Regular Board Meeting / FIRST Rating Presentation and Public Hearing

Monday, October 12, 2026 6:00 PM
Board Room, 1209 Twelfth St, Palacios, TX 77465

Marcos Aparicio:	Present
Karen Botbyl:	Present
Carl Filip:	Absent
Haley Garcia:	Present
Rafael Garcia:	Present
Dane Kubecka:	Present
Fabian Marroquin:	Present

1) **Call to Order and Determine a Quorum**
Discussion: Meeting was called to order by Board President Haley Garcia announcing a quorum and that the meeting was duly posted.

1)A. Invocation
Discussion: Invocation was given by Dr. Brian Williams.

1)B. Pledge of Allegiance
Discussion: The Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge were led by student council students from PES.
Juliette Buentello
Adalyn Tanner
Sofia Paniaua
Hadassah Rios
Evlynn Rodriguez
All 5 students were given a book, "Where The Wild Things Are", signed by Superintendent Valentine thanking them for leading the Pledges.

2) **Public Hearing - FIRST Rating Report Presentation**
Presenter: Peggy Scantlen and Jason Valentine
Discussion: The FIRST Rating Public Hearing began at 6:03pm.
The FIRST Rating Presentation was given by the Director of Finance Peggy Scantlen.
Peggy noted the District received a Superior Rating of 94 this year and reminded the Public that the District received a Superior rating last year as well.
Board Member Kubecka asked how we rate compared to other districts. Mrs Scantlen replied, with the assistance of Dr Williams, that 81% of Districts received a Superior rating.
No other questions were asked.
The FIRST Rating Public Hearing ended at 6:15pm.

3) **Student / Staff Awards and Recognitions**
Discussion: **Matagorda Youth Leadership Council Recognized: Makena Bowers, Philip Aparicio,

Christian Gatica, Evette Muniz, Diana Nunez, Hieu Vu, Ana Cornejo
**Students Recognized for a 3 or Higher on AP testing:
AP Human Geography: Kayden Edwards, Camila Gonzalez, Belle Jasek, Heidi Koenig, Dominic Nieto, Easton Schneider, Charlotte Trent (4), Thu-Thao Vu, Christopher White, Adan Zamora
AP Pre-Calculus: Philip Aparicio, Tanner Clare, Brody Garcia (5), Diana Nunez

4) **Public Comment**
Discussion: No public comments

5) **Information Items (No Action)**
Discussion: No information items

6) **Action Items**

6)A. Presentation / Consideration and Approval of New Library Materials for PES and PJSH for the 2026-2027 School Year

Presenter: Rossana Deadrick and Dr. Jamey Johnson

Action(s):
I move that the Palacios ISD Board of Trustees adopt the list of proposed books for Palacios Elementary School and Palacios Junior Senior High school libraries as presented. This motion, made by Fabian Marroquin and seconded by Karen Botbyl, Passed.

Voting Detail:

Marcos Aparicio:	Yea
Karen Botbyl:	Yea
Carl Filip:	Absent
Haley Garcia:	Yea
Rafael Garcia:	Yea
Dane Kubecka:	Yea
Fabian Marroquin:	Yea

Voting Summary: Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

6)B. Presentation / Consideration and Approval of the District Improvement Plan - DIP and the PES and PJSH Campus Improvement Plans - (CIP)

Presenter: Dr. Jamey Johnson, Ms. Stephanie Garcia, Mr. Buddy Kelley

Action(s):
I move that the Palacios ISD Board of Trustees adopt the 2026-2027 District Improvement Plan, the PES Campus Improvement Plan, and the PJSH Campus Improvement Plan with the possibility of minor revisions throughout the school year as presented. This motion, made by Haley Garcia and seconded by Fabian Marroquin, Passed.

Voting Detail:

Marcos Aparicio:	Yea
Karen Botbyl:	Yea
Carl Filip:	Absent
Haley Garcia:	Yea
Rafael Garcia:	Yea
Dane Kubecka:	Yea

Fabian Marroquin: Yea

Voting Summary: Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Discussion: Board Member Fabian Marroquin asked to bring back updates as they occur on both the DIP and the CIP

7) **Director of Finance Reports / Presentation** **Presenter:** Peggy Scantlen

Discussion: Director of Finance Peggy Scantlen gave a presentation on the monthly finances. She noted that interest rates are on the rise and revenue is still low at this time. Also noting the district has not received special revenue at this time and grants are covering the expenses. She also noted receiving the Matagorda County Tax Collections. Mr. Kubecka asked if there was any risk of the district running over the adopted budget at this time? Mrs. Scantlen said no. No questions were asked about the check register or the investment reports. Mr. Kubecka asked about the 3 year bond spending plan asking if the amounts shown were all that was able to be spent. An answer was given by Mr Valentine stating that some changes could be made in the future to allow for other expenses and would be discussed at a later meeting.

