

**NORTHSIDE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
5900 EVERS ROAD, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78238**

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Tuesday, March 25, 2025  
6:00 PM**

**Members present**

**Carol Harle, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Homer Guevara**

**Staff Members**

**Dr/ Craft, Ray Galindo, Barry Perez, Janis Jordan, Megan Bradley, Steve Daniel,  
Jessica Palomares, Eric Tobias, Jacob Villarreal, Kris Trejo, Ben Muir, Sandi Bonnett**

**1. Meeting Opening**

Procedural: A. Invocation and Pledges of Allegiance  
Homer Guervara

Procedural: B. Call Meeting to Order  
6:03 pm

**2. Public Hearings**

Information: A. There are no items for this meeting.

**3. Superintendent's Report**

- Basketball Playoffs. Dr. Craft congratulated the NISD high school basketball teams who recently competed in state playoffs.
- NCAA Final Four Reading Competition. Congratulations to Burke ES on being named to the Final Four of the NCAA Reading competition and thanked the NISD Trustees for participating in this competition.
- Straus MS Career Day. Dr. Craft participated as a career day presenter at Straus MS and thanked the community members who also presented.
- CLASS Conference. District auxiliary staff participated in this annual conference and heard about generational leadership.
- Model UN. Students at Clark HS participated in a global model UN competition in New York City, where they were named Best Medium Size delegation. Congratulations to these students and their sponsor Kevin Pumphrey.
- Legislative Update. Dr. Craft provided Trustees with an update on the State's ongoing 89th legislative session.
- Video Moment: The video moment highlights two teachers and one principal who were selected as H-E-B Excellence-In-Education finalists. Watch this video as the surprise announcements are made.

**4. Board Member's Report**

Reports: A. Board Members who wish to speak will report about current events, announce achievements or special recognitions, and share other information that may be of interest to Trustees or citizens. No action is required.

- Trustee Corinne Saldana thanked Carson ES for inviting her to read to students. She acknowledged Cable ES on their recent partnership with James Avery to fund a community library box. Saldana thanked Clark HS and recognized librarian Lucy Podmore for inviting her to witness a new lunchtime experience in the campus library that allows students to share their personal stories and experiences with others. She acknowledged Fine Arts Director Elizabeth Sanchez-Lopez and Fine Arts Supervisor John Dominguez, both present at the meeting, for their work with the Los Leones event. She was impressed with the high participation in the Special Education resource fair and thanked Assistant Special Education Director Valerie Rodriguez for her role in the fair. Saldana congratulated Forester ES student Autumn Garcia on the selection of her original artwork as a Fiesta poster.
- Trustee David Salcido congratulated Director of Fine Arts Elizabeth Sanchez-Lopez and her department for a successful Los Leones Art Fest.
- Trustee Homer Guevara has had the opportunity to visit several elementary schools and participate in various campus events. He acknowledged the following schools and their principals: Northwest Crossing ES (Principal Priscilla Siano), Fernandez ES (Principal Rebecca Zamora Barraza), and Ott ES (Principal Madeline Bueno). Guevara had the opportunity to serve as a judge of student artwork for the Los Leones event, and he acknowledged Fine Arts Director Elizabeth Sanchez-Lopez and her staff for a successful event. Guevara paid tribute to Nick Gamboa, a "super sub" at Jones MS who recently passed away, and shared sympathies to Mr. Gamboa's family.

