

Minutes of Regular Meeting March 30, 2026

Hays CISD Board of Trustees

These minutes are a record of the actions taken by the Hays CISD Board of Trustees in the meeting held on the above date. The complete video of the meeting is accessible at www.hayscisid.net for those who wish to hear the specific details of the discussions on the agenda topics presented.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Hays CISD was held on Monday, March 30, 2026 beginning at 5:30 PM in the Merideth Keller Board Room at the Hays CISD Academic Support Center, located at 21003 Interstate 35, Kyle, TX 78640.

CALL TO ORDER: Establish a quorum

Board President Byron Severance called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. All members of the Board were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES AND TEXAS FLAGS

Board Secretary Geoff Seibel led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the US and Texas flags.

MISSION STATEMENT

Board Vice President Johnny Flores read the Hays CISD Board of Trustees Mission Statement.

SOCIAL CONTRACT

Trustee Esperanza Orosco read the Hays CISD Board of Trustees Social Contract.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were 10 guests present requesting to address the Board. Katherine Heeb addressed the Board regarding agenda item K.9. Abel Heeb addressed the Board regarding agenda item K.9. Bella Beard addressed the Board regarding proposed budget. Jessie Hargrave addressed the Board regarding agenda item K.9/budget. Ruah Gleason addressed the Board regarding budget reduction/K.9. Alicia Hill addressed the Board regarding budget cuts. Carla Perez addressed the Board regarding school board candidate and voting. Fabiola Sanchez addressed the Board regarding agenda item K.9. Anaissa Ortiz-Wong addressed the Board regarding budget cuts. Mia Arredondo addressed the Board regarding agenda item K.9

CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:04 PM to deliberate regarding the Superintendent's recommendations for employment, resignations, extended leave, and other personnel matters, pursuant to Tx. Gov't Code Section 551.074, and to deliberate regarding safety and security, including security personnel, systems, infrastructure, and/or devices, pursuant to Tx. Gov't Code Section 551.076.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Board President Byron Severance called the Board back to order to reconvene in open session at 6:51 PM.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Eric Wright, Superintendent, noted current enrollment of 24,995 at 93.6% attendance. Dr. Wright presented slides to the Board to update the group on students' academic, athletic, and fine arts achievements. There were no questions or comments from trustees following the presentation.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

Emily Herrin, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, addressed the Board to present slides on Advanced Academics and GT Program Highlights. Ms. Herrin engaged in conversation after her presentation with the Board based on feedback and questions from Trustee Vanessa Petrea, Trustee Raul Vela, Trustee Courtney

Runkle, Board Vice President Johnny Flores, Trustee Esperanza Orosco, Board Secretary Geoff Seibel, and Board President Byron Severance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board President Byron Severance introduced the consent agenda items and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the consent agenda, as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Vice President Johnny Flores. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 where Courtney Runkle, Raul Vela, Vanessa Petrea, Byron Severance, Johnny Flores, Esperanza Orosco, and Geoff Seibel all voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

Consideration and possible approval of meeting minutes

There were no questions from the Board regarding this agenda item.

ACTION ITEMS

Review and possible acceptance of Preliminary Budget Decisions for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year
Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright presented slides to the Board. Comments and questions were heard and received from Board President Byron Severance, Trustee Raul Vela, Trustee Vanessa Petrea, Trustee Courtney Runkle, Board Vice President Johnny Flores, Board Secretary Geoff Seibel, and Trustee Esperanza Orosco with responsive conversation from Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright, Chief Human Resources Officer Christina Courson, Chief Financial Officer Deborah Ottmers, and Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer Marivel Sedillo. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees accept the preliminary budget decisions for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year, as presented and discussed. Trustee Vanessa Petrea seconded the motion. Additional discussion was noted by Trustee Raul Vela, with Mrs. Ottmers responding. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 where Courtney Runkle, Raul Vela, Vanessa Petrea, Byron Severance, Johnny Flores, Esperanza Orosco, and Geoff Seibel all voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

Consideration and possible approval to seek Waiver(s) from the Texas Education Agency to provide Remote General Education Homebound Instruction

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer, addressed the Board. There were no responsive questions from trustees. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the request to seek waiver(s) from the Texas Education Agency to provide remote general education homebound instruction, as presented and discussed. Trustee Esperanza Orosco seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 where Courtney Runkle, Raul Vela, Vanessa Petrea, Byron Severance, Johnny Flores, Esperanza Orosco, and Geoff Seibel all voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

Consideration and possible approval of the purchase of Instructional Resources for Secondary Math – McGraw Hill

Board President Byron Severance introduced the item. Derek McDaniel, Executive Officer of Curriculum and Instruction, addressed the Board. There were no questions responsive to Mr. McDaniel's summary. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the purchase of instructional resources for secondary math from McGraw Hill for an amount not to exceed \$656,886.00, as presented. Trustee Raul Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 where Courtney Runkle, Raul Vela, Vanessa Petrea, Byron Severance, Johnny Flores, Esperanza Orosco, and Geoff Seibel all voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