7)A. September Check Register

7)B. 3-Year Bond Plan Update

7)C. Investment Report

8) **Superintendent's Reports**

Discussion: Mr. Valentine gave his Superintendent's presentation.

9) **Board President's Reports**

9)A. School Board Evaluation Update from Team of 3

Discussion: Mr Marroquin noted that the Board Evaluation Team of 3 is set and will be meeting to get a direction on the way they would like to go.

The Team of 3 consists of Board Members Rafael Garcia, Fabian Marroquin, and Dane Kubecka

10) **Consent Agenda**

Action(s):

I make a motion to approve the consent agenda but pull items 10A, 10B, and 10E to approve separately. This motion, made by Haley Garcia and seconded by Karen Botbyl, Passed.

Voting Detail:

Marcos Aparicio:	Yea
Karen Botbyl:	Yea
Carl Filip:	Absent
Haley Garcia:	Yea
Rafael Garcia:	Yea
Dane Kubecka:	Yea

Fabian Marroquin: Yea

Voting Summary: Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Discussion: 10C - Approved Sanford Center Letter / Continued Board Stance on Tax Relief for Charitable Organizations
10D - Nepotism Acknowledgment

10)A. Approve Meeting Minutes 8/10/2026

Action(s):
I make a motion to approve meeting minutes from Consent, Meeting Minutes from 8/10/2026. This motion, made by Haley Garcia and seconded by Dane Kubecka, Passed.

Voting Detail:

Marcos Aparicio:	Abstain (With Conflict)
Karen Botbyl:	Yea
Carl Filip:	Absent
Haley Garcia:	Yea
Rafael Garcia:	Yea
Dane Kubecka:	Yea
Fabian Marroquin:	Abstain (With Conflict)

Voting Summary: Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain (With Conflict): 2

Discussion: Board Members Marcos Aparicio and Fabian Maraoquin abstained due to being absent from the meeting being approved.

10)B. Approve meeting Minutes 9/14/2026

Action(s):
I make a motion to approve Item 10B from Consent, Meeting Minutes from 9/14/2026. This motion, made by Haley Garcia and seconded by Marcos Aparicio, Passed.

Voting Detail:

Marcos Aparicio:	Yea
Karen Botbyl:	Yea
Carl Filip:	Absent
Haley Garcia:	Yea
Rafael Garcia:	Abstain (With Conflict)
Dane Kubecka:	Abstain (With Conflict)
Fabian Marroquin:	Yea

Voting Summary: Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain (With Conflict): 2

Discussion: Board members Rafael Garcia and Dane Kubecka abstained due to being absent from the meeting being approved.

10)C. Approve Sanford Center Letter / Continued Board Stance on Tax Relief for Charitable Organizations

10)D. Nepotism Acknowledgment

10)E. Approval of temporary hiring authority authorizing the Superintendent to serve as the Board's designee for final hiring decisions and

employment contract execution, effective immediately through the end of the calendar year.

Action(s):
I make a motion to approve the Resolution to Grant Temporary Hiring Authority to the Superintendent beginning October 12, 2026 through the end of the calendar year, December 31, 2026. This motion, made by Karen Botbyl and seconded by Marcos Aparicio, Passed.

Voting Detail:

Marcos Aparicio:	Yea
Karen Botbyl:	Yea
Carl Filip:	Absent
Haley Garcia:	Yea
Rafael Garcia:	Yea
Dane Kubecka:	Yea
Fabian Marroquin:	Yea

Voting Summary: Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

11) **Closed Session - Presiding Officer**
Discussion: The board adjourned into closed session at 7:16pm

11)A. Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits. Texas Gov't Code §551.076 and §551.089

11)B. Personnel Matters Texas Gov't Code §551.074

11)B.(1) New Hires / Terminations / Employee Discipline

11)C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.072, deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property

11)D. Consultation with Attorney §551.071

12) **The Board will reconvene and take possible action on items discussed in executive session - Presiding Officer**
Discussion: The board reconvened to open session at 7:40pm

13) **Prepare for Next Meeting - Presiding Officer**
Discussion: Team of 8 Training scheduled for January 13, 2027

14) **Adjourn - Presiding Officer**
Action(s):
I make a motion to adjourn this meeting. This motion, made by Karen Botbyl and seconded by Dane Kubecka, Passed.

Voting Detail:

Marcos Aparicio:	Yea
Karen Botbyl:	Yea
Carl Filip:	Absent
Haley Garcia:	Yea
Rafael Garcia:	Yea
Dane Kubecka:	Yea

Fabian Marroquin: Yea

Voting Summary: Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Discussion: Meeting was adjourned at 7:41pm

Meeting Minutes Approved This ___ Day of November, 2026.

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Board Secretary Board President