

**CYPRESS-FAIRBANKS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MARCH 6, 2023  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District Board of Trustees convened in Regular Session on Monday, March 6, 2023, in the Boardroom of the Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District Instructional Support Center, located at 10300 Jones Road, Houston, Texas.

**MEETING OPENING**

Board President Tom Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The following Board members were present: Tom Jackson, Julie Hinaman, Gilbert Sarabia, Dr. Natalie Blasingame, Scott Henry and Lucas Scanlon. Board member Debbie Blackshear was not present.

Board President Jackson recognized Jacqueline Thomas from Boy Scout Troop 1075.

Reverend Les Carpenter, Rector, Saint Aidan's Episcopal Church, delivered the invocation.

The following Langham Creek High School AFJROTC cadets presented the colors for the meeting: Cadet 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Nathaly Olivares carried the US Flag, on the US Rifle was Cadet Colonel Bryan Sorto, Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Rogel Sorto carried the Texas Flag and on the Texas Rifle was Cadet General Margrett Tax. These cadets presented the colors to you under the direction of Senior Master Sergeant Steven Rinehart, U.S. Air Force (retired).

Board member Lucas Scanlon read the District's Vision and Mission Statement.

Board President Jackson announced that the Board would proceed with the **Remarks and Recognitions** portion of the agenda.

**1. Remarks and Recognitions**

- 1.A.** Superintendent Dr. Henry made remarks and announcements regarding the honors and achievements earned by staff and students in recent weeks and provided information regarding District and community events or items of interest.

Mr. Jackson asked his colleagues if they would agree to reviewing **Agenda Items 4.B. and 4.C.** before proceeding with the Board Comments portion of the agenda out of consideration for guests, Jonathan Frels and Terrell Palmer, who were present to answer any questions on Agenda Item 4.C.

- 4.B.** The Board will consider the administration's recommendations for naming Middle School #20 and Elementary School #58.

Dr. Henry announced his recommendation that Elementary School #58 be named in honor of Dr. Carla Brosnahan.

Dr. Henry introduced Dr. Carla Brosnahan as the namesake for Elementary School #58. Dr. Brosnahan shared her appreciation for being selected as the namesake for Elementary School #58.

President Jackson called for a motion.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved that the Board  
approve the non-consensus item as recommended.  
Board member Lucas Scanlon seconded.  
**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

Dr. Henry announced his recommendation that Middle School #20 be named in honor of Roy Sprague.

President Jackson called for a motion.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved that the Board  
approve the non-consensus item as recommended.  
Board member Gilbert Sarabia seconded.  
**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

Dr. Henry introduced Roy Sprague as the namesake for Middle School #20. Mr. Sprague shared his appreciation for being selected as the namesake for Middle School #20.

Mr. Jackson called for a recess at 6:57 p.m.

Mr. Jackson called the meeting back to order at 7:11 p.m. and proceeded with Agenda Item 4.C.

- 4.C.** The Board will consider the adoption of an Order Authorizing the Issuance of the Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District Unlimited Tax School Building and Refunding Bonds, which May be Issued in One of More Series; Levying a Tax and Providing for the Security and Payment Thereof; Providing for the Award of the Sale Thereof in Accordance with Specified Parameters; and Enacting Other Provisions Relating Thereto.

CFO Karen Smith gave a brief presentation and Terrell Palmer with Post Oak Municipal Advisors answered questions from the Board.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved that the Board approve the non-consensus item as recommended.

Board member Dr. Natalie Blasingame seconded.

**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

Mr. Jackson announced that if his colleagues approved, he would move **Agenda Items 4.E. and 4.F.** immediately after Board Comments.

## **2. Board Comments**

- 2.A.** Any Board member may make a comment during this portion of the agenda, without prior posting being required. Comment items may not pertain to the character of any students, staff or Board member and may not be discussed or deliberated upon at this meeting.

**Board member Scott Henry** shared his unique and special experiences during his campus visits to Cy-Lakes High School, Postma, Willbern, Metcalf and Woodard elementaries, and Truitt and Labay middle schools. Mr. Henry shared his daughter's struggles as she battles to regain her health. He discussed how her last IEP was truly difficult because she is homebound for health issues. Mr. Henry stated that CFISD has gone above and beyond in special education. He believes Cy-Fair is a leader in this field, taking extraordinary steps to make sure every student, regardless of ability or status, gets a top-notch education.

