

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

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Tuesday, September 24, 2024
6:00 PM**

Members present

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

Staff present

**Dr. Craft, Ray Galindo, Janis Jordan, Jaob Villarreal, Kris Trejo, Barry Perez,
Sandi Bonnett, Valerie Sisk, Eric Tobias, Steven Daniel, Rene Barajas, Ben Muir, Jessica Palomares**

1. Meeting Opening

Procedural: A. Invocation and Pledges of Allegiance

Carol Harle

Procedural: B. Call Meeting to Order
6:02 pm

2. Superintendent's Report

A. The Superintendent 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.

- Catching Up With Craft-Video Era. Catching Up with Craft was formerly a written message sent to all staff every week. It is now in a video format and can be found at <https://www.nisd.net/district/catching-up-with-craft>.
- Enrollment Data and Attendance Push/Incentives. With enrollment currently at 99,699, initiatives will be implemented to continue to grow student enrollment, in particular at the Pre-K level.
- Football season kicked off with new video boards. The District's athletic season has had a great start, including the launch of the new video boards at both Gus and Farris stadiums. ● 9/11 Remembrance at Marshall HS. Marshall HS/LMS held a ceremony early on Sept. 11 to remember the 2,977 people killed in the terror attacks in 2001 as well as to honor those who served on the frontline as first responders.
- Project ACORN Kick-Off. A kick-off event for Project ACORN was held at Los Reyes ES recently. Thanks to Amalia Sollars and Issac Esquivel for organizing it.
- CBAC Meeting. The Citizens Bond Advisory Committee (SBAC) met recently. Thanks to the members for serving.
- NSITE Mentor Luncheon. Dr. Craft applauded the NSITE mentoring program and appreciated all of the mentors and mentees participating in it.
- Child Cancer Recognition at Lieck ES. Pre-K student Declan DeLeon and his mother are working with Principal Jess Garza to raise awareness of childhood cancer. Four-year-old Declan is a cancer survivor.
- NEF Pillar Recognition. The Northside Education Foundation (NEF) hosted a Pillar Reception that brought together the 2024 Pillars of Character and the Pillars from the previous 24 years.
- NEF Giving Campaign. The Annual Giving Campaign is well underway and is an opportunity for staff and community members to support the NEF and the innovative initiatives it supports.
- KENS5 EXCEL Teacher Recognition. Melinda Valdez, a STEM teacher at Beard Elementary School, was named the 2024-25 EXCEL Award winner for NISD.
- TEPSA Student Leadership Award. In 2018, the Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association (TEPSA) established the TEPSA Student Leadership Award to honor outstanding student leadership teams and their impact on our school communities in the state of Texas. NISD had four campuses qualify: Esparza, Lieck, Ott, and Scobee elementary schools.
- Purple Star Campus Designation. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) has awarded 105 NISD campuses the Purple Star Campus Designation for the 2024-25 school year. To view the list of campuses, click here.
- Hispanic Heritage Month. This month kicks off Hispanic Heritage Month and we appreciate our campuses celebrating the rich diversity of our district.
- Video Moment: The video moment recognized Olivia De Leon, a senior at Holmes High School, who was chosen as the 2024-25 KENS5 All-Star Student-Athlete from NISD. Click here to watch the video.

