Notice of Regular Meeting
Board of Trustees
August 25, 2026

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on August 25, 2026, beginning at 6:30 PM, in the Administration Building, 400 East Loop 340, Waco, TX 76705.

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. For more information about public comment, see Policy BED. Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

I. Board Goals -- Board President
II. Roll Call, Establishment of Quorum, and Call to Order -- Board President
III. Opening Ceremony -- Board President
IV. Consider Listing of Agenda Items -- Board President
V. Public Hearing to Discuss the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget and Proposed Tax Rate -- Mrs. Jamie White
VI. Recognition Items -- Board President and Dr. Sharon M. Shields
VII. Public Participation -- Board President and Dr. Sharon M. Shields
VIII. Special Reports -- Dr. Sharon M. Shields
- A. Superintendent's Report -- Dr. Sharon M. Shields
  - 1. Student Enrollment Update -- Dr. Sharon M. Shields
  - 2. Calendar of Events -- Dr. Sharon M. Shields
  - 3. 2025-2026 Accountability Report -- Dr. Sharon M. Shields and Mrs. Denise Bell
  - 4. Construction Updates -- Mr. Todd Gooden
- B. Summer Leadership Institute (SLI) Reports -- Board of Trustees

IX. Consider Consent Agenda Items -- Board President
- A. Minutes for Meetings Held -- Ms. Betty Bentura
- B. Consider the McLennan County Resolution Request for Extracurricular Status for 4-H -- Dr. Sharon M. Shields
- C. Consider Monthly Tax Collection Recap and Report -- Mrs. Jamie White
- D. Consider Quarterly Investment Report -- Mrs. Jamie White
- E. Consider Budget Amendments -- Mrs. Jamie White
- F. Consider COOP Purchasing Vendors -- Mrs. Jamie White
- G. Consider Conversion of Business Information Software -- Mrs. Jamie White
- H. Consider Public Funds Investment Policy Renewal -- Mrs. Jamie White
- I. Consider Student Handbook -- Ms. Sandra Lopez
- J. Consider Job Descriptions and Paygrade Charts -- Dr. Shaunte' Scott

X. Action and Discussion Items -- Board President
- A. Consider Monthly Budget Analysis Report -- Mrs. Jamie White
- B. Consider Official Budget for 2026-2027 -- Mrs. Jamie White
- C. Consider Tax Rate Ordinance for 2026-2027 -- Mrs. Jamie White
- D. Board of Trustees Standard Operating Procedures Review -- Mr. Raymond Koon and Dr. Sharon M. Shields

E. Consider Teacher and Professional Employee Contract Recommendations -- Dr. Shaunte' Scott

XI. Closed Meeting -- Board President

XII. Adjournment -- Board President

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, Texas 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 TASB Policy BEC(LEGAL)]

____

For the Board of Trustees

La Vega Independent School District

House Bill 3 Board Goals 2024-2029

The percentage of 3rd grade students scoring meets grade level standard or above on the STAAR math assessment will increase from 25% in June of 2024 to 58% by June 2029.

The percentage of 3rd grade students scoring meets grade level standard or above on the STAAR RLA assessment will increase from 38% in June of 2024 to 55% by June 2029.

The percentage of students that meet the criteria for CCMR will increase from 68% in August 2024 to 90% by August 2029.

ROLL CALL, ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM, AND CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at ________________________ m.

Board of Trustees Members Present: ____

____

Board of Trustees Members Absent: ____

____

School Personnel Present: ____

____

____

____

Others Present: ____

____

____

BOARD PRESIDENT:

THE OPENING CEREMONY CONSISTING OF THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

TO THE AMERICAN FLAG AND TO THE TEXAS FLAG WILL BE PROVIDED BY:

____

(NAME, TITLE, POSITION, LVISD CAMPUS/DEPT.)

PLEDGE TO UNITED STATES FLAG. I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

PLEDGE TO TEXAS FLAG: "Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible."

APPROVE LISTING OF AGENDA ITEMS

Presented for:
Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
Dr. Sharon M. Shields and Board President

Background Information:
Board Members are asked to review the listing of agenda items.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A

Administrative Recommendation:
N/A

Motion: ____________________

Second: ____________________

For: ____________________

Against ____________________

Abstain: ____________________

PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS THE 2025-2026 BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

Presented for:
Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☒

Contact Person:
Jamie Shaver

Background Information:
The Board set the public hearing on the 2025-2026 budget and tax rate for August 26, 2025. At the public hearing, any taxpayer in the District may be present and participate in the meeting.

