

Notice of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Comal ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Comal ISD will be held August 16, 2021, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Comal ISD, Support Services Building, 1404 IH 35 North, New Braunfels, TX 78130.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on this meeting notice. Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Public Comment/Audience Participation 3
3. Board President's Comments 4
Presenter: Jason York
4. Superintendent Reports and Board Information
 - A. Prepare Classrooms and Facilities for Learning
 1. 2021 - 2022 Budget and Tax Rate Discussion and Public Hearing (Any taxpayer of the District may be present and participate in the public hearing) 5
Presenter: Crystal Hermesch
5. Action Item
 - A. Consideration and Approval of 2021 - 2022 Tax Rate Adoption 6
Presenter: Crystal Hermesch
 - B. Consider and Possible Approval and Adoption of an Order Calling a Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election under Section 26.08(a) of the Property Tax Code 7
Presenter: Steve Stanford
 - C. Consideration and Approval of an Order Calling a Bond Election 9
Presenter: Steve Stanford
6. Closed Session Pursuant to Sections 551.071 thru 551.082 of the Texas Government Code
 - A. Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071 thru 551.082, consider and discuss employment, appointment, and assignment or promotion of personnel, and resignations and retirement
 - B. Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.072, discuss the purchase, exchange, sale, lease or value of property, in addition consider purchase of land located within District for potential use as a future school site
7. Action Items
 - A. Consider and Possible Approval on Contractual Personnel as Recommended by the Superintendent: Employment, Appointment, Assignment, or Promotion of Personnel; and Resignations and Retirements 10
 - B. Consider Purchase of Approximately 2.42 Acres of Improved Land Located at 19887 FM 2252, Garden Ridge, Texas 78266
Presenter: David Andersen

If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapters D and E or Texas Government Code section 418.183(f). Before any

closed meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in open meeting. [See BEC(LEGAL)]

Notice for this meeting was posted in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act on Thursday, August 12, 2021, on or before 5:00pm

For the Board of Trustees

COMAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Subject: **Audience Participation**

Date: August 16, 2021

Administrator Responsible/Position: **Jason York, Board President**

A. Purpose of Agenda Item:

Information Only

Action Needed

Receive Input

B. Authority for This Action:

Local Policy BED

Law or Rule

N/A

The Board encourages comments from citizens of the District or from District employees.

Policy BED local states that audience participation at a Board meeting is limited to the public comment portion of the meeting designated for that purpose. At all other times during a Board meeting, the audience shall not enter into discussion or debate on matters being considered by the Board, unless requested by the presiding officer. An open forum will be conducted at each regular monthly meeting.

Persons who wish to participate must submit the Audience Participation form to the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins and shall indicate the topic about which they wish to speak. **Forms will not be accepted after the meeting begins.**

Citizens may be provided three minutes. Delegations of more than three persons shall appoint one person to address the Board. If any person other than the appointed spokesperson of a Delegation wants to speak, they may not appear at the lectern as part of a Delegation but must sign up on a separate Audience participation form before the meeting and may only approach the lectern when their name is called.

The Board shall not deliberate or decide regarding any subject that is not included on our agenda for tonight's meeting. If an issue mentioned is listed on tonight's agenda, the Board will defer discussion until the appropriate time during the meeting.

The presiding officer may:

- 1) Direct the speaker to the appropriate complaint policy
 - Employee complaints: DGBA
 - Student or parent complaints: FNG
 - Public complaints: GF
- 2) Provide factual responses to questions raised
- 3) Ask clarifying questions
- 4) Request that the subject of the comment be placed on the agenda of a later meeting when the Board may then take action on the issue raised by the speaker

COMAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Subject: **President's Comments**

Date: August 16, 2021

Administrator Responsible/Position: **Jason York, Board President**

A. Purpose of Agenda Item:

Information Only

Action Needed

Receive Input

During this portion of the meeting, Board President Jason York will provide an overview of the agenda and discuss the process that will be followed during tonight's meeting.

COMAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date: August 16, 2021

Subject: 2021-2022 Budget and Tax Rate Discussion and Public Hearing

Administrator Responsible/Position: Crystal Hermes, Chief Financial Officer

A. Purpose of Agenda Item:

Information Only Action Needed Receive Input

B. Authority for This Action:

Local Policy Law or Rule N/A
Texas Education Code, Section 44.004, 44.031, CH (Legal), CH (Local)

C. Strategic Objective, Goal, or Need Addressed:

Strategic Plan District/Campus
Improvement Plan Other

Goal #5: Allocate resources in the most effective manner to maximize student achievement.

D. Summary:

Previous board action relating to this item: July 29, 2021

Future action anticipated: Annually

Background information: A public meeting will be held as required under Education Code 44.004 to discuss the proposed 2021-2022 tax rates. The 2021-2022 budgets were approved on June 24, 2021 along with the compensation plans.

