

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

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Tuesday, December 9, 2025
6:00 PM**

Members present

**Bobby Blount, Karen Freeman, David Salcido,
Karla Duran, Laura Zapata, Sonia Jasso**

Staff Present

**Dr. Craft, Dr. Fey, Dr. Jordan, Megan Bradley, Barry Perez,
Ben Muir, Deonna Dean, Eric Tobias, Jacob Villarreal, Dr. Jordan,
Dr. J. Woods, Jessica Palomares, Kris Trejo, & Lori Gallegos**

1. Recognitions

Information: A. CPS Energy Check Presentation

CPS Energy will present a check to the District in the amount of **\$688,991.77** for the District's participation in CPS's Demand Response Program, as well as for rebates collected.

Presenters: Jacob Villarreal, Enrique Jimenez, & Mike Franco

Robert Olivares, NISD'S Key Account Manager

2. Superintendent's Report

- Fine Arts Events. In this holiday season, there are numerous fine art events taking place across the District. For a complete listing, click [HERE](#) to view events by date or location.
- Athletic Season Begins. The District is kicking off basketball season.
- Golf Tournament. Brandeis HS hosted one of the largest golf tournaments recently in support of Toys for Tots, a program hosted by the U.S. Marine Corps.
- Campus Visits. Dr. Craft had the opportunity to visit several campuses, including Valley Hi ES, where they hosted activities around seasonal holidays, and Wanke ES, where he visited the ALE classroom and read to students.
- Anniversary Event. Raba ES will be celebrating its 25th anniversary event on Dec. 16 at 6 p.m.
- E-Sports Championship. Competitors will participate in the e-Sports Championship, set for Dec. 13 at the Northside Activity Center.
- Mid-year Graduation. The date for the Mid-year Graduation event is Feb. 11 and will take place at the Northside Sports Gym.
- College Board Event. Dr. Craft participated in a recent College Board event and informed Trustees that the Board is making efforts to expand access to Advanced Placement (AP) courses for all students. Additionally, he shared that innovative coursework will be coming soon in the areas of cybersecurity and personal finance.
- General Elections. With San Antonio officials considering the possibility of moving city general elections to November, Dr. Craft briefed Trustees on the potential financial implications for the district as a result. Craft informed Trustees that the Bexar County Education Coalition (BCEC) and its Executive Director, Julia Grizzard, will address this matter on behalf of school districts to city officials. Craft thanked City Council members Ivalis Meza Gonzalez and Ric Galvan, both of whom were present at the meeting, for their support.
- Special Performance. Prior to and at the beginning of the Board meeting, students from Bear Harmony from Brennan High School, under the direction of Jimmy Garrett, performed seasonal music for the Board and those in attendance.

3. Board Member's Report

- Trustee Sonia Jasso attended multiple campus events, including a Warren HS Honors Choir performance, the Bernal MS Multicultural Event, and a musical production of Once on This Island at Taft HS. She also attended a Crown Meadows HOA meeting, the NEF Donors Appreciation event, and an event hosted by Snack Pak 4 Kids.
- Trustee Karla Duran acknowledged students at Marshall HS who helped deliver turkey meal bags to needy families during the Thanksgiving holiday. She thanked the Brennan HS Bear Harmony group for their performance. Duran participated in the NEF Grant Patrol and thanked all of the volunteers and partners who helped deliver grants to classroom teachers. She wished all patrons a Feliz Navidad and thanked fellow Trustees for their time and commitment.
- Trustee Bobby Blount participated in a student podcast at Communications Arts HS, attended the Bernal MS Multicultural Event, and attended a solar car training event for sponsors. Blount completed his goal of visiting all 95 Learning Tree school sites and enjoyed meeting with site leaders and staff. He announced that the Great San Antonio Reading competition is progressing with students across San Antonio accumulating over 2 million minutes already.
- Trustee Laura Zapata commended the Warren HS Honor Choir on their recent performance which she attended. She also attended the musical production of Once on This Island at Taft HS and commended Theatre Director 2 BOARDTalk 2025-2026 published by the Communications Department, Northside Independent School District Amanda Pyle on the incredible performance. Zapata wished all students and teachers good luck during the upcoming exam season and acknowledged the support of all teachers for students who are undoubtedly ready for a much-needed break. She acknowledged Executive Director of Fine Arts Elizabeth Sanchez-Lopez and recognized Dr. Craft and his Cabinet for all of their work and dedication.
- Trustee Carol Harle attended two NEF events – the Donor Appreciation event and a NEF Grant Patrol. She acknowledged the much-appreciated support from donors like Cavender Cares, Katie and Jim Reed, and JLA Communications – all of whom were honored in the event. She also thanked the members of the NEF Board, as well as the student groups that participated at the event, including the Brandeis HS choir and the Stevens HS jazz band. Harle enjoyed two additional events, including a choir performance at Ellison ES and the Fall Clinical Teachers celebration. Harle recognized the work of the clinical teacher's mentors, as well.
- Trustee Karen Freeman shared that the NEF Gala was a great event, and she congratulated this year's Pillars of Character, who were recognized at the event. She attended the NEF Donor Appreciation & Annual Meeting event and thanked Katie and Jim Reed for their continued support of the district and NEF.