The Board may hear public comments, discuss, and then vote to adopt the budget and tax rate, all in the same public meeting.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A

Administrative Recommendation:
N/A

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

Recognition Items

Presented for:
Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒ Consent Agenda Item ☐

Supporting documents:
None ☒ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
Board President

Background Information:
This portion of the board meeting is reserved to recognize students, staff, and Board Members for exemplary accomplishments beyond the District Level.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A

Administrative Recommendation:
N/A

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Presented for:
Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:
None ☒ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person(s):
Board President and Dr. Sharon M. Shields

Background Information:
LVISD POLICY BED (LOCAL) -- Public Participation: At regular meetings the Board shall allot 30 minutes to hear persons who desire to make comments to the Board. Persons who wish to participate in this portion of the meeting shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins and shall indicate the topic about which they wish to speak.

Limit on Participation: Audience participation is limited to the 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 recognized by the presiding officer. No presentation shall exceed five (5) minutes. Delegations of more than five persons shall appoint one person to present their views before the Board.

Board's Response—Specific factual information or recitation of existing policy may be furnished in response to inquiries, but the Board shall not deliberate or decide regarding any subject that is not included on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting.

Complaints and Concerns—Complaints and concerns for which other resolution channels are provided shall be directed through those channels. The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether a person who wishes to address the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively. If not, the person shall be directed to the appropriate policy to seek resolution before bringing the matter to the Board at a subsequent meeting.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A

Administrative Recommendation:
N/A

SPECIAL REPORTS

Presented for:
Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
N/A

Background Information:
This portion of the meeting is to provide special reports to the Board of Trustees.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A

Administrative Recommendation:
This report is being provided for informational purposes.

Superintendent's Report

1. **Recognition of State Mandated Dates**
2. **Student Enrollment Report**
3. **Calendar Events**
4. **Construction Update**

Presented for:
Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☒

Contact Person:
Dr. Sharon M. Shields

Background Information:
This portion of the board meeting is reserved to update the Board of Trustees on calendar and miscellaneous items.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A

Administrative Recommendation:
N/A

Summer Leadership Institute (SLI) Report:

Presented for:
Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:
None ☒ Attached Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
Board of Trustees

Background Information:
The Board of Trustees attended the Summer Leadership Institute and are given the opportunity to discuss what they took away from the training received.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A
Administrative Recommendation: N/A

Motion: ______________________________

Second: ______________________________

For: ______________________________

Against: ______________________________

Abstain: ______________________________

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Presented for:
Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
N/A

Background Information:
The consent agenda shall include items of a routine and/or recurring nature grouped together under one action item. For each item listed as part of a consent agenda, the Board shall be furnished with background material. All such items shall be acted upon by one vote without separate discussion, unless a Board member requests that an item be withdrawn for individual consideration. The remaining items shall be adopted under a single motion and vote.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A

Administrative Recommendation:
N/A

Motion: ____________________

Second: ____________________

For: ____________________

Against ____________________

Abstain: ____________________

Approve Minutes for Meeting(s) Held

Presented for:
Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
Ms. **Betty Bentura**

Background Information:
The Board shall prepare and retain minutes or make a tape recording of each of its open meetings. The minutes shall state the subject matter of each deliberation and shall indicate each vote, order, decision, or other action taken by the Board. The minutes or tapes are public records and shall be made available for public inspection and copying on request to the Superintendent or designee.

Fiscal Implication:
None.

Administrative Recommendation:
Board review and approval.

Motion: ______________________________

Second: ______________________________

For: ______________________________

Against: ______________________________

Abstain: ______________________________

Consider McLennan County Adjunct Faculty Agreement and the Resolution for Extracurricular Status of 4-H Organization

Presented for:
Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
Dr. Sharon M. Shields

Background Information:
See attached.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A

Administrative Recommendation:
The administration recommends approval of the resolution regarding extracurricular status of the 4-H organization and recognition of the Texas Cooperative Extension staff members as adjunct faculty members of La Vega ISD.

Motion: ______________________________

Second: ______________________________

For: ______________________________

Against: ______________________________

Abstain: ______________________________

EXTRACURRICULAR STATUS REQUEST

Request for Extracurricular Status for 4-H

MCLENNAN COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

July 24, 2025

Dr. Sharon Shields, Superintendent
La Vega ISD
400 E. Loop 340
Waco, TX 76705

Dear *Dr. Sharon Shields:*

On behalf of the 4-H members of **McLennan** County, I/we hereby respectfully request that the 4-H organization, by the attached resolution, be sanctioned as an extracurricular activity. We request the enclosed RESOLUTION be presented for consideration at the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of the ***La Vega ISD***. I/we further request that questions regarding this RESOLUTION be directed to me/us in a timely manner so that I/we may prepare and present an appropriate response so as not to delay action on this request.