Consideration and possible approval of the Guaranteed Maximum Price for 2025 Bond Renovations and Additions at Fuentes Elementary School

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Max Cleaver, Chief Operations Officer, addressed the Board. There were no questions responsive to Mr. Cleaver's address. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the GMP provided by

Bartlett Cocke Construction for 2025 Bond renovations and additions at Fuentes Elementary School, as designed by O'Connell Robertson Architects, in an amount not to exceed \$17,256,971, as presented. Trustee Courtney Runkle seconded the motion. Additional discussion was proposed by Trustee Runkle with Mr. Cleaver responding. There were no further questions, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 where Courtney Runkle, Raul Vela, Vanessa Petrea, Byron Severance, Johnny Flores, Esperanza Orosco, and Geoff Seibel all voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

Consideration and possible approval of the Guaranteed Maximum Price for 2025 Bond Additions and Renovations at Wallace Middle School

Board President Byron Severance introduced. Max Cleaver, Chief Operations Officer, addressed the Board. There were no questions responsive to Mr. Cleaver's address. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the GMP from Bartlett Cocke Construction for 2025 Bond additions and renovations at Wallace Middle School, as designed by O'Connell Robertson Architects, for an amount not to exceed \$19,351,392, as presented. Trustee Raul Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 where Courtney Runkle, Raul Vela, Vanessa Petrea, Byron Severance, Johnny Flores, Esperanza Orosco, and Geoff Seibel all voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

Consideration and possible approval of Right of Way and Easements to the City of Buda for a Connector Road at Johnson High School

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Max Cleaver, Chief Operations Officer, addressed the Board. Mr. Cleaver responded to questions and feedback from Trustee Courtney Runkle and President Severance. Mr. Severance moved that the Hays CISD grant access easements and right of way to the City of Buda for a connector road at Johnson HS, and authorize the Superintendent and Board President to negotiate and execute documents necessary and convenient to complete the transaction, as presented. Trustee Vanessa Petrea seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 where Courtney Runkle, Raul Vela, Vanessa Petrea, Byron Severance, Johnny Flores, Esperanza Orosco, and Geoff Seibel all voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

Consideration and possible approval to grant Utility Easements to the City of Austin for Water Service at Hays CISD Comprehensive High School #4

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Max Cleaver, Chief Operations Officer, addressed the Board. There were no questions responsive to Mr. Cleaver's address. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees grant utility easements to the City of Austin and authorize the Superintendent and/or Board President to negotiate and execute documents necessary and convenient to complete the transaction, as presented. Trustee Courtney Runkle seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 where Courtney Runkle, Raul Vela, Vanessa Petrea, Byron Severance, Johnny Flores, Esperanza Orosco, and Geoff Seibel all voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

Consideration and possible approval to grant Right of Way to Travis County for Improvements at Turnersville Road for 2025 Bond Comprehensive High School #4

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Max Cleaver, Chief Operations Officer, addressed the Board. There were no questions responsive to Mr. Cleaver's address. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees grant right of way to Travis County for improvements to Turnersville Road and authorize the Superintendent and/or Board President to negotiate and execute documents necessary or convenient to complete the transaction, as presented. Additional discussion was proposed by Board Vice President Johnny Flores with Max Cleaver responding. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 where Courtney Runkle, Raul Vela, Vanessa Petrea, Byron Severance, Johnny Flores, Esperanza Orosco, and Geoff Seibel all voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

Conduct an Election for Place 5 of the Education Service Center, Region 13 Board of Directors
Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item and asked for recommendations for election. Trustee Courtney Runkle commented. Dr. Eric Wright, Superintendent, also commented regarding incumbent Don Rogers. President Severance suggested a motion to nominate Don Rogers for Place 5 of the Education Service Center, Region 13 Board of Directors. Trustee Vanessa Petrea moved and Trustee Raul Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by vote of 6-1 where Raul Vela, Vanessa Petrea, Byron Severance, Johnny Flores, Esperanza Orosco, and Geoff Seibel all voted YES. Trustee Courtney Runkle voted NO on this agenda item.

INFORMATION ITEM

Update on District Safety & Security Initiatives

There were no updates from the department nor questions from the Board regarding this agenda item.

Update on District Bond, Construction, and Renovation Projects

There were no updates from the department nor questions from the Board regarding this agenda item.

Review and Discussion of the 2026-2027 Budget Calendar

Deborah Ottmers, Chief Financial Officer, responded to questions and feedback from Trustee Courtney Runkle and Board President Byron Severance.

Financial Statements

There were no questions from the Board regarding this agenda item.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Trustee Courtney Runkle made a request for information.

ADJOURN

Board President Byron Severance noted that the next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 20, 2026 at 5:30pm. No further business was conducted, and President Severance announced that the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 PM.