



**Emergency Board Meeting Agenda
Thursday, March 19, 2020
by Videoconference or Teleconference
This meeting has no physical address, see details below.**

6:00 PM

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.125 and 551.045 that due to the threat of community spread of COVID-19, an Emergency Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Leander Independent School District will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2020, beginning at 6:00 PM.

In accordance with the waiver to certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act issued by Governor Greg Abbot on March 16, 2020, and in the interest of avoiding large gatherings and promoting social distancing during this pandemic, one or more trustees may participate by teleconference or videoconference.

Please note that there is no physical location for this meeting in order to ensure safe social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic, and it is only accessible via live stream at <http://bit.ly/0319LISDmeeting>.

Citizen comments will be limited to topics on the agenda. Individuals wishing to address the Board of Trustees must signup between 5:30 and 6:00 PM at <https://forms.gle/yC3BwsA3jTxvdxhG8>.

The notice for this meeting was posted in compliance with the Texas Open Meeting Act on March 19, 2020 at 4:40 PM.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order 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 TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

2. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizen comments will be limited to topics on the agenda. Individuals wishing to address the Board of Trustees must signup between 5:30 and 6:00 PM at <https://forms.gle/yC3BwsA3jTxvdxhG8>.

3. DISCUSSION

A. Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Update

4. ACTION ITEMS

A. Resolution Regarding Delegation of Authority During Emergency

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5. CLOSED SESSION

A. Texas Government Code 551.071: consultation with attorney regarding, pending or contemplated litigation, and/or attorney client privileged matter

B. Texas Government Code 551.0821: deliberation regarding matters whereby personally identifiable information regarding one or more students will be disclosed

6. ACTION PURSUANT TO CLOSED SESSION

7. ADJOURNMENT

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(LLEGAL)]

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE LEANDER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the Leander Independent School District Board of Trustees (Board) recognizes that officials in Williamson and Travis County have declared an emergency regarding the potential spread of coronavirus/COVID-19 (hereafter “COVID-19”) and that the territory included in Leander Independent School District is within the areas where an emergency has been declared;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas declared a statewide emergency, and, later that same day, the President of the United States declared a national emergency regarding COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that COVID-19 is an unforeseen and unavoidable emergency of urgent public necessity, that the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a pandemic, and that additional emergency declarations may follow in the coming days and weeks;

WHEREAS, the Board has a substantial public interest in protecting the health and safety of its students, staff, and community and therefore desires to ensure that the school district and community are prepared to the fullest extent possible to protect the health and safety of students, staff, and community in light of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Board knows our teachers, our life changers, are facing enormous obstacles in the honorable calling of teaching our Leander ISD students;

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to retain its employees, reduce turnover, increase morale, help employees focus on work-related matters while at work, and facilitate the return to duty of employees if schools are closed and believes that an additional public purpose exists in doing so;

WHEREAS, the Board, in a show of solidarity and support of our Superintendent, administrative staff, teachers and all the district’s varied support staff, wishes to reduce any unnecessary hurdles to carrying out the critical functions of the district; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes the public purposes described above are fulfilled by efficiently and effectively making certain delegations, as described more fully herein, to the Superintendent to address this ever-changing emergency situation in the best interest of the health, safety, and well-being of its students, staff, community, and the citizenship at-large.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Board of Trustees of the Leander Independent School District finds a substantial public purpose exists in protecting the health and safety of its students, staff, and community and therefore in ensuring that the school district and community are prepared to the fullest extent possible to protect the health and safety of students, staff, and community in light of COVID-19. In furtherance of the public purposes so stated in this Resolution, and in the event that a regularly scheduled or emergency board meeting cannot be held, and with prompt notification to the Board of Trustees, the Board of Trustees of the Leander Independent School District makes the following delegations to the Superintendent in order to efficiently and effectively prepare the school district in response to the declarations of emergency announced by Williamson County, Travis County, and The State of Texas, as well as

in preparation for the potential declarations of emergencies by other local, state, and/or national and international officials:

1. The authority to act in the place of the Board under Board Policy DEA(LOCAL) and thus make all decisions regarding payment of employees during an emergency closure, to implement the provisions of Board Policy DEA(LOCAL), and to make determinations regarding the purpose and parameters of any such payments;
2. The authority to make decisions regarding the compensation of exempt and non-exempt employees during an emergency closure, including premium wage pay to certain non-exempt employees, and to implement those decisions;
3. The authority to alter the Leander ISD 2019-2020 school calendar by changing and/or adding school/instructional hours and work/school days as necessitated by any emergency closure or related concerns;
4. The authority to create guidelines and make determinations regarding absences, leave time, leave days, and compensation of any employee who is quarantined as a result of COVID-19 and/or who tests positive for COVID-19 and who presents appropriate medical documentation regarding themselves and/or an immediate family member, in the sole discretion of the Superintendent or designee(s), in compliance with Texas and federal law;
5. The authority to seek any necessary waivers from the Texas Education Agency without further action of the Board of Trustees regarding missed instructional days, low attendance, or any matters related to the emergency closures as part of this Resolution;
6. The authority to declare a catastrophe and take all actions as appropriate in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 552.233 regarding temporary suspension of the Texas Public Information Act;
7. The authority to procure, negotiate, and execute contracts for goods and services that are necessary to mitigate, prevent, restore, and repair damage caused to Leander ISD equipment, personal property, and facilities or to protect the safety of Leander Independent School District students and staff, given that the emergency of COVID-19 and its potential spread constitutes an unforeseen emergency/matter of urgent public necessity, and the delays posed by competitive procurement of contracts necessary to restore, replace, and/or repair equipment, personal property, and/or school facilities will prevent or substantially impair the conduct of classes or other essential school activities;
8. In the event other waivers requiring immediate action are needed, the Superintendent is authorized to take said action and to submit/apply for those waivers in accordance with guidance and instructions from the national and state authorities and/or agencies; and
9. The authority to contract and expend funds on crisis communication assistance if necessary during the course of the COVID-19 Pandemic crisis.

Adopted on this the 19th day of March, 2020, by the Leander ISD Board of Trustees.

Trish Bode
President, Board of Trustees

Grace Barber Jordan
Secretary, Board of Trustees