E. Comments Received:

ELT DEIC Support Staff AC Teacher AC Other
All agenda items are reviewed by Superintendent’s Executive Leadership Team.

F. Administrative Recommendation: The administration recommends that the Board receive information on the proposed 2021-2022 tax rates and conduct a public hearing as required.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost:

Amount: Approx. \$8.9M (7 pennies)

Budget Bond Grant/Special Funds Other

H. Action: No action required.

COMAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Subject: 2021-2022 Tax Rate Adoption

Date: August 16, 2021

Administrator Responsible/Position: Crystal Hermesch, Chief Financial Officer

A. Purpose of Agenda Item:

Information Only Action Needed Receive Input

B. Authority for This Action:

Local Policy Law or Rule N/A
Texas Education Code 44.001 – 44.006

C. Strategic Objective, Goal, or Need Addressed:

Strategic Plan District/Campus Improvement Plan Other

Goal #5 – Allocate resources in the most effective manner to maximize student achievement.

D. Summary:

Previous board action relating to this item: September 29, 2020

Future action anticipated: Annually in September

Background information: Certified property values were submitted to TEA prior to August 1 to set the district's Tier I tax rate within the limits of House Bill 3. The M&O tax rate is a combination of the Tier I rate of \$0.8220 and the Tier II rate of \$0.12 for a total M&O tax rate of \$0.9420. The I&S tax rate is \$0.35 for a total tax rate of \$1.2920. The proposed tax rate is \$0.0163 more than the rate last year.

E. Comments Received:

ELT DEIC Support Staff AC Teacher AC Other
All agenda items are reviewed by Superintendent's executive leadership team.

F. Administrative Recommendation:

The administration recommends a tax rate of \$1.2920 made up of \$0.9420 for Maintenance and Operations and \$0.35 for Interest and Sinking.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost:

Amount:

Budget Bond Grant/Special Funds Other

H. Action:

Motion by _____, second by _____
to approve/disapprove/postpone that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of an ordinance to set the tax rate at \$1.2920 made up of \$0.9420 for Maintenance and Operations and \$0.35 for Interest and Sinking. **This tax rate will raise more taxes for Maintenance and Operations than last year's tax rate.**

FOR: J. York, M. Ross, T. Hennessee, M. Bartlett, C. Biasatti, R. Garner, C. Mueller
AGAINST: J. York, M. Ross, T. Hennessee, M. Bartlett, C. Biasatti, R. Garner, C. Mueller

MOTION CARRIED/DENIED/POSTPONED

COMAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Subject: Adoption of an Order Calling a VATRE Election

Date: August 16, 2021

Administrator Responsible/Position: Steve Stanford, Assistant Superintendent, Communications

A. Purpose of Agenda Item:

- Information and Action Action Needed Receive Input

B. Authority for This Action:

- Local Policy Law or Rule N/A

Following the Board’s second public hearing for adoption of a tax rate, the Board adopted a tax rate for tax year 2021-2022 that exceeds the District’s voter-approval tax rate. Under Section 26.08(a) of the Texas Tax Code, if the governing body of a school district adopts a tax rate that exceeds the district’s voter-approval tax rate, the registered voters of the district at an election held for that purpose **must** determine whether to approve the adopted tax rate. As required by Section 28.08(b) of the Tax Code, the Board is required to order that the election be held in the school district on the next uniform election date prescribed by Section 41.001 of the Election Code that occurs after the date of the election order, which will be November 2, 2021. Under Section 3.005(c) of the Election Code, the Board must call the election not later than the 78th day before Election Day. **Thus, today is the deadline for calling the election.**

C. Strategic Objective, Goal, or Need Addressed:

- Strategic Plan District/Campus Improvement Plan Other (Board policy)

D. Summary:

Previous board action relating to this item:

Future action anticipated: Annually for trustee elections

Background information: The District may not impose property taxes in any year until the Board has adopted a tax rate for that year and set it out in an ordinance, resolution or order. The Board has now determined its needs for the budget year and has now adopted a tax rate for 2021-2022 that exceeds the District’s voter-approval tax rate. However, the Board, by resolution dated June 24, 2021, pledged to the voters of the District its commitment to use the amount by which the tax rate exceeds the voter-approval tax rate for the 2021-2022 tax year exclusively for employee salaries, wages, and other employment benefits and for addressing school staff relief and not for any other purpose.

In addition, the State of Texas will be holding elections on eight (8) proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution that will appear on the November 2 ballot. Accordingly, the District will need to be in a separate joint election with each of the five (5) counties in which Comal ISD lies, namely, Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Hays, and Kendall Counties.