**Board member Dr. Natalie Blasingame** stated that she is eager to see the MOI reading data in the district and how CFISD has been able to close the gap in low reading scores so the district may emulate what is working and improve upon what is not. Dr. Blasingame recently participated in a school board finance workshop through the Edunomics Lab at Georgetown University. Dr. Blasingame thanked the SHAC Committee for their countless hours of work on the health and sex education curriculum and supports the idea to make high school health classes optional for students.

**Board member Gilbert Sarabia** shared some of the district events he attended this past month. Mr. Sarabia attended a playoff game, 3<sup>rd</sup> round, of women's basketball at Bridgeland High School. While at Bridgeland, he toured the baseball/softball complex and shared what a phenomenal facility it is. Mr. Sarabia attended the TASB Governance Camp in Galveston and shared what a great experience the conference was. Mr. Sarabia gave kudos to all the athletic trainers in the district and shared how talented and valuable they are to the athletes and the athletic programs in the district.

**Board member Lucas Scanlon** recently participated in Read Across America by reading to 1<sup>st</sup> graders at Rennell Elementary School. He also attended the Superintendent's Student Leadership Advisory Council where he had the pleasure of meeting the principle violinist for the Cy-Fair High School orchestra. Through communications with the Cy-Fair orchestra teacher, Ms. Lacey Thwing, Mr. Scanlon was able to attend one of the rehearsals and a preparation concert for her students getting ready for a UIL competition. Mr. Scanlon complimented Ms. Thwing on her leadership in the classroom and how she does a phenomenal job engaging her students. Mr. Scanlon also attended a choir performance at The Foundry.

**Board member Julie Hinaman** continues to mentor students at Cy-Falls, Cy-Park and Cy-Ridge High Schools. Ms. Hinaman attended the Superintendent's Student Leadership Advisory Council where she visited with a student who shared he had been on the Cy-Fair HS bowling team for four years and that team is now going to the state competition. Ms. Hinaman attended the Cy-Fair COC Education Committee meeting as well as the TASB Legislative Conference in Austin. She attended a couple of JV track meets at Langham Creek and Cy-Woods High Schools, the choir performance at The Foundry and the Cy-Woods Wildcat Mental Health Alliance Second Annual



Walk for a Tomorrow. In closing, Ms. Hinaman shared that she attended the TASB Governance Camp in Galveston where Langham Creek senior Nitya Kodali represented CFISD with poise, grace and intelligence during the student voice and scholarship portion of the conference.

**Board member Tom Jackson** congratulated his colleagues for touching upon special needs, academics, athletics, fine arts and advocacy during their comments and how well this show the Board's intentions and full support of all aspects of a traditional, full-service K-12 school system. Mr. Jackson attended the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration brunch for Cypress Springs High School last month. He also attended a luncheon for the American University of Women where Julie Hinaman was honored for her contributions to education, and Mr. Jackson shared that he and Ms. Hinaman attended the TASB Legislative Conference in Austin. Mr. Jackson attended the recent district safety and security meeting, the monthly CLC meeting, spent over two hours on Zoom meetings with state representatives on different education topics, read Dr. Seuss to 1<sup>st</sup> grade classes at McGown Elementary School during Read Across America week and attended a charter event. Mr. Jackson concluded his comments by giving a "tip of his hat" to all those who participated in Read Across America week.

The Board continued with Agenda Items 4.E. and 4.F.

- 4.E.** The Board will consider adopting the Health and Human Sexuality curriculum proposed by the SHAC for elementary and secondary students.

**Speakers:**

1. Mark Goloby addressed the Board regarding the school district's role in providing parents the opt-in choice for the sex education curriculum.
2. Mary Ann Jackson addressed the Board regarding the proposed Health & Human Sexuality curriculum provided by the SHAC.
3. Monica Dean commented on the Goodheart, Quaver and Health curriculum.
4. Judi DeHaan addressed the Board regarding the approval of the SHAC curriculum after minimal input by the community.

A presentation was given by the SHAC sub-committee for secondary curriculum on their recommendations for Health Curriculum, Glencoe Health Text and the Goodheart Wilcox Health Skills.

Board member Lucas Scanlon stated that he would abstain from voting on the high school portion of the SHAC curriculum because his wife, Bethany Scanlon, was on the secondary sub-committee for the SHAC curriculum.

Mr. Jackson called for a motion on the secondary portion of the SHAC curriculum.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved to adopt the secondary health curriculum, Goodheart Wilcox, with the amended curriculum as recommended by the SHAC committee.

