

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

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Tuesday, July 22, 2025  
6:00 PM**

**Members present**

Bobby Blount, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Laura Zapata, Sonia Jasso, Carol Harle

**Staff present**

**Dr. Craft, Ben Muir, Enrique Guerra, Eric Tobias, Dr. Woods, Jessica Palomares,  
Leann Kidd, Lori Gallegos, Barry Perez, Deonna Dean, Dr. Jordan, Andi Sosa**

**1. Recognitions**

Recognition: A. 2025 Media Honor Roll Scott Huddleston  
Presenter: Dr. Craft/Dr. Harle

TASB Media Honor Roll. Trustees recognized Scott Huddleston from the San Antonio Express-News, who was named to the Media Honor Roll by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB). The TASB Media Honor Roll was created to recognize journalists and media outlets for reporting fair, accurate, and balanced stories on our schools.

**2. Superintendent's Report**

- Crisis Counseling. Several NISD Professional School Counselors stepped in and volunteered their time to assist in the Kerrville ISD and Alamo Heights ISD communities following the recent July 4th floods. Both communities were impacted by the flooding. The NISD Counselors acknowledged include Dr. Kim Ridgley, Elizabeth Flores, Tania Perez, Stacey Griggs, Marida Salinas, Jorge Ramos, Angel Ramos, Monica Leyva, Katie Westbrook, Georgeann Garza, Adriana Felts, Margaret Larson, Brenda Silva, and Tania Mendoza.
- Harlan Athlete Honored. Harlan HS student Tate Taylor, a state track & field record holder, was recently named the Gatorade Athlete of the Year.
- Summer Graduation. On July 23, approximately 100 students will walk the stage at the District's Summer Graduation event at the Paul Taylor Field House.
- Event Kickoffs. Several annual district events, including the Servant Leadership, the Coaches Summit, and the NISD Ambassadors' orientation, will soon kick off, signaling the start of another school year.
- Grandparent Event. The Grandparents Raising Grandkids organization will be hosting an event at Northwest Vista College on July 26.
- Hall of Honor. The District's Athletic Department will host the first annual Hall of Honor reception on July 28 to recognize eight inaugural alumni inductees.
- Video Moment. Exercise isn't always limited to gyms, tracks, stadiums, or even swimming pools. And many times, it only takes one special person to get something "rolling."

**3. 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 David Salcido informed the Trustees that Jay HS and Jay SEA will be hosting a Back to School Bash on July 26, which will feature free haircuts, immunizations, and other giveaways. He congratulated Sotomayor and Clark high schools for being nominated for KSAT's annual Pigskin Classic showcase.
- Trustee Sonia Jasso attended the Great Northwest and Thunderbird Hills HOA meetings. She shared plans to begin visiting schools in September after the start of the school year. Jasso is scheduling meetings with members of the District's Senior Staff to meet them and learn about each of their respective departments.
- Trustee Karla Duran thanked those who worked the various summer school programs. She also thanked the NISD Counselors who assisted in providing counseling services following the recent flooding and offered condolences to all those who lost loved ones. Duran shared that she had the opportunity to meet Harlan HS student Tate Taylor and congratulated him on being named the Gatorade Athlete of the Year. Duran thanked Communities in Schools (CIS) for the various Stuff The Bus events hosted in preparation for back to school.
- Trustee Bobby Blount shared that the Air Force Cryptologic Group, which has partnered with the District through the Northside Education Foundation (NEF), will continue supporting initiatives, including the annual solar cars event, STEM Sisters, and the robotics competition. Blount recently visited with former NISD Athletic Director Dub Farris.
- Trustee Laura Zapata shared that District 8 Councilmember Ivalis Meza Gonzalez is hosting a back-to-school event. Zapata welcomed back District administrators and staff from their summer. 2 BOARDTalk 2024-2025 published by the Communications Department, Northside Independent School District
- Trustee Carol Harle announced that the San Antonio Leaders & Teachers (SALT) Educators Network is hosting a free event at the Witte Museum on July 26 from 1 to 4 p.m. She also shared that the San Antonio Film Festival will showcase and screen Stitched, the work of several NISD alumni from Marshall HS. She thanked Deputy Superintendent of Instruction Dr. Janis Jordan and the Curriculum & Instruction team for all of the summer programs offered.

**4. 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.

Isabella Galla: Disabled vet  
Community since 2016  
Band mom - Question pertaining to policies  
The VP of Concession Director is trying to bypass UIL rules

Andrew Siller - Insight HB2 - Please implement Free PK for public teachers.