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 Bobby Blount spoke of txEDCON, an annual conference for school board members, superintendents, and administrators, as an opportunity for educational leaders from across the state to gather and connect.
- Trustee Corinne Saldana thanked all of the District's coaches and band directors and all those working with and guiding students. Saldana said the NEF Pillar Reception was exceptional and especially enjoyed interacting with former Holmes HS students honored at Pillars. She attended the 9/11 Remembrance at Marshall HS and felt it was a 2 BOARDTalk 2024-2025 published by the Communications Department, Northside Independent School District beautiful tribute. Saldana commended the work of the video board teams at Gus and Farris stadiums and said they are doing an amazing job running the new stadium videoboards. She encouraged Trustees to consider assisting with the distribution of the NEF New Teacher Grant awards on Oct. 4.
- Trustee David Salcido mentioned that of the 541 schools in Texas awarded the Purple Star designation by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), 105 are Northside ISD schools.
- Trustee Dr. Homer Guevara thanked Nicole Franco, Principal Coach, and Diana Ely, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, for their work in facilitating Leadership Northside.
- Trustee Dr. Karla Duran thanked Dr. Craft for recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month. She acknowledged Northside's recognition of America's Heroes Week, honoring first responders and military personnel. Duran announced that Alamo Colleges will host a Dual Credit Conference on Oct. 5 at ESC-Region 20. Duran touted a program developed by Lisa Coleman, Soy Latina, aimed at developing leadership skills in females ages 15-18.
- Trustee Dr. Carol Harle expressed how pleased she was that 105 NISD schools earned the Purple Star campus designation for the 2024-2025 school year from the Texas Education Agency (TEA). This year's total number of recipients is up from only ten last school year. Harle reminded Trustees that the deadline for submitting nominations for the H-E-B Excellence in Education Award is Oct. 7. She spoke on the importance of voting and referenced the work of the Youth Do Vote organization and the great opportunities it offers for students. Harle also announced that Raise Your Hand Texas will host a candidate forum on Oct. 17 and 19. She spoke of the passing of Marshall HS classmate Robin Boldt, whose father, Herbert Boldt, is the namesake of Boldt ES. Harle acknowledged Dr. Kimberly Ridgley, Assistant Superintendent of Whole Child, and her work with a Mental Health Summit planned for Nov. 4.
- Trustee Karen Freeman acknowledged Beard ES STEM teacher Melinda Valdez on her KENS5 EXCEL recognition. She enjoyed being on hand when the award was presented. Freeman thanked Linebarger Law Firm for sponsoring the NEF Pillar Reception. She congratulated all Esports competitors and encouraged others to attend an esports competition.

4. Recognitions

Information: A. Outgoing Members of 2023-2024 Northside Leadership Academy (NLA)

Recognition of outgoing members of Northside Leadership Academy. The Board recognized the outgoing members of the 2023-2024 Northside Leadership Academy (NLA).

Information: B. Outgoing Members of Leadership Northside 2023-24 Cohort

- Recognition of outgoing members of Leadership Northside. Leadership Northside seeks to empower stakeholders with the knowledge and tools needed to effectively advocate for continuous improvement of the education experience for Northside students. Participants were recognized for completing the 2023 2024 cohort.

Information: C. Signing of the Decision of Respect

- Signing of Decision of Respect. On Oct. 4, all NISD students and staff will be invited to sign a Decision of Respect as part of the District's anti-bullying initiatives. Counselors have been equipped with training, materials, and lessons for classroom presentations that teach necessary skills to students to promote a safe, respectful, and healthy school climate. Members of the Board of Trustees signed their own Decision of Respect as a show of support for the program spearheaded by the NISD Counseling Department led by Elizabeth Flores. Dr. Craft signed on behalf of NISD staff.

5. 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.

Chuck Williams - Last week a specific parent voiced concern for Evers ES, Jordan MS, and Warren HS to gain media coverage.

- Elem. and MS were upset to expose and exploited

- Mr. Williams' regularly volunteers - Greeter and performs hall sweeps. Parents left the building according to the rules and regulations
- Jordan - All staff feels supported by admin: teachers, coaches, nurses, etc
- Principal of ES school - They are struggling and NISD is placing the burden on our administrators to be responsible for emotional physical and mental stability for their staff.

Alicia Kelly - She signs to start her initial time on the clock so the Board would feel uncomfortable as she stated to prove a point.

Calling attention to how our students who are deaf, hard of hearing, spec ed students feel when we deny them the equipment they need to prosper.