Finally, I/we request that a signed copy of this RESOLUTION, along with a copy of the minutes of the Board meeting, be forwarded to me/us for my/our files.

Thank you and members of the Board of Trustees for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Madeline Makovy
CEA, 4-H & Youth Development

Dr. Shane McLellan
CEA, Ag & Natural Resources

Jerod Meurer
CEA, Natural Resources

Rachel Esquivel
CEA, Family & Community Health

Chisa Brigham
CEA, 4-H & Youth Development

Attachment: Resolution for Extracurricular Status of 4-H Organization

McLennan County Extension
4224 Cobbs Drive
Waco, Texas 76710
https://mclennan.agrilife.org/ | Tel. 254.757.5180 | Fax. 254.757.5097

EXTRACURRICULAR STATUS REQUEST

Resolution requesting Extracurricular Status for 4-H

RESOLUTION

EXTRACURRICULAR STATUS OF 4-H ORGANIZATION

Be it hereby resolved that upon this date, the duly elected Board of Trustees of the

La Vega Independent School District

meeting in public with a quorum present and certified, did adopt this resolution that recognizes the

McLennan County

County Texas 4-H Organization as approved for recognition and eligible for extracurricular status consideration under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 76.1, pertaining to extracurricular activities.

Participation by 4-H members under provisions of this resolution are subject to all rules and regulations set forth under the 19 Texas Administrative Code as interpreted by this Board and designated officials of this school district.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension will request academic eligibility for all 4-H competitive activities, regardless if a school absence is or is not required, and for non-competitive purposes when an absence is required.

Approved this__________day of_______________________, 20_______.

Board of Trustee

Superintendent

ADJUNCT FACULTY REQUEST

Cover Letter requesting Adjunct Faculty Status

MCLENNAN COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

July 24, 2025

Dr. Sharon Shields, Superintendent
La Vega ISD
400 E. Loop 340
Waco, Tx 76705

Dear *Dr. Sharon Shields:*

On behalf of the **McLennan** County Extension Staff, I/we hereby respectfully request approval of the attached Adjunct Faculty Agreement with the **La Vega** Independent School District.

The State Board of Education passed an amendment to 19 TAC§129.21 (j). Requirements for Student Attendance Accounting for State Funding Purposes allows public school students to be considered "in attendance" when participating in off-campus activities with an adjunct staff member of the school district. Section 3 of the Student Attendance Handbook states:

(1) The student is participating in an activity that is approved by the local board of school trustees and is under the direction of a member of the professional or paraprofessional staff of the school district, or an adjunct staff member who:

(A) has a minimum of a bachelor's degree; and

(B) is eligible for participation in the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.

McLennan County requests the agents listed on the enclosed Adjunct Faculty Agreement be awarded adjunct staff member status for the period of time indicated on the agreement.

I hope **La Vega** Independent School District will accept this request. Please let me know if you would like to schedule an appointment to discuss the amendment and request or if you need further information.

Thank you and members of the Board of Trustees for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Madeline Makovy
CEA, 4-H & Youth Development

Dr. Shane McLellan
CEA, Ag & Natural Resources

Jerod Meurer
CEA, Natural Resources

Rachel Esquivel
CEA, Family & Community Health

Chisa Brigham
CEA, 4-H & Youth Development

Attachment: Adjunct Faculty Agreement

ADJUNCT FACULTY REQUEST

Adjunct Faculty Agreement

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF McLennan

On this date, at a regularly scheduled and posted meeting, came the Board of Trustees of the La Vega Independent School District, hereinafter referred to as "District." A quorum having been established; the Board proceeded to consider the appointment of the herein named individual(s) as an adjunct member of the La Vega Independent School District.

Upon consideration and vote of______in favor,_______________________is hereby named as adjunct faculty member(s) of the _________________________ Independent School District subject to the following considerations and provisions of such appointment to wit:

1. This appointment shall commence on the______day of_______________, 20____and remain in effect until the _______ day of_______________, 20______.

2. This appointment will include the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service employees listed below:

NAME	TITLE	DEGREE	INSTITUTION	DATE
Madeline Makovy	CEA, 4-H & Youth Development	B.S.	Tarleton State University	2022
Dr. Shane McLellan	CEA, Agriculture & Natural Resources	Doctor of Education	Texas A&M University	2014
Jerod Meurer	CEA, Natural Resources	M.S.	Texas A&M University – Kingsville	2015
Chisa Brigham	CEA, 4-H & Youth Development	M.S.	Tarleton State University	2017
Rachel Esquivel	CEA, Family & Community Health	B.S.	Texas A&M University	2020

3. Adjunct faculty member(s) will receive no compensation, salary, or remuneration from La Vega Independent School District.