**5. 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.

Action (Consent): B. Minutes from the Meetings of June

Action (Consent), Approval: C. Awarding of Bids, Request for Proposals, and Purchases over \$50,000

Action (Consent), Approval: D. Quarterly Investment Report - May 31, 2025

Action (Consent), Approval: E. School District Teaching Permits

**Action (Consent): F. 4-H Extracurricular Status Request - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service**

**Pulled Item F off Consent Agenda - Will bring back Aug. 12**

**Dr. Craft's information will be updated on the form for future contracts.**

**Individuals may not have the exact degree contacts have been in effect for years.**

**Certifications are needed. A background check is required in the NISD. These professors are in good standing, which includes that all participants have been vetted. Follow up in Friday's letter.**

Action (Consent), Approval: G. Change Orders

Motion by Sonia Jasso, second by David Salcido.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Bobby Blount, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Laura Zapata, Sonia Jasso, Carol Harle

## **6. Facilities and Operations**

Discussion, Information: A. NISD Board Room Update

Jacob Villarreal discussed the layout for the Board Room remodel that includes the location of a TV screen for the purpose of displaying digital images. The remodel is funded by a donation from Bobby Blount, Trustee, recipient of a \$10,000 James B. Crow award.

- Construction Timeline
- Leadtime
- Bidding
- Delays in programming
- Closure of South Entry
- Controls for display
- Mission Statement on the far right wall

## **7. Business and Finance**

Action, Approval: A. Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Budget and Proposed Tax Rate

The Board of Trustees is required by Section 44.004 of the Texas Education Code to provide for the publication of Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Budget and Proposed Tax Rate ("Notice"). The Notice must contain the District's proposed tax rate for the year 2025, presented in two separate components: the Maintenance & Operation (M&O) Rate and the Interest & Sinking (Debt) Rate. The tax rate that is ultimately adopted for the year 2025 may not exceed the proposed rate shown in the Notice unless the District publishes a higher proposed tax rate in a revised notice and holds another public meeting to discuss the second notice.

It is recommended that the Board call a public meeting for August 26, 2025, to discuss the budget and proposed tax rate.

The board agreed that August 26, 2025, will be the date chosen for the Public Notice.

Motion by Bobby Blount, second by Laura Zapata.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Bobby Blount, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Laura Zapata, Sonia Jasso, Carol Harle

Action, Approval: B. Consideration and action to approve an Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credits (Netting Chapter 48 Funding) [Option 3 Agreement] and to delegate contractual authority to the Superintendent

Administration will explain the reasons why the District has to approve an agreement with the Texas Education Agency ("TEA") to purchase attendance credits in the 2025-2026 fiscal year in order to reduce the District's revenue level. Based on the TEA's calculation, the District's Tier Two Level Two yield per weighted average daily attendance (WADA) will exceed the Tier Two Level Two guaranteed yield, which will result in excess revenue.

However, TEA is using estimates that, by their own admission, are not current, as TEA is using 2024 taxable values to estimate 2025 taxable values and an enrollment estimate for 2025-2026. Nonetheless, under statute, school districts that have been notified by the TEA of local revenue in excess of entitlement must enter into an agreement with the TEA to reduce their revenue. Failure to comply with the statute will prevent a district from adopting its tax rate.

**\*\*\*The District will not have excess revenue in 2025-2026 and will therefore not have to pay recapture.\*\*\***

TOPICS:

Local Revenue in Excess of Entitlement is either:

3 What is LREE?

A Tier One revenue level that exceeds the district's entitlement, less its available school fund.

- Could happen in NISD with increasing property values and stable or declining enrollment

A district with local revenue estimated to exceed the Tier Two Level Two guaranteed yield of \$49.72.

- Can only happen if NISD accesses copper pennies via a voter-approved tax rate election (VATRE)

Why does TEA think NISD has LREE?

Estimate - Using estimates, TEA calculates that NISD's 2025-26 local yield per penny per WADA will be \$59.10, which is above the Tier Two guaranteed yield of \$49.72.

Unknowns - In the event the district decided to conduct a VATRE in November and access the copper pennies, current calculations indicate the district would have excess local revenue.

Requirement - To ensure there is a process in place for that potential situation, TEA requires districts to complete this process before the adoption of the district tax rate.

Required Next Steps

Submit the district intent/choice for reducing local revenue -->Board approval for the Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit (Netting Chapter 48 Funding) --> Board delegating authority to the Superintendent to submit the agreement to TEA.

I. In July of every year, TEA will notify districts that they have been identified as having local revenue in excess of entitlement for one or both tiers. NISD received notification on July 15, 2025, for Tier Two.