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.

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.

Brian Groover - Deaf/Hard of Hearing student at Marshall HS

Issues and Concerns:

Transportation -Late arrival, and now Mr. Groover is having to drive her to school

Grades are failing

Construction-related risk as well as health issues

Get more certified Deaf professionals

4. Citizens to be Heard (Continuation)

Kids in Crisis: Junior at Clark HS/Date of Incident: Aug 29, 2025

1. Joslyn Marroquin – Student
2. Jamie Espada - Mom
3. Jenna Marroquin - Sister
4. Juan Hernandez - Friend

Concerns:

- Adult was on the phone
- Student was taken to the NISD officer – placed in handcuffs
- Felt punished for crying out
- Does not feel like she can open up bc of how things were handled
- Joslyn was taken to a mental hospital

Ask: Get Local agencies to train staff

Understand that depression and mental illness are real things, not to be punished for.

What measures will be taken to prevent it from happening again?

5. Consent Agenda

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), Approval: A. Minutes from the Meetings of November 11, 2025

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

Action (Consent), Approval: C. Approval of Innovative Course

Action (Consent), Approval: D. Library Book List

Action (Consent), Approval: E. Certified TTESS Appraisers

Action (Consent), Approval: F. Amendment #3 - GMP - Administration & Classroom Replacement - John Marshall HS

Action (Consent), Approval: G. Contractor for 2025 Jay HS Canopy Addition

Action (Consent), Approval: H. Change Orders

Action (Consent), Approval: I. DGB (LOCAL) Policy

MOTION

Moved by: Bobby Blount

Seconded by: David Salcido

Yes

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

Motion Approved 7-0

6. Curriculum and Instruction

A. 26-27 and 27-28 District Academic Calendars

Type: Action

Dr. Jordan showed both calendars to the Board and explained the idea of why NISD made the changes it made.

Chavez: Similar to Veterans' Day. Individual campuses celebrate and commemorate.

MOTION

Moved by: Laura Zapata, Seconded by: Bobby Blount

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

B. Pre-Kindergarten Expansion Proposal

Type: Discussion and Possible Action

Trustees discussed the possibility of expanding the district's PK program to include a limited number of qualifying three-year old students, with opportunities to blend eligible PK3 students into PK4 classrooms when developmentally appropriate and operationally feasible, beginning in the 2026-27 school year. In addition, this expansion would include the discontinuation of the NISD PK Tuition program at the end of the 2025-26 school year. Current enrolled students would be allowed to continue for the 2026-27 school year.

MOTION

Moved by: Carol Harle, Seconded by: Karen Freeman

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

C. Northside Connect Virtual School

Type: Information

The district plans to launch a virtual high school in January to meet growing community demand and stay competitive with other districts. The program will serve grades 9–12, offer 100% virtual instruction, and allow students to participate in UIL activities through their home campus.

Flexibility is the primary driver, especially for homeschooled families and students with travel needs.

The virtual school, tentatively named Northside Connect, will serve in-district and out-of-district students, with instruction provided through a vendor selected via RFP. While the program may not be perfect initially, delaying implementation could result in losing students to other options. Student progress will be monitored, and those who struggle may transition back to a traditional campus to ensure success.