4. Adjunct faculty member(s) is and shall remain an employee, in good standing, of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

5. Adjunct faculty member(s) is and shall remain under the direct supervision of either the District Extension Administrator of District 8 or **Dr. Shane McLellan** County Extension Director.

6. Adjunct faculty member(s) shall receive all group insurance benefits, workman's compensation insurance benefits, unemployment insurance, and any and all other plans for the benefit of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service employees. District shall have no responsibility for any of such benefits or plans.

Adjunct faculty member(s) shall direct the activities and participation of students of the school district in sponsored and approved activities as designated from time to time by adjunct faculty members for which notice shall be given to School District administrative personnel. Adjunct faculty members' activities and participation with students of the School District are directed, supervised, and controlled by and through supervisory personnel of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service pursuant to the supervisory authority of the District Extension Administrator or County Extension Director. Adjunct faculty member(s) is not the employee of the School District, and School District does not nor shall not supervise, direct or control the activities and/or participation of such **Madeline Makovy, Dr. Shane McLellan, Jerod Meurer, Chisa Brigham, and Rachel Esquivel** County Extension Agent(s) who have/has been herein designated as an adjunct faculty member.

This appointment is made by the Independent School District by and through the Board of Trustees of said district for the benefit of allowing voluntary student participation in programs conducted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in recognition of the educational benefits arising from such participation and activities and/or directed by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. This appointment is made in accordance with the provisions of Section 129.21 (j)(1) of the Texas Administrative Code authorizing the school to deem such participating students in attendance for foundation school program purposes.

This appointment of the herein named **McLennan** County Extension Agent(s), **Madeline Makovy, Dr. Shane McLellan, Jerod Meurer, Chisa Brigham, and Rachel Esquivel** (Extension employee) is/are not intended nor shall be construed as a waiver of any claim or defense of sovereign or governmental immunity from liability now possessed by **La Vega** Independent School District or any of its employees, agents, officers, and/or board members in the performance of governmental functions.

Signed this_______day of_________________, 20___.

La Vega Independent School District

By: ____

Monthly Tax Collection Recap and Report

Presented for:
Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
Ms. Jamie Shaver

Background Information:
The District contracts with the McLennan County Tax Office for the collection of the current and delinquent taxes and penalty and interest on those taxes. As part of this service, the Tax Office supplies the District with a monthly cumulative summary of taxes and penalty and interest collected. Attached the Board will find the monthly tax collection recap and report prepared by the Business Office. This report has been reconciled with the summary report received from the tax office.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A

Administrative Recommendation:
It is recommended that the Board approve the Monthly Tax Collection Recap and Report as submitted.

Motion: ____________________

Second: ____________________

For: ____________________

Against: ____________________

Abstain: ____________________

Quarterly Investment Report

Presented for:
Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
Ms. Jamie Shaver

Background Information:
The Business Office prepares an investment report on a quarterly basis for the Board's review and approval. Attached is the report for the current quarter's investments.

Fiscal Implication:
None

Administrative Recommendation:
It is recommended that the Board approve the Quarterly Investment Report.

Motion: ____________________

Second: ____________________

For: ____________________

Against: ____________________

Abstain: ____________________

Consider Budget Amendments

Presented for:
Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☐ Provide Later ☐

Contact Person:
Ms. Jamie Shaver

Background Information:
Section 2.10.6 of the Financial Accountability System Resource Guide, version 14.0, dated January 2010, states that budget amendments are mandated by the state for budgeted funds reallocated from one function level, and state and/or federal project to another. These budget changes are usually the result of unexpected levels of expenditures in certain categories and must be amended in the budget for legal compliance.

All budget amendments are required to be adopted by the last day of the fiscal year. All necessary budget amendments must be formally adopted by the school board and recorded in the board minutes.

Fiscal Implication:
Budget amendments are moving from one function to another.

Administrative Recommendation:
Approve the budget amendments as presented.

Motion: ____________________

Second: ____________________

For: ____________________

Against: ____________________

Abstain: ____________________

CONSIDER RENEWAL OF ALL PURCHASING COOPS

Presented for:
Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:
None ☒ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
Jamie Shaver

Background Information:
In accordance with state purchasing requirements and District policy, the District participates in cooperative purchasing programs ("co-ops") to leverage volume pricing, ensure compliance with competitive procurement laws, and achieve cost savings on goods and services. Participation in these co-ops requires annual renewal of board approval.

Renewing all purchasing co-operatives including Choice Partners, BuyBoard, Texas Comptrollers (TEXBUY), TIPS/TAPS, US Communities, 1GPA, TXSmartBuy, The Cooperative Purchasing Network

Fiscal Implication:
Will allow La Vega to expand purchases of items without needing to go out for RFP/RFQ as well as significant cost savings.