E. Comments Received:

- ELT DEIC Support Staff AC Teacher AC Other

All agenda items are reviewed by Superintendent’s Executive Leadership Team.

F. Administrative Recommendation: The administration recommends approval of the Election Order calling a Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election or “VATRE” in the District.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost: Budget Bond **Amount:** Grant/Special Funds Other

H. Action:
Motion by _____, second by _____
“I move to *approve/ disapprove/postpone* the adoption of the Election Order, calling an election in accordance with Section 26.08 of the Tax Code, ordering a Districtwide election on November 2, 2021, for registered voters to determine whether to approve the adopted tax rate for maintenance and operation of the District, as presented.”

FOR J. York, M. Ross, T. Hennessee, M. Bartlett, C. Biasatti, R. Garner, C. Mueller
AGAINST: J. York, M. Ross, T. Hennessee, M. Bartlett, C. Biasatti, R. Garner, C. Mueller

MOTION CARRIED/DENIED/POSTPONED

COMAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date: August 16, 2021

Subject: **Consideration and Approval of an Order Calling a Bond Election**

Administrator Responsible/Position: **Steve Stanford, Assistant Superintendent, Communications**

A. Purpose of Agenda Item:

- Information and Action Action Needed Receive Input

B. Authority for This Action:

- Local Policy Law or Rule N/A
Texas Education Code §§ 45.001, 45.003 and Board Policy CCA (Legal)

C. Strategic Objective, Goal, or Need Addressed:

- Strategic Plan District/Campus Improvement Plan Other (Board policy)

D. Summary:

Previous board action relating to this item: The School Board has been updated by district staff and the Board has had discussions in several meetings regarding the long-range district needs.

Future action anticipated: If the bond election is called by the Board tonight, election contracts and agreements with the counties involved will be brought to the Board for approval. If bond propositions are approved by the voters, an order or multiple orders will be brought back to the Board to authorize the issuance of bonds for voter approved purposes.

Background information: District staff has presented information and the Board has had several discussions over the last several months to address the growing enrollment and other infrastructure needs of the district and the financial implications of the recommended bond election. This process has led to a recommended bond package for November 2, 2021.

E. Comments Received:

- ELT DEIC Support Staff AC Teacher AC Other
All agenda items are reviewed by Superintendent’s Executive Leadership Team.

F. Administrative Recommendation: The administration recommends approval of the Election Order calling a Bond Election” in the District to be held on November 2, 2021.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost:

- Budget Bond Grant/Special Funds Other

Amount:

H. Action:

Motion by _____, second by _____

“I move to approve/ disapprove/postpone the adoption of the Bond Election Order, calling a bond election in accordance with Section 45.001, Texas Education Code, ordering a Districtwide bond election on November 2, 2021, for registered voters to determine whether to approve four bond propositions, as presented.”

FOR J. York, M. Ross, T. Hennessee, M. Bartlett, C. Biasatti, R. Garner, C. Mueller
AGAINST: J. York, M. Ross, T. Hennessee, M. Bartlett, C. Biasatti, R. Garner, C. Mueller

MOTION CARRIED/DENIED/POSTPONED

COMAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date: August 16, 2021

Subject: Consider and Take Action on Contractual Personnel as Recommended by the Superintendent: Employment, Appointment, Assignment, or Promotion of Personnel; and, Resignations and Retirements

Administrator Responsible/Position: Andrew Kim, Superintendent

A. Purpose of Agenda Item:

- Information Only, Action Needed, Receive Input

B. Authority for This Action:

- Local Policy, Law or Rule, N/A, DC, DCA, DCB, DCE, Texas Education Code, Chapter 21

C. Strategic Objective, Goal, or Need Addressed:

- Strategic Plan, District/Campus Improvement Plan, Other, Goals 3 & 4

D. Summary:

- Previous board action relating to this item: Ongoing; monthly, Background information: Individuals on the lists provided are presented for consideration — Employments, Appointments, Assignments or Promotions; and, Resignations and Retirements

E. Comments Received:

- ELT, DEIC, Support Staff AC, Teacher AC, Other, All agenda items are reviewed by Superintendent’s Executive Leadership Team.

F. Administrative Recommendation: The superintendent recommends approval of employment, appointment, assignment, or promotion of personnel; and, resignations and retirements as presented.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost:

- Budget, Bond, Grant/Special Funds, Other, Amount: N/A

H. Action:

Motion by _____, second by _____
“I move to approve/disapprove/postpone the Superintendent’s personnel recommendations as presented in closed session.”

FOR J. York, M. Ross, T. Hennessee, M. Bartlett, C. Biasatti, R. Garner, C. Mueller
AGAINST: J. York, M. Ross, T. Hennessee, M. Bartlett, C. Biasatti, R. Garner, C. Mueller

MOTION CARRIED/DENIED/POSTPONED