- Health science and devices been denied
- excluded from learning and has to take the test they are not prepared for
- No ADs on campus.
- Due to not having the proper equipment students are missing clinical rotation
- Not enough signage to the public/parents. School only has 2 small signs indicating that the school has deaf students
- During safety protocols - There are zero indications for deaf students to be alerted and have been found in the hallway.
This is a safety issue that has not been addressed

Melina - AFT

Topics of discussion

- Local union support, Pro-public education
- TX Public schools are under attack
- Fight harder for education funding
- Where is the Board in this process
- Abbott holding funds for vouchers and will not support NISD if voting in favor of vouchers

Terry Zablocki -

Topics of Discussion:

- Tried to join AFT and the President denied
- AFT is aggressive
- Spoke on their union salaries - AFT - Past President earned \$92,000
- How does an organization justify running against NISD and want NISD to support AFT

6. 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 August

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

Action (Consent), Approval: D. Purchasing Cooperative Fees Paid by Northside Independent School District

Action (Consent), Approval: E. Resolution to Approve Waiver of Penalty and Interest on Tax Account: #17267-005-0230

Action (Consent), Approval: F. Resolution to Approve Waiver of Penalty and Interest on Tax Accounts: #04450-776-0190

Action (Consent), Approval: G. Resolution to Approve Waiver of Penalty and Interest on Tax Accounts: #18299-002-0310 and #18299-002-0320

Action (Consent), Approval: H. Contractor for Athletics, Lighting, & Energy Controls Upgrades - Sul Ross Middle School - RFCSP #2024-011

Action (Consent), Approval: I. Contractor for Golf Practice Facilities - Dub Farris Stadium & Hardin Complex - RFCSP #2024-028

Action (Consent), Approval: J. Change Orders

Action, Discussion and Possible Approval: K. 2024-2025 School Boundary Advisory Committee (SBAC)

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

Motion by Corinne Saldana, second by Carol Harle.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

7. Facilities and Operations

Action, Approval: A. Construction Manager-at-Risk for Building Upgrades - John Jay/SEA High School - RFCSP #2024-109

Presenter: Jacob Villarreal
Budget Provisions: 2022 Bond Program
Committee: Building Committee - September 13, 2024
Recommended Action: Approval

The 2022 Bond Program provided for Building Upgrades at John Jay/SEA High School. The first phase of this construction delivery method is solicitation of the Construction Manager and establishing the fees for that service, which is based as a percentage of the construction cost. As final construction drawings are developed, a GMP (Guaranteed Maximum Price) is determined by the Contractor and reviewed by District Consultants. Any cost savings realized after construction is completed is returned 100% to the District.

Requests for Competitive Sealed Proposals for Construction Manager-at-Risk were received on July 30, 2024 with subsequent potential contractor interviews on August 7, 2024. Texas Education Codes and Board Policies CV and CVB authorized this construction delivery method.

Approval to award a contract for the Construction Manager-at-Risk delivery method for the Building Upgrades at John Jay/SEA High School to contractor as per attachment is recommended. The anticipated percentage is 7.140 which is comprised of cost for general conditions of construction (4.140%) and the Contractors fee (3.000%). The Final GMP figure is anticipated to be established in Summer 2025.

Motion by Corinne Saldana, second by Karen Freeman.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

Action, Approval: B. Schematic Design - New Magnet - Katherine Stinson Middle School

Presenter: Jacob Villarreal
Budget Provisions: 2022 Bond Program
Committee: Building Committee - September 13, 2024
Recommended Action: Approval

The 2022 Bond Program provided for a new Sports Medicine Magnet at Katherine Stinson Middle School. A schematic design has been developed by the architect and is ready for presentation. Approval of the schematic design for the Katherine Stinson Middle School Sports Medicine Magnet as presented by Pfluger Architects is recommended.