Administrative Recommendation:
It is recommended that the board approve the list of purchasing cooperatives for 2025-2026.

Motion: ______________________________

Second: ______________________________

For: ______________________________

Against: ______________________________

Abstain: ______________________________

Consider Student Code of Conduct Update

Presented for:
Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached X Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:

Background Information:
The TASB Model Student Handbook (MSHB) is provided to Policy Service subscribers to help communicate essential information to parents and students for the school year.
The 2024-25 Model Student Handbook is copyrighted by TASB but may be reproduced by the district in the development of student handbooks at the campus or district level.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A
Administrative Recommendation:
Review changes

Motion: ______________________________

Second: ______________________________

For: ______________________________

Against: ______________________________

Abstain: ______________________________

Summary of Student Handbook and Code of Conduct Changes for 2024-2025

Topic	Page Number	Description of Change
Table of Contents	2-8	Changed page numbers and added new information
Administrative Staff	9	Updated names and positions of employees.
Support Staff	10	Updated names and positions of employees.
Campus Directory	11	Updated positions of employees.
Electronic Devices	61	Requires school districts to prohibit student use of personal communication devices during the school day. Districts may choose not to allow possession on property or to establish processes for storage of such devices during the school day. There are limited exceptions allowable for the use of the devices.

ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Presented for:
Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
N/A

Background Information:
The following items are included for board discussion and possible action.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A

Administrative Recommendation:
N/A

Monthly Budget Analysis Report

Presented for:
Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
Ms. Jamie Shaver

Background Information:
The District compiles and reports revenue and expenditure data for all funds on a monthly basis. The attached monthly budget analysis reports compare year-to-date revenue and expenditures to the same period from last fiscal year. Monthly budget analysis reports are presented for the General Operating Fund; Child Nutrition Fund; and, Debt Service Fund. The August reports are unaudited and preliminary. There are entries that will need to made that will adjust these numbers, ie. receivables, payables.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A

Administrative Recommendation:
It is recommended that the Board approve the Monthly Budget Analysis Reports as submitted.

Motion: ____________________

Second: ____________________

For: ____________________

Against: ____________________

Abstain: ____________________

CONSIDER OFFICIAL BUDGET FOR 2025-2026

Presented for:
Board action x☐ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☒

Contact Person:
Jamie Shaver

Background Information:
The Board set the public hearing on the 2025-2026 budget for August 26, 2025. At the public hearing, any taxpayer in the District may be present and participate in the meeting.

The Board may hear public comments, discuss, and then vote to adopt the budget and tax rate, all in the same public meeting.

Fiscal Implication:
Revenue and expenditures for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year

Administrative Recommendation:
It is recommended that the board approve the 2025-2026 Official Budget for General Operating, Child Nutrition, and Debt Service Fund

Motion:

Second:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

CONSIDER TAX RATE ORDINANCE FOR 2025-2026

Presented for:
Board action [x] Report/Review Only [ ]

Supporting documents:
None [ ] Attached [x] Provided Later [ ]

Contact Person:
Jamie Shaver

Background Information:

Now that the Board has approved the 2025-2026 General Operating Fund and Debt Service Fund budgets, it is time to approve the tax rate which will partially fund these budgets. The attached "Ordinance to Set Tax Rate" sets the recommended tax rates for both the General Operating Fund (Maintenance and Operations) and Debt Service Fund (Interest and Sinking). As in the past, the Ordinance contains two statements concerning maintenance and operations tax collections. The Ordinance must be referred to in the minutes of the meeting of the Board, which will state that the Ordinance was in writing and was passed by the Board; will state the rate and purpose for which the tax was levied; and will state the record vote of the Board. A signed copy of the Ordinance should be attached to and incorporated into the minutes. The rate has also been advertised in accordance with applicable laws.

Fiscal Implication:
Attached

Administrative Recommendation:
It is recommended that the board approve the 2025-2026 Tax Rate for General Operating and Debt Service Fund

Motion: __________

Second: __________

For: __________

Against: __________

Abstain: __________

RESOLUTION TO
ADOPT 2025 AD VALOREM TAX RATE

A RESOLUTION LEVYING AN ANNUAL AD VALOREM TAX FOR THE YEAR 2025 SETTING SPECIFIC TAX RATES, APPLICABLE TO ALL REAL, PERSONAL AND MIXED PROPERTY SITUATED WITHIN THE LA VEGA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT.

BE IT ORDERED by the Board of Trustees of La Vega Independent School District of McLennan County, Texas:

1. That an ad valorem tax rate for Maintenance and Operations for the general fund of $ 0.755200 per $100.00 cash valuation be and the same is hereby levied for the year 2025 on all real, personal and mixed property located and situated within the boundaries of the La Vega Independent School District.