- Trustee Karla Duran acknowledged district students and staff who participated in a City of San Antonio Cesar Chavez March on March 22. She also thanked the individuals running for the NISD Board of Trustee seats in the May 2025 election.
- Trustee Carol Harle is proud that NISD was able to host the San Antonio All-Star Basketball game at the district's Sports gym. She enjoyed judging submissions for the Los Leones Art Fest and thanked the Clark HS Jazz Band, under the direction of Justin Murphy, for performing at the event. She also enjoyed hearing a group of drummers from Leon Valley ES under the direction of music teacher Eva Young. Harle attended the Special Education Resource Fair, which hosted 180 families. She witnessed firsthand a recent GT field trip to the San Antonio Museum of Art attended by her grandchildren. Harle read at Aue ES and thanked Principal Ursula Silberschlag. Harle 2 BOARDTalk 2024-2025, published by the Communications Department, Northside Independent School District enjoyed attending the Jay SEA STEAM Fest and the hands-on activities. She enjoyed the Academic Decathlon and congratulated Warren and Health Careers high schools on their performance and success. Harle commented on the success of the district's bowling teams and indicated that the Board will recognize the state winners at the April 8 Called Board meeting. While mentoring a student at NSITE, Harle had an opportunity to see students preparing for a Virtual Enterprises International (VEI) competition in New York City.
- Trustee Karen Freeman congratulated student participants and coaches in the Academic Decathlon, an activity previously engaged in by her own daughter. Freeman enjoyed attending Los Leones Art Fest and enjoyed the opportunity to judge hundreds of student submissions. Freeman announced that Burke ES was named one of the competition's Final Four schools. She reminded the Trustees that the competition started with over 300 schools. She provided additional statistics for the competition, citing that over 900 students and 65 schools participated in the competition. Freeman recognized Trustee Bobby Blount for the idea of having school board Trustees engage in the competition by reading to students. A total of 32 trustees chose to participate and read to students in over 160 schools (grades K-5) for a total of 14,000 minutes. Blount and Freeman have both been named to the Trustee's Final Four group.

## 5. Recognitions

Recognition: A. Region 20 ESC Dyslexia Service Provider of the Year Laura Stephenson.

Laura Stephenson, Dyslexia Instruction Specialist, was selected as the Region 20 Dyslexia Service Provider of the Year.

This award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding commitment and effectiveness in delivery dyslexia services and supporting students with dyslexia within the ESC Region 20 area.

Recognition: B. Cole ES. Region 20 Spanish Spelling Bee winner Mateo Rawls

Mateo Rawls, a fifth-grade student at Cole Elementary School, is the reigning ESC-Region 20 Spanish Spelling Bee Champion in the Elementary School Level competition.

Recognition: C. Texas School Social Worker of the Year Heather Thatcher

The Texas School Social Worker Association established a prestigious award to recognize and honor excellence in school-based social work practice: The 2025 Kathy Armenta Texas School Social Worker of the Year Award recipient is Heather Thatcher, NISD Coordinator for the Connections Program serving students in homeless situations and foster care. This Award is presented annually to a school social worker who exemplifies excellence and innovation in the field of school social work.

Recognition: D. Smart Maher Elementary Educator of the Year by Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars, Robert Klekar

Robert Klekar, a music teacher at Braun Station and Oak Hills Terrace elementary schools, was selected by the Department of Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars as the K-5th Grade Smart/Maher Citizenship Education Teacher of the Year.

Recognition: E. Texas Theatre Scholar Award for 2024-25

Seventeen thespian students from Taft, O'Connor, and Clark high schools have earned the prestigious Texas Theatre Scholar distinction.

Recognition: F. TMEA All-State students

Nineteen NISD student musicians were selected as Texas Music Educators Association All-State Musicians. Selection to TEXAS ALL-STATE indicates student music achievement in the top 1 percent of student musicians in Texas. It is the highest individual student music award that can be achieved in public school music education.

## 6. Citizens to be Heard

Procedural: A. Citizens wishing to address the Board regarding matters not listed on the posted agenda will be heard at this time.

