the following:

- Parental Rights
- Health Services
- Grievances
- Parent Engagement
- Board Report to TEA

The requirements have been implemented by the district through Employee Training, Employee Notification and Contractor Notification. Mrs. Sims also covered policy or program changes in Abilene ISD to support compliance. The district's certification documents both compliance actions and the absence of cost savings.

II. Receive Public Comment

Mr. Blair Schroeder asked if anyone from the Public wished to address the Board regarding Senate Bill 12 Certification. There was none.

III. Close Public Hearing

Mr. Blair Schroeder closed the Public Hearing at 7:54 p.m.

Mr. Blair Schroeder asked if there was a motion regarding SB12 Annual Certification. Mr. Rodney Goodman made a motion to approve Senate Bill 12 Annual Certification of Compliance with Certain Laws as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blair Schroeder and passed 7-0.

Ayes: Wiley, Pittman, Wheat, Jeter, Schroeder, Tidmore, and Goodman

Nays: None

IX. The Board may take action relevant to Items Covered During Closed Session.

A. The Board will consider approval of Personnel Recommendations.

I. Professional Employment Contracts

B. Matters pertaining to Litigation, if any

C. Matters pertaining to Real Property, if any

D. Matters pertaining to Safety and Security, if any

E. Matters pertaining to Students, if any

I. The Board will consider and take action on Student Discipline Appeal matter.

Mr. Blair Schroeder asked if there was a motion regarding the Student Discipline Appeal matter. Mr. Rodney Goodman made a motion to Uphold the decision of administration and affirm the expulsion of the student. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Alana Jeter and passed 7-0.

Ayes: Tidmore, Pittman, Wiley, Schroeder, Goodman, Wheat, and Jeter

Nays: None

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

APPROVED:

President

ATTEST:

Secretary