Board member Gilbert Sarabia seconded.  
3 votes in favor; 2 opposed, 1 abstention.

**Motion carries.**

A presentation was given by the SHAC sub-committee for secondary curriculum on their recommendations for the Opt-In Human Sexuality Instruction, Goodheart Wilcox Companion Text, for high schools.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved to adopt the Goodheart Wilcox Health Companion Textbooks for high school Human Sexuality Instruction with the district curriculum customization as recommended by the SHAC committee.

Board member Gilbert Sarabia seconded.  
3 votes in favor; 2 opposed, 1 abstention.

**Motion carries.**

A presentation was given by the SHAC sub-committee for elementary curriculum on their recommendations for Health Curriculum, Quaver.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved to adopt the elementary health curriculum, Quaver Health.

Board member Gilbert Sarabia seconded.  
**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

A presentation was given by the SHAC sub-committee for elementary curriculum on their recommendations for the Human Growth and Development Instruction.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved to adopt the CFISD Human Growth and Development videos with specific additions to meet new TEKS requirements for elementary.  
Board member Gilbert Sarabia seconded.  
**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

- 4.F.** The Board will consider adopting the Elementary and Secondary Anti-Victimization and Human Trafficking Curriculum proposed by the SHAC.

A presentation was given by the SHAC sub-committee for secondary curriculum on Human Trafficking through Crime Stoppers. A presentation was also given by the SHAC sub-committee for elementary curriculum, WHO (We Help Ourselves), created by Mental Health America.

Mr. Jackson called for a motion on the Crime Stoppers Safe School curriculum.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved to adopt the secondary Human Trafficking curriculum, Crime Stoppers, for 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade  
Board member Dr. Natalie Blasingame seconded.  
**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

Mr. Jackson called for a motion on the second part of the agenda item.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved to adopt the elementary and secondary Anti-Victimization curriculum, WHO (We Help Ourselves), for grades K-12.  
Board member Dr. Natalie Blasingame seconded.  
**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

Mr. Jackson announced that the Board would proceed with the **Reports** portion of the agenda.

- 3.A.** The administration provided a report on the 2023 summer school plans and summer programs for elementary, middle school, and high school.

The Board proceeded with the remaining **Action Items** portion of the agenda.

**4. Action Items**

- 4.A.** The Board will consider approving the minutes of the February 13, 2023, Regular Board Meeting.

Mr. Jackson called for a motion.

Board member Dr. Natalie Blasingame moved that the Board approve the minutes of the February 13, 2023 Regular Board Meeting.  
Board member Gilbert Sarabia seconded.  
**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

- 4.D.** The Board will consider approving the administration's recommendations for Open/Closed campus designations for student transfers for the 2023-2024 school year.

Mr. Jackson called for a motion.

Board member Dr. Natalie Blasingame moved that the Board approve the administration's recommendations for Open/Closed campus designations for student transfers for the 2023-2024 school year.  
Board member Lucas Scanlon seconded.  
**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

- 4.G.** The Board will consider approving the renewal of an Affiliation Agreement with Prairie View A&M to fulfill the curriculum requirements for collegiate Registered Nurse (RN) and Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) programs.

Mr. Jackson called for a motion.



Board member Dr. Natalie Blasingame moved that the Board approve the renewal of an Affiliation Agreement with Prairie View A&M to fulfill the curriculum requirements for collegiate Registered Nurse (RN) and Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) programs.

Board member Lucas Scanlon seconded.

**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

- 4.H.** The Board will consider authorizing the superintendent to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Lone Star College for student teacher placement(s).

Board Vice President Julie Hinaman called for a motion.

Board member Dr. Natalie Blasingame moved that the Board authorize the superintendent to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Lone Star College for student teacher placement(s).

Board member Lucas Scanlon seconded.

**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

- 4.I.** The Board will consider approving the issuance of a Career and Technical Education (CTE) teaching permit to Edwin Maxcy in lieu of standard teacher certifications as established in law.

Board Vice President Julie Hinaman called for a motion.

Board member Dr. Natalie Blasingame moved that the Board approve the issuance of a Career and Technical Education (CTE) teaching permit to Edwin Maxcy in lieu of standard teacher certifications as established in law.

Board member Lucas Scanlon seconded.