2. That an ad valorem tax rate for Interest and Sinking for the debt service fund of $0.500000 per $100.00 cash valuation be and the same is hereby levied for the year 2025 on all real, personal and mixed property located and situated within the boundaries of the La Vega Independent School District.

3. THIS TAX RATE WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE.

4. THE TAX RATE WILL EFFECTIVELY BE RAISED BY 7.91 PERCENT AND WILL RAISE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS ON A $100,000 HOME BY APPROXIMATELY $0.00.

PASSED AND APPROVED AND EFFECTIVE THIS 26TH DAY OF AUGUST 2025.

	APPROVED	DISAPPROVED
______________________________	______________	______________
President, Board of Trustees		
______________________________	______________	______________
Secretary, Board of Trustees		

Board of Trustees Standard Operating Procedures

Presented for:
Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
Mr. Myron Ridge
Dr. Sharon M. Shields

Background Information:
The Board of Trustees' Standard Operating Procedures are attached for review. The Board must review the Standard Operating Procedures annually.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A

Administrative Recommendation:
The board members will review and discuss the Standard Operating Procedures.

La Vega ISD Board of Trustees
Standard Operating Procedures
and Code of Ethics

I. Governance

A. The La Vega ISD School Board is committed to a participative process-driven governance style. Board level decision making processes shall therefore include the following elements to whatever extent is practical and appropriate for the matter at hand.
   - Clearly stated objectives
   - Reconciliation with policy and past practices
   - Timelines
   - Community input
   - Communication plan.
   - Define the mission and goals of the district
   - Set policy and goals to accomplish the mission

B. Board members as individuals shall not exercise authority over the District, its property, or its employees. [BBE (Local)]

C. President: [BDAB (Local)]
   1. shall preside at all Board meetings
   2. appoint committees
   3. shall call special meetings
   4. sign all legal documents required by law

D. Vice-President: [BDAC (Local)]
   1. shall act in capacity of President in absence of President
   2. automatically become President of the Board if a vacancy in that office occurs

E. Secretary: [BDAD (Local)]
   1. keep, or cause to be kept, an accurate record of the proceedings of each Board meeting
   2. in the absence of the President and Vice-President of the Board, the Secretary shall act in the capacity of the President
   3. counter-sign all warrants

II. Process for Selecting Board Officers

A. Selection of Board Officers shall take place at the first regular Board Meeting following the election of School Board Trustees.

B. The election of Trustees of the District shall be on May uniform election date. Gov't Code 573.042. [BBB (Legal)]

C. The Superintendent or designee shall request nominations for Board Officer Positions and hold the election.

D. All sitting Board members, as well as newly elected members, are eligible to hold office regardless of their tenure serving on the Board.

III. Communications

A. The Superintendent will communicate with Board members via memorandum and telephone when appropriate.

B. The Superintendent will communicate to Board members in a timely fashion information concerning discussion and action items that will be on the agenda of monthly Board meetings.

C. Board members may request information and/or reports from the Superintendent. [BBE (Local)]

D. Individual Board members cannot speak in an official capacity outside of properly convened and conducted meetings. [BBE (Legal)]

E. The Board will communicate with the community through public forums, public hearings, regular Board meetings and the District's calendar of events.

IV. Board Meetings

A. Developing the agenda:
   1. In consultation with the Board President, the Superintendent shall prepare the agenda for all Board meetings. [BE (Local)]
   2. Any Trustee may request that a subject be included on the agenda for a meeting, and the Superintendent shall include on the agenda of any meeting all Trustee requested topics that have been timely submitted. [BE (Local)]
   3. The deadline for submitting items for inclusion on the agenda is noon of the fourth working day before regular meetings and noon of the fourth working day day before special meetings. [BE (Local)]
   4. In accordance with Government Code 551.043, no item may be placed on the agenda less than 72 hours in advance of a meeting unless in the case of an emergency or when there is an urgent public necessity. In these exceptions, posting of a supplemental agenda item is allowed if posted for at least two hours before the meeting is convened. [BE (Legal)]

B. Items that cannot be on the agenda:
   1. All personnel issues must be conducted in closed session unless specifically required by the Texas Open Meeting Law to be conducted in Open Session.
   2. Anything that violates right to privacy, i.e. Texas Open Meeting Law, Texas Open Records Act cannot be placed on the agenda.