- William Barton- Retired NISD teacher 26 yrs  
President, Local Chapter of the Association of Professional Educators  
1100 NISD employees  
Express gratitude who responded to the survey
- Marcela Fernandez- UTSA MAS  
C. Chavez March Record. breaking attendance  
Ask: School Holiday - C. Chavez K-12
- Candance Chance - Science Coordinator, Garcia MS, 22 yrs of service  
Value to veteran teachers vs new teachers coming into the district  
Pay scale should be reviewed and compensation offered to veterans and not only to new teachers
- Terry Zablocki- discussed various topics to include the Final 4 and rooting for the volunteers
- Melina Azucar - AFT  
Does not feel the support from the School Board  
2nd largest Union and the largest group representing NISD
- Barbara Owens- Parent of a special needs child.  
Cyberbullying - addressed with the school, but the school said there was no evidence of cyberbullying, which she finds upsetting.  
Stating that her child will not return to the campus and is in jeopardy of not completing his Senior year of high school at Marshall HS until  
this issue is resolved. Secondary Administration will be reaching out to Ms. Owens to find a resolution.

## 7. Consent Agenda

Approval: A. The Consent Agenda includes items that are considered routine and/or are of a recurring nature. All items listed under the Consent Agenda will be acted upon in one motion.

Item N - Contractor for Tennis Court Upgrades - Tom C. Clark & Sandra Day O'Connor HSs - RFCSP #2025-015  
Salcido ask the Board to discuss with Jacob Villarreal, Assistant Supt. for Facilities and Operations, before voting on the Consent agenda.

### Discussion below

Salcido: Why didn't we go with the low bid?

Jacob Villarreal - We don't always go with the low bid simply bc it's low. We go with the best-valued contractor bid. There is a system in place for how we rate each bid we receive. In submitting a bid, they did not provide the "lowest bid." This company has sat down with NISD Facilities Department to advise them when filling out a bid what information is needed. With that, this company still did not provide much of the requested information needed to successfully rate the bid.

Item O- Election Services Contract

Question: If the cost of the election exceeds, are we responsible for the difference?

Megan - Yes, that is standard practice.

- Action (Consent): B. Minutes from February 25, 2025 Meeting
- Action (Consent), Approval: C. Awarding of Bids, Request for Proposals, and Purchases over \$50,000
- Action (Consent): D. Designating Backup Submitters for Processing TEAL Request  
**Board action also includes for Ben Muir, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, to act as Superintendent designee/alternative for approving staff requests(also referred to as"submitting request" to TEA or TEAL for access to one or more new TEA web applications accessed through the Texas Education Agency Secure Environment (TEASE)/TEA Login (TEAL). Authorization is valid for the calendar year starting June 2025 to June 2026.**
- Action (Consent), Approval: E. Contractor for Drainage Upgrades - William J. Brennan HS - RFCSP #2025-009
- Action (Consent), Approval: F. Contractor for Drainage Upgrades - Robert L. Vale MS - RFCSP #2025-019
- Action (Consent), Approval: G. Contractor for Energy Controls Upgrades - Ed Rawlinson MS - RFCSP #2025-020
- Action (Consent), Approval: H. Contractor for Paving Upgrades - Virginia A. Myers ES & John C. Holmgreen Center - RFCSP #2025-010
- Action (Consent), Approval: I. Contractor for Paving Upgrades - Earl Warren HS- RFCSP #2025-017

- Action (Consent), Approval: J. Contractor for Portable Relocations - Various Campuses - 2025 Construction Portables - IDQ RFP #2021-115 Project #25-001-115
- Action (Consent), Approval: K. Contractor for Roof Replacement - Ed Rawlinson MS - RFCSP #2025-022
- Action (Consent), Approval: L. Contractor for Security Upgrades - John C. Holmgreen & Nellie M. Reddix Centers - BUYBOARD #623-70 Project #2025-01-001
- Action (Consent), Approval: M. Contractor for Synthetic Turf & Track Replacement - Gustafson Stadium - RFCSP #2025-026
- Action (Consent), Approval: N. Contractor for Tennis Court Upgrades - Tom C. Clark & Sandra Day O'Connor HSs - RFCSP #2025-015
- Action (Consent), Approval: O. Election Services Contract
- Action (Consent), Approval: P. Resolution Amending Authorized Representatives for TexPool Investment Pool
- Action (Consent), Approval: Q. Form Amending Authorized Representatives for First Public Lone Star Investment Pool
- Action (Consent), Approval: R. 25-26 IMA Allotment and TEKS Certification
- Action (Consent), Approval: S. 2025 Summer Programs
- Action (Consent), Approval: T. Second Reading and Adoption of EHBC LOCAL Policy