7. Administration

A. First Reading of DGA (LOCAL) Policy

Type: Action

Trustees discussed amongst each other:

1. That this should apply to other organizations.
2. Administration should have final discretion.

MOTION

Moved by: Laura Zapata, Seconded by: David Salcido

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

No

Bobby Blount and Karen Freeman

8. Superintendent

A. Bexar County Appraisal District Board of Directors Appointment

Type: Discussion and Action

Northside ISD Board nominated Gerald Lopez and Ivalis Meza Gonzalez to the Bexar County Appraisal District. NISD along with other taxing entities nominated a total of seven candidates. Northside ISD has 368 of 2,000 total votes. The NISD vote to apply the 368 votes must be made by board resolution.

The Board discussed sharing votes between Dr. Ralph Barksdale, Ivalis Meza Gonzalez, Gerald Lopez, and Becky Ruiz. Also weighed how the votes wouldn't have an impact if shared between all four nominees.

MOTION

Moved by: Laura Zapata, Seconded by: Carol Harle

Yes

Carol Harle, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Laura Zapata, and Sonia Jasso

No

Bobby Blount and Karen Freeman

Motion Approved 5-2

B. Medina Central Appraisal District Board of Directors Appointment

Type: Discussion and Action

Taxing entities within Medina County nominated individuals shown on the ballot to the Medina Central Appraisal District. Northside ISD has 130 of 5,000 total votes. The NISD vote to apply the 130 votes must be made by board resolution.

Board agreed on giving all 130 votes to Harold "Butch" Galm.

MOTION

Moved by: Bobby Blount, Seconded by: Karen Freeman

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

Motion Approved 7-0

C. Bandera Central Appraisal District Board of Directors Appointment

Type: Discussion and Action

Taxing entities within Bandera County nominated individuals shown on the ballot to the Bandera Central Appraisal District. Northside ISD has 50 of 5,000 total votes. The NISD vote to apply the 50 votes must be made by board resolution.

Board agreed on splitting votes between all nominees as equally as possible.

MOTION

Moved by: Bobby Blount, Seconded by: Laura Zapata

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

Motion Approved 7-0

D. Naming of Facilities - CW (LOCAL) Policy

In accordance with Board Policy, Trustees will solicit community feedback regarding the potential renaming of Colonies North Elementary School. This decision follows the submission of name nominations by the community.

MOTION

Moved by: David Salcido, Seconded by: Sonia Jasso

Yes: David Salcido, Karla Duran, Laura Zapata, and Sonia Jasso

No: Bobby Blount and Karen Freeman

Abstain: Carol Harle

Motion Approved 4-2

D. Board Operating Procedures

Bring back on January 20

MOTION: No motion taken

E. Code of Ethics

All were in favor of the Code of Ethics

MOTION

Moved by: Laura Zapata, Seconded by: Carol Harle

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

Motion Approved 7-0

9. Executive Session

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 9:31 p.m.

- A. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.076 and 551.089, consider and discuss TxSSC intruder and detection audit.
- B. Appointment of Chief of Police
- C. Appointment of Principal at Health Careers High School
- D. Appointment of Principal at Sul Ross Middle School
- E. Appointment of Associate Principal at Folks Middle School
- F. Appointment of Associate Principal at Marshall High School
- G. Appointment of Associate Principal at Burke Elementary School
- H. Appointment of Associate Principal at Scobee Elementary School
- I. Appointment of Assistant Principal at Northside Alternative High School

10. Executive Session Resources

11. 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 10:13 p.m.

- A. Appointment of Chief of Police
- B. Appointment of Principal at Health Careers High School
- C. Appointment of Principal at Sul Ross Middle School
- D. Appointment of Associate Principal at Folks Middle School
- E. Appointment of Associate Principal at Marshall High School
- F. Appointment of Associate Principal at Burke Elementary School
- G. Appointment of Associate Principal at Scobee Elementary School
- H. Appointment of Assistant Principal at Northside Alternative High School

MOTION

Moved by: Carol Harle, Seconded by: Laura Zapata

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

Motion Approved 7-0

11. Adjournment**Procedural: A. Adjourn the Meeting**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:14 p.m.

APPROVED ON JANUARY 20, 2026