Motion by Corinne Saldana, second by Karla Duran.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Carol Harle, Bobby Blount, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, Karla Duran, Homer Guevara

No: David Salcido

8. Human Resources

Information: A. Self Funded Insurance Update

Information: B. 2025 UHC Employee Premiums

No changes and view the 6 plans

Trustees heard an update from McGriff Insurance on the status of the District's self-funded model.

9. Administration

Discussion: A. First Reading of EFB (LOCAL) Policy

EFB (LOCAL) was discussed at the Policy and Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting on September 11, 2024.

- * Clear up language in Policy CM - library catalog for parents
- * Appeal process

Highlighted area on the presentation (pg 5) - Speak with lawyers to clarify "form to the Board" because this could cause conflict if the grievance is filed. Information once confirmed is to go into Friday Letter.

Discussion: B. Discussion of Boundary Change from Middle School (Ray Galindo)

GOAL: To provide relief to Bernal MS through boundary changes to area schools with available capacity

Discussion: C. Discussion of Boundary Change from Elementary School (Ray Galindo)

PROPOSAL Set a target projected enrollment which nears the campus capacity without portables. • McDermott's target projected enrollment would be 660 students. • Mead's target projected enrollment would be 760 students. Expand ESL services to Oak Hills Terrace and Rhodes. Propose boundary changes at McDermott and Mead to balance enrollment utilizing available capacity at nearby campuses.

Trustees heard school boundary proposals that would balance enrollment at some elementary and middle schools by utilizing capacity at other campuses. Public hearings will be held in October and November, and Trustees will decide on the proposed boundary changes at upcoming Board meetings.

10. Superintendent

Discussion: A. Discussion of Internal Audit Program

19 applicants - Consider both internal programs or if out of scope of expertise create the RFQ.

Will discuss in a future board meeting to explore the options

Action: B. Bexar County Appraisal District - 2025 Board of Directors Appointments Nomination

Name nominated by the Board of Trustees: Dave Gannon

Motion by Karen Freeman, second by Corinne Saldana.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

Procedural: C. Future Agenda Items

Topics of discussion:

- Future Agenda upcoming items
- NEIC - List requested from Dr. Jordan for possible nomination for leadership NISD -Mg was asked to include it in the upcoming Friday Letter
- Oct. 9 - TX Human Resources Day
- Resolution hand carried and given to legislation to emphasize needs of Public Education and NISD. Need to support retention and recruitment - Ask: Bring resolution for review to the next Board meeting
- Dept. visits - Federal programs

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 9:25 p.m.

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: C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code §§ 551.071 and 551.0821, consultation with school attorney regarding pending litigation and possible settlement of Student v. Northside Independent School District, Before a Special Education Hearing Officer for the State of Texas; Docket No. 284-SE-0424.

Discussion and Possible Approval: E. Appointment of Principal at Thornton Elementary School

Discussion and Possible Approval: F. Appointment of Associate Principal at Colby Glass Elementary School

Discussion and Possible Approval: G. Appointment of Academic Dean at Jones Middle School

Discussion and Possible Approval: H. Appointment of Assistant Principal at Taft HS

Discussion and Possible Approval: I. Director of Partnerships

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 10:40 pm.

Action: B. Consideration and possible action concerning pending litigation and possible settlement of Student v. Northside Independent School District, Before a Special Education Hearing Officer for the State of Texas; Docket No. 284-SE-0424.

Motion by Karen Freeman, second by Carol Harle.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

Action, Approval: C. Appointment of Associate Principal at Colby Glass Elementary School

Action, Approval: D. Appointment of Principal at Thornton Elementary School

Action, Approval: E. Appointment of Academic Dean at Jones Middle School

Action, Approval: F. Appointment of Assistant Principal at Taft HS

Action, Approval: G. Director of Partnerships

Motion by Homer Guevara, second by Karla Duran.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Carol Harle, Bobby Blount, 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 10:41 pm.

Approved on October 22, 2024