II. Under statute, if a district has been notified of estimated LREE by the TEA, there are 3 action items to complete.

Discussion, Information: C. FY 2026 Budget Planning Update

Administration updated the Board on key topics related to the development of the 2025-26 fiscal year budget.

### 2025-26 General Fund Budget Planning Assumptions

Student enrollment

Refined ADA - 91,500 Membership - 97,300 Attendance - 93.5%

Estimated property value growth at 3%

Zero-based budgeting after 10% budget cuts for central administrative departments \$10.27MM reduction

Homestead exemption \$100k to \$140k Disabled & Elderly exemption \$10k to \$60k

Staffing budgeted at an average fill rate of 94% as of April 30, 2025; actual fill rates vary by department.

Effective taxable value decrease of 2%

### 2025-26 General Fund Budget Planning Assumptions

Non-teacher staff reductions of 85 positions

Class size formula changes resulting in 414 reduced teacher positions •

Elementary Schools student to teacher ratios: • PK from 22:1 to 25:1 • K-4 from 23:1 to 25:1 • 5th stays 26:1

• Middle Schools:

Expected average academic class size from 24 to 26.5

• High Schools:

Expected average academic class size from 26 to 28

### School Finance Funding Changes

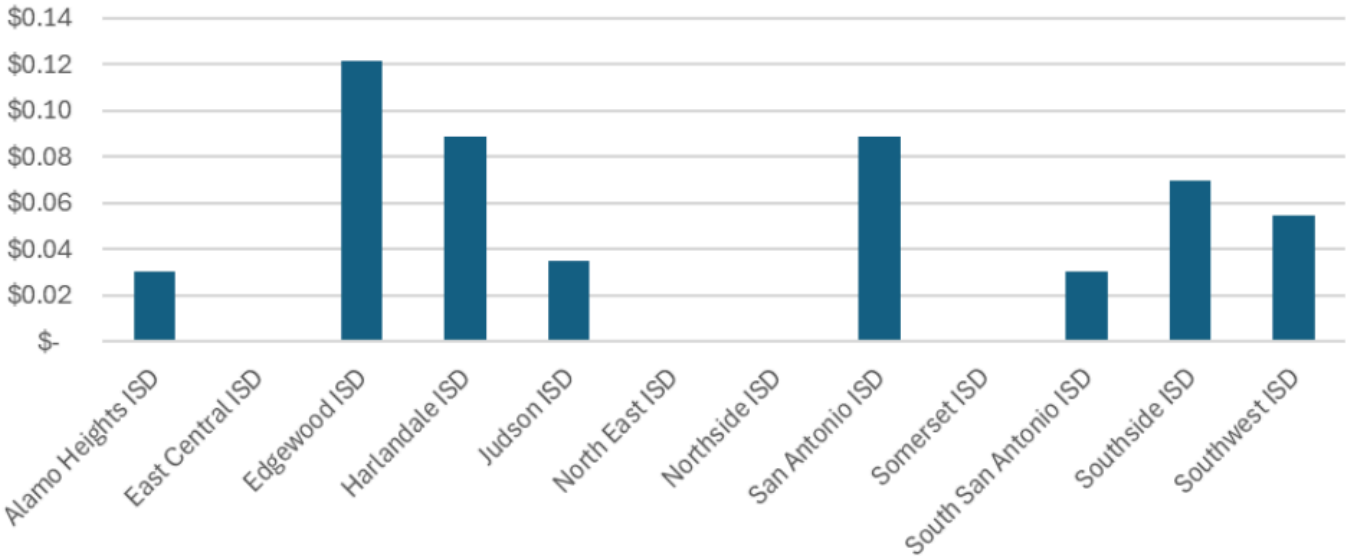
- Additional tax rate compression of \$0.0533
- Basic allotment increased by \$55
- JROTC courses qualify for CTE weighted funding
- Early education allotment increases
- CCMR outcomes bonus doubled for Spec Ed students
- Spec Ed transportation rate increased by \$0.05 per mile
- School Safety allotment roughly doubled
- State Compensatory Education-elimination of spending requirement
- Bilingual modified allotments
- Industry-based certification exam reimbursement increased from one to two exams.
- Spec Ed full initial and individual evaluations reimbursement \$1,000 each

