

## MINUTES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### SMITHVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Smithville Independent School District was held on Monday, March 23, 2026 beginning at 6:00 PM at the Smithville ISD Administrative Building PO Box 479, 901 N.E. 6th Street Smithville, Texas 78957.

**Members present:** Grant Gutierrez, Chelsa Vinklarek, Chris Hinnant, Josh Magden, Candice Parsons, Bryan Jones

**Members absent:** Michael Hancock

**Others present:** Holly Brockman, Lindsey Saunders, Amanda Hudspeth, Angie Westerfield, Molly Cox, Leann Johnson, Mindie Elrod, Stephen Gasir, Michelle LeDoux, Brandee Martinez, Stacy Tiner, Tracy Johnson, Karina Andrade, Juan Andrade, Ashley Marquez, Kristen Sinay, Elizabeth Magden, Paula Miller, Renee Segura, Aidan Cox, Candy Biehle, Richard Cox, Zack Harris, Whitney Brown, Misty Vasquez, Bethany Logan, Kelly Dworacyzk, Richard Lowery, Molley Ealy and Liza Rios

**Call to Order** - The Board President called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**Roll Call** - The Board President or designee will call the roll of members. Michael Hancock was absent.

**Student Led Pledge of Allegiance** - Students from Smithville Elementary who have received the most Tiger Tokens for the month lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those students were:

- 1st Grade: Maysen Alamillo
- 2nd Grade: Brooke Andrus, Evelyn Johnson
- 3rd Grade: Alexandria Risinger, Solomon Elrod, Landon Harper
- 4th Grade: Julieta Andrade-Soto

#### **Board Recognitions**

Staff Recognition – The TIGER award is a quarterly recognition program for staff who go above and beyond and demonstrate service to others. Tiger Award Recipients for this quarter include:

- Brown Primary - Renee Segura
- SES - Michelle Ledoux
- SJHS - Molly Cox
- SHS - Kelly Dworacyzk
- Central Administration - Whitney Brown

Community Recognition - Mr. Richard Lowery – The District recognized Mr. Lowery for the countless hours of service, dedicated effort, and significant impact that he makes on the students and staff of Smithville ISD through the gardening program.

**Outstanding Students for the Nine Weeks** – Each nine-weeks the middle school and high school faculties select an outstanding student from their respective campus. Students are rated on criteria including grades, honesty, enthusiasm, cooperation with teachers and their peers, class participation and leadership.

The outstanding students for the third nine-weeks from SHS are Rosalyn Martinez and Rafael Castelan Jaimes (absent), both twelfth graders. Rosalyn is the daughter of Samuel and Brandee Martinez and Rafael is the son of Celestina Jaimes.

The outstanding students for the third nine-weeks from SJHS are Rose Martinez (absent) and Harrison James Sebert-Lan, both sixth graders. Rose is the daughter of Adriana Martinez and Harrison is the son of Maria Sebert.

**Smithville Elementary Tiger of the Month** – Smithville Elementary School is excited to celebrate outstanding students with the "Tiger of the Month" recognition. Elementary staff nominate students who exhibit characteristics such as kindness, strong character, and helpfulness. Each month, one exceptional student is honored by the campus, recognized at the school board meeting, and will receive a special yard sign to proudly display at home. The Tiger of the Month for March 2026 is Evelyn Johnson, 2nd grader in Ms. Halter's class. Congratulations Evelyn!

**SkillsUSA – Plumbing** - Students Jose Soto (absent) and Hunter Scoggins were named co-champions at the SkillsUSA District 10 competition in the plumbing category and will advance to state competition. They were joined by sponsor Ryan Moerbe.

**Destination Imagination** – The SISD Third Grade Destination Imagination Team, "The Musketeers", recently earned first place and are advancing to the state competition. Their sponsor is Jackie Tucker.

**Public Communications** – There were no communications from the public at this meeting.

**Consent Agenda** – Josh Magden moved to approve consent agenda items 1 through 7 as presented, with a second from Candice Parsons, the vote passed 6-0.

1. Minutes
2. Financial Statements
3. Investment Report
4. State Aid Comparison - Budgeted vs. Earned

5. Earned vs. TEA Payments
6. Tax Collection Report
7. Financial Report

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Superintendent's Report** - The Superintendent updated the Board on important issues pertaining to the District including:

- Campus Teachers of the Year were announced earlier on this day
- Tiger Band Disney Trip was a success
- Girls' State Powerlifting Competition results
- State UIL CX Debate Competition results
- Tiger Trons won the Belton District competition and compete next on April 3-4 in Dripping Springs
- Tiger Theater One Act Play earned first place at District and competes in Bi-District on March 26 in Navasota at 12 pm
- An opportunity to review and provide feedback on the proposed Health & Wellness Curriculum is currently open through April 7, 2026
- School Holiday on April 3
- PreK-Kinder Roundup at Brown Primary on April 9 from 8 am - 12 pm
- Jamboree, April 9-11
- Election of Place 5, Region 13 Board of Directors

**Receive an Update from the District's Financial Advisor** - Chris Allen, the District's Financial Advisor with RBC, discussed SISD's current debt service outlook, as well as a possible refunding of a portion of the remaining debt from the 2017 series bond.

**Consideration and Discussion Regarding Budget Development for Fiscal Year 2027** -SISD Business Manager, Mrs. Stacy Tiner, provided an update on the current budget, as well as discussed proposed priorities, processes and a timeline for the development of the 2026-27 budget.

**Strategic Plan Update: Priority 3 - Stakeholder Satisfaction and Engagement** – Assistant Superintendent Dr. Bethany Logan and District Communications Officer Lindsey Saunders, provided an update on Priority 3 of the SISD Strategic Plan, including parent and family engagement, community partnerships, and consistent communication.