C. Use of Consent Agenda
   * Routine Items
   * Budget Amendments
   * Financial Statements
   * Minutes of Previous Meetings

D. Called Special Meetings
   1. The President of the Board shall call a special meeting at the President's discretion or on request by two of the members of the Board.
   2. A special meeting notice shall be posted for at least 72 hours before the meeting is convened. [BE (Local)]

E. Closed Session
   1. The Board can discuss in closed session only those items specifically allowed by law. [Government Code Section 551], [BEC (Legal)]
   2. A final action, decision, or vote on a matter deliberated in a closed meeting shall be made only in an open meeting for which proper notice has been given. [BEC (Legal)]
   3. All discussion occurring during closed session must remain confidential. [BEC (Legal)]

F. Conduct of the Open Session
   1. The Board will observe the parliamentary procedures in **Robert's Rules of Order**.

G. Discussion of Agenda Items
   1. Discussions shall be addressed to the President of the Board and then the entire membership.
   2. Discussion shall be directed solely to the business currently under deliberation, and the Board President shall halt discussion that does not apply to the business before the Board. [BE (Local)]

H. Citizens Addressing the Board [BED (Local)]

1. Public participation is limited to the designated open forum portion of the meeting. At all other times, the audience shall not enter into discussion or debate on matters being considered by the Board, unless recognized by the President.
2. Thirty minutes shall be allotted to hear persons who desire to make comments to the Board.
3. No presentation shall exceed five minutes. Delegations of more than five persons shall appoint one person to present their views before the Board.
4. Persons who wish to participate in the open forum portion of the meeting shall sign up as they arrive, indicating the topic about which they wish to speak.
5. Specific factual information or recitation of existing policy may be furnished in response to inquiries, but the Board shall not deliberate or make a decision regarding any subject that is not included on the agenda posted with notice of the meetings.
6. The Board will **not** entertain comments concerning individual personnel or individual students during the public open forum or during the course of the regular open session.

I. Voting - Voting shall be done verbally or by hand, as directed by the president. Any member may abstain from voting, and a member's vote or failure to vote shall be recorded upon that member's request. The board president shall have the right to discuss, make motions and resolutions and vote on all matters coming before the board. (BDAA Local)

V. Citizen Request/Complaint to Individual Board Member

A. When a citizen complains to a Board member, the member should listen to the citizen to obtain a full understanding of the complaint.
B. The Board member should remind the citizen of due process and that the Board member must remain impartial in case the situation goes before the Board.
C. Refer the citizen to appropriate person/chain of command.
D. The Board member will inform the Superintendent of the complaint within 24 hours.
Note: Citizens must pursue established resolution channels with regards to complaints and concerns before they will be allowed to address the Board. After pursuing these established resolution channels, Board Policy GF (Local) provides citizens the opportunity to formally present their complaint or concern to the Board. (Level III)

VI. Employee Request/Concern to Individual Board Member

A. Individual Board members will follow the same steps A, B, and C and D above in responding to an employee request or complaint.
B. Employees will follow the resolution procedures outlined in Board policy when filing a complaint. [DGBA (Local)]
C. After following the proper resolution procedures of DGBA (Local), employees will be permitted to present their complaint or concern to the Board. (Level III)

VII. Media Inquiries

A. The Superintendent is the official spokesperson for the District. The Board President is the official spokesperson for the Board.
   1. All Board members who receive calls from the media concerning particular Board action shall direct them to the Board's spokesperson.
   2. All Board members who receive calls from the media concerning school district operations, personnel, or other issues separate from specific Board action, shall direct them to the Superintendent.

VIII. Anonymous Phone Calls/Letters

A. The La Vega Board of Trustees encourages community input: however, anonymous phone calls or letters will not receive Board attention, discussion or response and will not result in directives to the administration.

B. Anonymous phone calls or letters that allege misconduct on the part of district personnel will be referred to the Superintendent.

IX. Evaluation of the Superintendent

A. The Superintendent evaluation instrument will be distributed to all Board members before the formal evaluation.

B. In September:

Board of Trustees provides a written evaluation presented to the Superintendent

1. Board may take action in Open Session to extend Superintendents Contract and make salary adjustments.
2. The Superintendent will receive a composite evaluation instrument that contains an average score for each indicator as rated by the individual Board members.