2024-2025 Tax Rates



Area District VATRE Pennies

## VATRE Pennies for 2024-2025 School Year

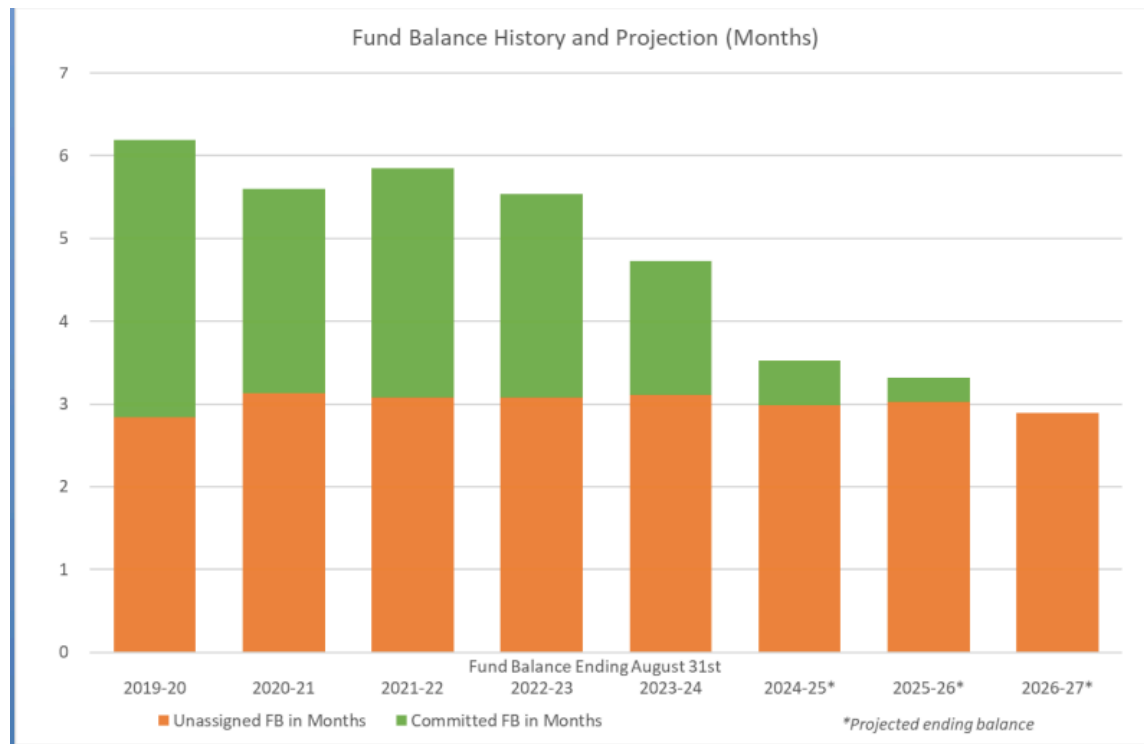


### Budget Projections - HB2 Estimates

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>\$998,300,000</b>	<b>\$1,052,600,000</b>	<b>\$1,035,300,000</b>
Property tax collection		<i>(\$12,700,000)</i>	<i>\$14,100,000</i>
State foundation funding		<i>\$54,200,000</i>	<i>(\$15,400,000)</i>
One-time property value audit		<i>\$18,000,000</i>	<i>(\$11,000,000)</i>
Investment interest income		<i>(\$5,000,000)</i>	<i>(\$5,000,000)</i>
Federal - SHARS		<i>(\$3,200,000)</i>	
Other local revenue adjustments		<i>\$3,000,000</i>	
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,089,400,000</b>	<b>\$1,074,700,000</b>	<b>\$1,073,700,000</b>
Utilities and insurance		<i>\$2,500,000</i>	<i>\$2,500,000</i>
Staffing and overtime adjustments	<i>(\$6,000,000)</i>	<i>(\$33,100,000)</i>	<i>(\$3,500,000)</i>
Contracts, supplies, and misc.	<i>(\$4,500,000)</i>	<i>(\$10,300,000)</i>	
Compensation increase		<i>\$41,200,000</i>	
Payroll accrual		<i>(\$15,000,000)</i>	
<b>Projected Results of Operations</b>	<b><i>(\$91,100,000)</i></b>	<b><i>(\$22,100,000)</i></b>	<b><i>(\$38,400,000)</i></b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>			
Beginning instructional continuity (IC)	<i>\$140,000,000</i>	<i>\$48,900,000</i>	<i>\$26,800,000</i>
Use of IC to cover deficit	<i>(\$91,100,000)</i>	<i>(\$22,100,000)</i>	<i>(\$26,800,000)</i>
Beginning unassigned fund balance	<i>\$270,900,000</i>	<i>\$270,900,000</i>	<i>\$270,900,000</i>
Use of unassigned fund balance	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>(\$11,600,000)</i>
<b>Total Ending Fund Balance</b>	<b><i>\$319,800,000</i></b>	<b><i>\$297,700,000</i></b>	<b><i>\$259,300,000</i></b>

Current Budget – House Bill 2 Estimates

The budget projections above include significant categorical changes (in italics) that walk forward into the subsequent fiscal year(s). Includes projections that have been identified as of July 17, 2025.