**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

- 4.J.** The Board will consider approving the granting of a Right of Way Easement and Temporary Construction Easements to North Harris County Regional Water Authority located at Gleason Elementary School along Willowbridge Park Blvd. and authorize the Superintendent or designee to negotiate the final terms and execute all related documents.

Mr. Jackson called for a motion.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved that the Board approve the granting of a Right of Way Easement and Temporary Construction Easements to North Harris County Regional Water Authority located at Gleason Elementary School along Willowbridge Park Blvd. and authorize the Superintendent or designee to negotiate the final terms and execute all related documents.

Board member Lucas Scanlon seconded.

**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

- 4.K.** The Board will consider approving the granting of a Right-Of-Way Easement and Temporary Construction Easements to North Harris County Regional Water Authority (NHCRWA) located at Emmott Elementary School along the North and Northwest property lines and authorize the Superintendent or designee to negotiate the final terms and execute all related documents.

Mr. Jackson called for a motion.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved that the Board approve the granting of a Right-Of-Way Easement and Temporary Construction Easements to North Harris County Regional Water Authority (NHCRWA) located at Emmott Elementary School along the North and Northwest property lines and authorize the Superintendent or designee to negotiate the final terms and execute all related documents.

Board member Dr. Natalie Blasingame seconded.

**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

- 4.L.** The Board will consider approving the Harris County, Texas, Unobstructed Visibility Easement to provide unobstructed visibility and line of sight upon, across, over, and above the Easement Tract for those operators of vehicles and other members of the traveling public using Woods Spillane Boulevard.

Mr. Jackson called for a motion.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved that the Board approve the Harris County, Texas, Unobstructed Visibility Easement to provide unobstructed visibility and line of sight upon, across, over, and above the Easement Tract for those operators of vehicles and other members of the traveling public using Woods Spillane Boulevard.

Board member Lucas Scanlon seconded.

**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

**4.M.** The Board will consider approving construction proposals and contracts paid from Bond Funds to the recommended contractors and authorize the Superintendent or designee to execute all necessary documents related to such contracts as recommended in the posted agenda item.

4.M.1. 2022 Birkes, Gleason and Jowell ES Renovations

4.M.2. 2022 Cy-Fair HS Multisite Master Plan – Package 2

Mr. Jackson called for a motion.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved that the Board approve construction proposals and contracts paid from Bond Funds to the recommended contractors and authorize the Superintendent or designee to execute all necessary documents related to such contracts as recommended in the posted agenda item.

Board member Lucas Scanlon seconded.

**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

**4.N.** The Board will consider awarding bids and contracts and/or authorizing purchase orders as recommended in the posted agenda item.

4.N.1. F5 Equipment Quote

Mr. Jackson called for a motion.

Board member Julie Hinaman moved that the Board award bids and contracts and/or authorize purchase orders as recommended in the posted agenda item.

Board member Dr. Natalie Blasingame seconded.

**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

**4.O.** The Board will consider making a determination that good cause did not exist as required by law for Zaira Amezola, LaShonda Billingsley, Lynn Kristynik, Andonnia Maiben, Marissa Martin, Clifeteana McKiver, Charlotte Mello, Gabriel Miller, Michelle Nguyen, Courtney Obermiller, Kierra O’Neal, Ramsha Patel, Callie Rethman, Charles Roe, Shannon Torres, Michelle Turner, and Reginald Washington to resign their respective employment contracts.

Mr. Jackson stated that this item would be discussed in closed session following the meeting, pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code.

**Speakers:**

1. Lesley Guilmart requested transparency on the rationale for the procedures of determining that good cause did not exist when the above teachers resigned their respective employment contracts. Ms. Guilmart also requested a comparison of current year resignation numbers with pre-pandemic numbers.
2. Jen Williams addressed the Board on teacher retention.

**4.P.** The district will consider a Level IV appeal (Maddox) of a Level III decision.

Mr. Jackson stated that this item would be discussed in closed session following the meeting, pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code.

Mr. Jackson announced that the Board would proceed with the **Discussion** portion of the agenda.

**5.A.** The administration will discuss the Districtwide Intruder Detection Audit Report findings.

Mr. Jackson stated that this item would be discussed in closed session following the meeting, pursuant to Section 551.076 of the Texas Government Code.



**5.B.** The Board will discuss the superintendent’s evaluation.

Mr. Jackson stated that this item would be discussed in closed session following the meeting, pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code.

Mr. Jackson announced that the Board would proceed with the **Citizen’s Participation** portion of the agenda.