Motion by Carol Harle, second by Homer Guevara.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Carol Harle, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Homer Guevara

## 8. Facilities and Operations

Action, Approval: A. Schematic Design for Administration & Classroom Replacement - John Marshall HS - RFCSP #2024-164

Schematic design for Administration & Classroom Replacement at John Marshall HS is ready for presentation.

Presenter: Jacob Villarreal

Budget Provisions: 2022 Bond Program

Committee: Building Committee - March 18, 2025

Recommended Action: Approval

The 2022 Bond Program provided for Administration & Classroom Replacement at John Marshall HS. A schematic design has been developed by the architect consistent with previously approved master plan, and schematic design is ready for presentation.

Approval of the schematic design for Administration & Classroom Replacement at John Marshall HS as presented by Pfluger Architects is recommended.

Motion by Karen Freeman, second by David Salcido.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Homer Guevara

Not Present at Vote: Carol Harle

## 9. Business and Finance

Discussion: A. FY 2026 Budget Planning and Legislative Update

Dr. Craft presents information on the proposed plan on how to handle the deficit and what the district is doing. Assures the Board, staff, and community - No eliminations of any jobs, but there will be reassignments of titles.

Action, Approval: B. FY 2025 Budget Amendment No. 3

Budget amendment No. 3 for the 2024-25 budget will be presented for discussion and approval.

Presented to the Northside Independent School District's Board of Trustees – March 25, 2025

The General Fund is being amended with Budget Amendment No. 3. The Child Nutrition Fund and Debt Service Fund are included but will not be amended.

General Fund expenditures are amended to recognize a net increase of \$5,093,662 to support facilities maintenance and operations. The additional funding will be utilized in the following categories.

- Contracted Services – \$3,172,482
- Supplies and Other Operating Expenses– \$1,921,180. The General Fund amendment will increase the budgeted deficit by \$5,093,662, bringing the deficit from \$96.5 million to \$101.6 million.

Motion by Karen Freeman, second by Homer Guevara.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Carol Harle, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Homer Guevara

#### **10. Superintendent**

Procedural: A. Announce Candidacy for May 3, 2025, Trustee Election

Pulled - L. Zapata will not be attending tonight

Procedural: B. Future Agenda Items

#### **11. Executive Session**

Information: A. If, during the course of any duly posted meeting, the Board of Trustees determines that a closed or executive session is required regarding an item posted on the Agenda, that session will be held on any or all subjects and purposes permitted by Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.073, 551.074, 551.076, 551.082, 551.084 of the Government Code (the Open Meetings Law). If a final vote is required on any matter considered in the closed or executive session, it shall be taken either upon the reconvening of the public session covered by this notice or at a subsequent, duly posted, public meeting as the Board shall determine.

President Blount announced that, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 551.071, the Board would convene in closed session at 8:55 pm.

Discussion and Possible Approval: B. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.076 and 551.089, consider and discuss TxSSC intruder and detection audit

Discussion and Possible Approval: C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, the Board will consult with its legal counsel regarding litigation in the matter styled Lartigue v. Northside Independent School District; Docket No.5:19-cv-00393 in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, San Antonio Division

#### **12. Open Session**

Information: A. Any required action by the Board concerning matters considered in closed meeting will be taken in open session.

The Board reconvened into open session at 9:14 pm.

Action, Approval: B. The Board will consider and take possible action regarding litigation in the matter styled Lartigue v. Northside Independent School District; Docket No.5:19-cv-00393 in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, San Antonio Division.

Motion by Homer Guevara, second by Carol Harle.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Carol Harle, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Homer Guevara

#### **13. Adjournment**

Procedural: A. Adjourn the Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 pm.

APPROVED ON APRIL 22, 2025