**Received an Update on the SISD Gifted & Talented Program** - Dr. Logan, provided an overview and update on the SISD GT Program, including the identification and qualification process, services, and supports for Gifted and Talented students.

**Tentative Future Agenda Items** – Items planned for the April Agenda are:

- Board Recognitions
- Superintendent's Report
- SISD Strategic Plan Update on Priority 4: Fiscal & Operational Systems
- Report of Board Member Continuing Education Hours
- Consider Approval of a Parameter Order for the Refunding of 2017 Bond Funds
- Personnel
- Approval of Library Materials
- Approval of Alternate Schedule for Bilingual Summer School

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Approval of New Contractual Personnel** – The following individual(s) are recommended, by Superintendent Dr. Ealy, for a probationary Chapter 21 Teacher contract for 2026-27:

- Mike Erickson, Culinary Teacher at SHS

Chelsa Vinklerek moved to approve employment of Mr. Erickson as presented with a second from Candice Parsons and the motion passed 6-0

**Approval of Contract Extensions for 2026-27** – In accordance with Board Policy DC [Local], the Superintendent has the authority to make recommendations to the Board regarding the selection of all contractual personnel. Candice Parsons moved to approve the contract's extensions as presented. Chris Hinnant seconded and the vote passed 6-0.

**Consider Approval for the Award of an RFP for Contracted Custodial Services** – A Request for Proposal (RFP) for custodial services was recently conducted, where responses were solicited beginning on February 4, 2026 and proposals were due on March 3, 2026. The committee evaluated the responses using a scoring matrix and Mrs. Stacy Tiner presented its recommendation for the custodial services contract. Josh Magden moved to approve the contract award of an RFP to IQS with a second from Chris Hinnant and the vote passed 6-0.

**Approve a Purchase in Excess of \$50,000 for Two White Fleet Vehicles for Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities** – In accordance with Board Policy CH(LOCAL), any single, budgeted purchase of goods or services that costs \$50,000 or more, regardless of whether the goods or services are competitively purchased, shall require Board approval before a transaction may take place.

Two aging white fleet vehicles are being recommended for replacement, including a 2014 Suburban and 2013 8-passenger van. The purchase of a 12 Passenger Van and Suburban for extracurricular and co-curricular activities would help ensure that our students and staff have safe and reliable transportation to competitions and events, and increase the capacity of those

traveling by van. This purchase will be made using general funds via the Buyboard purchasing co-operative.

Candice Parsons moved to approve, seconded by Chris Hinnant and the vote passed 6-0.

**Consider Approval for the Award of HVAC RFP #63629** – A Request for Proposal (RFP) for HVAC replacements was recently conducted, where responses were solicited using BuyBoard beginning on February 6, 2026, and proposals were due on March 4, 2026. One bid was received from Rabroker in the amount of \$539,353 for the replacement of nine HVAC systems including:

- Smithville High School - Three 15-ton split-system units, which were originally installed in 2002 and are located in the gym/locker room area
- Smithville Elementary - Four 20-ton rooftop units and One 10-ton unit, which were originally purchased in 1995 and 1996 and located in the SES Cafetorium
- Brown Primary - One 12.5-ton split-system unit, which was originally purchased in 1996 and is located in the PreK hallway

Chelsa Vinklarek moved to approve the proposal by Rabroker, with a second from Bryan Jones and the vote passed 6-0.

**Approval of Budget Amendments** – Mrs. Tiner presented proposed budget amendments addressing approvals for the purchase of white fleet vehicles and HVAC replacements. Chelsa Vinklarek moved to approve the budget amendment, Josh Magden seconded and the vote passed 6-0.

**Approve the Annual Certification of Instructional Materials** – The Board considered approval of the Annual Certification of Instructional Materials as required by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) presented by Dr. Logan. This certification confirms that Smithville ISD has reviewed and adopted instructional materials that meet state standards and are free from factual errors, ensuring all students have access to high-quality, TEA-compliant resources in support of the district's educational programs. Candice Parsons moved to approve, Chris Hinnant seconded, and the vote passed 6-0.

**Renewal of a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Texas System for Continued Student Access to T-CHAT Services** - T-CHAT (Texas Child Health Access Through Telemedicine) provides pediatric and adolescent behavioral health services via telehealth for Smithville ISD students whose parents choose to opt into services provided by The University of Texas at Austin on behalf of Dell Medical School. Dr. Logan presented the renewal. Josh Magden moved to approve the MOU, seconded by Candice Parsons, and the vote passed 6-0.

**Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Ascension Seton Hospital** – Dr. Ealy requested that this item be pulled from the agenda and placed on a future agenda for consideration and discussion. No discussion was held or action taken.

**Consideration, Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Date of the June 2026**

**Regular Board Meeting** – With prior action, the Board set the date of the June 2026 meeting for Monday, June 15. Due to a conflict in schedules, the Board considered action on a possible change of date for this meeting. Dr. Ealy presented options to the board for discussion. Chris Hinnant moved to approve changing the regular meeting from June 15 to June 8, 2026, seconded by Josh Magden and the vote passed 6-0.

**CLOSED SESSION** – The Board of Trustees entered closed session at 7:46 p.m. and returned at 8:43 with no official action taken.

**Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, Consultation with an Attorney Regarding Legal Matters Related to Construction Issues at Smithville Junior High School** – This Item was discussed in closed session and no action was taken when the board returned to open session.

**Adjournment** – Josh Magden moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. with a second from Chris Hinnant and after a 6-0 vote, the board meeting was adjourned.

The notice for this meeting was posted in compliance with the Texas Open Meeting Act on Tuesday, March 10, 2026.