General Fund – Fund Balance History & Projections by Months. The image above shows the history & projection of fund balance by the number of months of available general fund operating expense.

Other Board Approved Funds Debt Service (Interest and Sinking) Fund

- Tax rate proposed will fund bond payment and proposed defeasance • Intent to maintain a level tax rate

Child Nutrition Fund

- Paid student meal prices to remain unchanged • General pay increase applied to salary costs • Maintaining fund balance in compliance with Texas Dept. of Agriculture • Continuing with 76 Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) campuses, free breakfast and lunch for all students at those campuses

Next Steps to Finalize Budgets

- Tax value certifications
- Certification of Maximum Compressed Tax Rate (MCR)
- Clarification on HB2 funding items
- Proposed budgets and tax rates at the August 12 meeting

## 8. Superintendent

Procedural: A. Future Agenda Items

In addition, Dr. Craft spoke on the following:

- Senate Bill 13 - Instructional Materials
- Senate Bill 401 UIL Participation
- Senate Bill 1481 Student Personal Communication Devices

## 9. 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 Duran announced that, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 551.071, the Board would convene in closed session at 8:13 pm.

Discussion and Possible Approval: B. Pursuant to Section 551.072 of the Texas Government Code ("Texas Open Meetings Act"), deliberation regarding the value of a 0.6442 acre-tract of land out of Lot 3, New City Block (NCB) 15180, a subdivision in the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas owned by the District on IH 410 & Valley Hi Dr. which is currently part of the Sam Rayburn Middle School campus ("District's Property") (excluding minerals); and pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, consultation with the District's legal counsel regarding legal issues involving the sale, transfer and conveyance of the District's Property (excluding minerals) to the State of Texas acting by and through the Texas Transportation Commission (for the use and benefit of the Texas Department of Transportation ("TxDOT") for the purpose of expanding IH 410. RECOMMENDED ACTION: DELIBERATION AND ATTORNEY CONSULTATION

- Discussion and Possible Approval: C. Appointment of Principal at Marshall High School
- Discussion and Possible Approval: D. Appointment of Principal at Nichols Elementary School
- Discussion and Possible Approval: E. Appointment of Principal at Pease Middle School
- Discussion and Possible Approval: F. Appointment of Associate Principal at Rhodes Elementary School

- Discussion and Possible Approval: G. Appointment of Assistant Principal at John Jay High School
- Discussion and Possible Approval: H. Appointment of Deputy Superintendent for Administration

## 10. 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 9:29 pm.

Action, Approval: B. Consideration and Possible Approval and Adoption of a Resolution (i) authorizing the Superintendent and/or his designee to negotiate acceptable terms, and sign all related an/or necessary agreements and/or documents with the Texas Department of Transportation ("TxDOT") to consummate the sale, transfer and conveyance of a 0.6442 acre-tract of land out of Lot 3, New City Block (NCB) 15180, a subdivision in the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas owned by the District on IH 410 & Valley Hi Dr. which is currently part of the Sam Rayburn Middle School campus ("District's Property") (excluding minerals) to the State of Texas acting by and through the Texas Transportation Commission (for the use and benefit of TxDOT) for the purpose of expanding IH 410; and (ii) authorizing the President of the Board of Trustees to execute a Deed transferring and conveying the District's Property (excluding minerals) to the State of Texas acting by and through the Texas Transportation Commission (for the use and benefit of TxDOT) for the purpose of expanding IH 410. RECOMMENDED ACTION: APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

Motion by Sonia Jasso, second by Bobby Blount.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Bobby Blount, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Laura Zapata, Sonia Jasso, Carol Harle

- Action, Approval: C. Appointment of Principal at Marshall High School
- Action, Approval: D. Appointment of Principal at Nichols Elementary School
- Action, Approval: E. Appointment of Principal at Pease Middle School
- Action, Approval: F. Appointment of Associate Principal at Rhodes Elementary School
- Action, Approval: G. Appointment of Assistant Principal at John Jay High School
- Action, Approval: H. Appointment of Deputy Superintendent for Administration

Motion by Carol Harle, second by David Salcido.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Bobby Blount, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Laura Zapata, Sonia Jasso, Carol Harle

## 11. Adjournment

Procedural: A. Adjourn the Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 pm.