X. Board Member Visits To School Campuses

A. All Board members are encouraged to attend any school's events as their time permits.

B. Board members are not to go unannounced into teachers' classrooms or individual buildings.

XI. LVISD Board of Trustees - Code of Ethics

As a member of the Board, a trustee shall promote the best interests of the District as a whole, and, to that end, a trustee shall adhere to the following educational and ethical standards:

1. Bring about desired changes through legal and ethical procedures, upholding and enforcing all laws, State Board of Education rules, and court orders pertaining to schools.
2. Make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of ***all*** children in the District, regardless of ability, race creed, ethnicity, sex, or social standing.
3. Recognize that decisions must be made by the Board as a whole and make no personal promise or take private actions that may compromise the Board.
4. Focus Board action on policymaking, goal setting, planning, and evaluation, and insist on regular and impartial evaluation of all staff.
5. Support and protect school personnel in the proper performance of their duties.
6. Vote to appoint the best-qualified personnel available after consideration of recommendations of the Superintendent.
7. Hold confidential all matters pertaining to school that, if disclosed, may needlessly injure individuals or the schools, and respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged under applicable law.
8. Attend all regularly scheduled Board meetings insofar as possible and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings.
9. Delegate authority for the administration of the school to the Superintendent.
10. Endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held Board meetings, and render all decisions based on the available facts and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special groups.

11. Encourage the free expression of opinion by all Board members and seek systematic communications between the Board and students, staff, and all elements of the community.
12. Communicate to Board members and the Superintendent at appropriate times expressions of public reaction to Board policies and school programs.
13. Become informed about current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information, such as those sponsored by state and national school boards associations.
14. Refrain from using the position of Trustee for personal or partisan gain.
15. Make certain the Board remains responsive to the community.
16. Remember always that the first and greatest concern of a Trustee must be the educational welfare of all the students attending the public schools. [BBF (Local)]

XII. Cause for Removal of a Board Member [BBC (Legal)]

Board members may be removed from office for:

1. Incompetency," which means:
   a. Gross ignorance of official duties;
   b. Gross carelessness in the discharge of those duties; or
   c. Unfitness or inability to promptly and properly discharge official duties because of a serious physical or mental defect that did not exist at the time of election.
2. "Official misconduct," which means intentional, unlawful behavior relating to official duties by a board member entrusted with the administration of justice or the execution of the law. The term includes an intentional or corrupt failure, refusal, or neglect of a board member to perform a duty imposed on the board member by law
3. Intoxication on or off duty caused by drinking an alcoholic beverage, but not if it was caused by drinking an alcoholic beverage on the direction and prescription of a licensed physician.
4. Conviction of a board member by a jury for any felony or for misdemeanor official misconduct. The conviction of a public officer by a petit jury for any felony or for a misdemeanor involving official misconduct operates as an immediate removal from office of that officer.

XIII. Board Member Travel Guidelines

1. Legitimate expenses incurred by Board members while traveling on official school business shall be reimbursable consistent with Board policy and state and federal laws. Specific requirements for reimbursements include, but are not limited to the following:
   a. No alcoholic beverages
   b. No spouse, children, or other family member expenses
   c. Convention sponsored hotel or the equivalent or the Board Member pays the difference (single or double room is allowable)
   d. Board members may attend conferences as follows: 1 in state, 1 out-of–state conference; additional conferences may be considered.
   e. Meals, hotel, travel, rental cars, and registration, and other reasonable expenses are allowable.
   f. Members desiring to join organizations in addition to TASB will be considered.

XIV. Reviewing Board Operating Procedures

Board Operating Procedures will be reviewed annually and updated as needed.

Consider Teacher and Professional Employee Contract Recommendations

Presented for:
Board action ☒ Report/Review Only ☐

Supporting documents:
None ☐ Attached ☒ Provided Later ☐

Contact Person:
Mr. Todd Gooden

Background Information:
The Board of Trustees of any independent school district may employ by contract a superintendent, a principal or principals, teachers, or other executive officers for a term not to exceed the maximum specified in this section. In those independent school districts with a scholastic population of fewer than 5,000, the term of such contracts shall not exceed three years. The personnel department, campus principals, and management teams interview and check references on each applicant who makes application to become a member of the staff of the La Vega Independent School District.

Fiscal Implication:
Personnel salaries are a budgeted item.

Administrative Recommendation:
Board approval of the contract recommendations as presented.

Motion: ____________________

Second: ____________________

For: ____________________

Against: ____________________

Abstain: ____________________

Closed Meeting

Presented for:
Board action ☐ Report/Review Only ☒

Supporting documents:
None ☒ Attached ☐ Provided Later ☒

Contact Person:
Board President

Background Information:
The Board may enter into a closed meeting after the following requirements have been met:

1. A quorum of the Board has first been convened in open meeting for which notice has been given.
2. The presiding officer has publicly announced in open meeting that a closed meeting will be held.
3. The presiding officer has identified the section or sections of the Open Meetings Act or other applicable statutes that authorize the holding of such closed meeting.

Fiscal Implication:
N/A

Administrative Recommendation:
N/A

A closed meeting was declared:

____ Beginning Time

____ Date

____ Sections of the Texas Government Code

____ Ending Time

Adjournment

Motion: ____

Second: ____

For: ____

Against: ____

Abstain: ____

Date and Time: ____