**6.A.** Per BED (Local), patrons may address the Board during the Regular Board Meeting under Citizen Participation on any matters of interest or concerns that are not posted agenda items. Individuals may only register to speak one time per meeting and must register in advance. Registration opens the day the agenda is posted to the district website, and the deadline for registering is 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. To register, individuals must click on the “Register to Speak” link found under the Citizen Participation heading in the agenda for that meeting on the district website. This electronic speaker form must be completed in its entirety. Any registered speaker who is absent from the meeting at the time for Citizen Participation forfeits the opportunity to address the Board at that meeting but may submit written comments to the Board.

**Speakers:**

1. Lesley Guilmart shared an upcoming event coordinated by Cypress Families for public schools through Right To Be to provide bystander intervention training with strategies for safely intervening bullying and harassment.
2. Alexie Swirsky addressed the Board regarding pornographic materials she believes are in CFISD libraries.
3. Rashad Shaw addressed the Board on establishing a DEI Board for Cypress Woods High School.
4. Clark Denson addressed the Board regarding the teaching of History.
5. Corleah Campbell addressed the Board on a DEI Board for Cypress Woods High School and shared a follow-up on recent events at Cypress Woods.
6. Monica Dean addressed the Board on CFISD’s vision and mission statement.
7. Mary Ann Jackson made comments on the length of the Board meeting and the discussion time for Board members.
8. Heather Alexander addressed the Board regarding the bullying and harassment be done to her daughter at Goodson Middle School by students and a parent
9. Nikki Cowart shared her appreciation for the Trustees and school leadership that consistently advocate on behalf of all students each month. Ms. Cowart also shared how the Board and the community might collaborate further as the legislative session dictates future budgets.
10. Jessica Tullis addressed the bullying and harassment happening to Heather Alexander’s daughter. Ms. Tullis asked the Board to help make sure this doesn’t fall through the cracks.

**7. Closed Session**

Mr. Jackson thanked the audience for attending the meeting as well as those viewing from home and called for a motion to move into closed session.

Board member Julie Hinaman made a motion to move into closed session.

Board member Lucas Scanlon seconded.

**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

Board President Jackson announced that the Board would reconvene in open session later in the evening. Mr. Jackson adjourned the meeting to closed session at 11:14 p.m.

Board President Jackson reconvened the meeting in open session at 12:48 a.m. and announced that action would be taken on Agenda Items 4.O. and 4.P.

**4.P.** The district will consider a Level IV appeal (Maddox) of a Level III decision.

Mr. Jackson called for a motion to approve the non-consensus item as recommended or amended.

Board member Julie Hinaman made a motion to approve the item as recommended.

Board member Lucas Scanlon seconded.

**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

**4.O.** The Board will consider making a determination that good cause did not exist as required by law for Zaira Amezola, LaShonda Billingsley, Lynn Kristynik, Andonna Maiben, Marissa Martin, Clifeteana McKiver, Charlotte Mello, Gabriel Miller, Michelle Nguyen, Courtney Obermiller, Kierra O’Neal, Ramsha Patel, Callie Rethman, Charles Roe, Shannon Torres, Michelle Turner, and Reginald Washington to resign their respective employment contracts.

Mr. Jackson called for a motion.

Board member Dr. Natalie Blasingame moved that the Board consider making a determination that good cause did not exist for Zaira Amezola, LaShonda Billingsley, Lynn Kristynik, Andonna Maiben, Marissa Martin, Clifeteana McKiver, Charlotte Mello, Gabriel Miller, Michelle Nguyen, Courtney Obermiller, Kierra O'Neal, Ramsha Patel, Callie Rethman, Charles Roe, Shannon Torres, Michelle Turner, and Reginald Washington to resign their respective employment contracts.

Board member Lucas Scanlon seconded.

**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

**8. Adjournment**

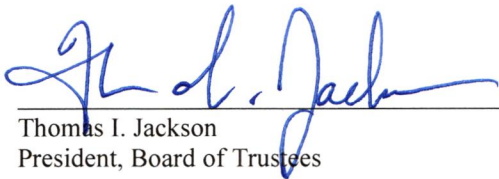
Board President Jackson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Board member Dr. Natalie Blasingame made a motion to adjourn.

Board member Lucas Scanlon seconded.

**Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.**

The March 6, 2023, Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 1:09 a.m.



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Thomas I. Jackson  
President, Board of Trustees



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Gilbert Sarabia  
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Approved: April 10, 2023