

AT A BOARD WORKSHOP AND JOINT PUBLIC HEARING WITH DISTRICT CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT TEAM ON DISTRICT ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ECTOR COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT HELD ON FEBRUARY 10, 2026, BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM A/B, 802 NORTH SAM HOUSTON, ODESSA, ECTOR COUNTY, TEXAS, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Present:

Delma Abalos
Dr. Steve Brown
Tammy Hawkins
Dawn Miller
Christopher Stanley
Robert Thayer
Wayne Woodall

Absent:

School Officials: Dr. Keeley Boyer, Mike Adkins, Albessa Chavez, Mauricio Marquez, Dr. Anthony Sorola, Dr. Matthew Spivy, Alicia Syverson, Lauren Tavarez, Dr. Robert Trejo

Others: Alex Reynolds, Naomi Fuentes, Alyssa Graft, Rita Crouch, Tiffany Tobar, Consuelo Soto, Cheryl Wilson, Melanie Sheehan, Clinton Gill, Brianne Baeza, Javier Ruiz, Ariel Klinke, Trei Mcleod, Emma Hernandez, Shona Lewis, Nory Leachon, Sandra Talavera, Rita Lopez, Mary Franco

27496 **Meeting Called to Order:** Tammy Hawkins, Board President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

27497 **Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law:** Tammy Hawkins, Board President, verified that the provisions of Section 551.001 of the Texas Government Code have been met in connection with public notice of this meeting.

27498 **Opening Remarks by Superintendent:** In her opening remarks, Superintendent Dr. Keeley Boyer reminded everyone that there *is school this Monday*. It is no longer a holiday; it will now serve as a make-up day for the snow days taken two weeks ago.

27499 **Public Comment:** Individuals who wish to participate during the portion of the meeting designated for public comment shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins as specified in the Board's procedures on public comment and shall indicate the agenda item on which they wish to address the Board. *BED(LOCAL)*

In public comment, Permian High School student Francisco Morales, spoke on religious freedom and his opposition to Senate Bill 11 (which the school board is discussing in Item 6-B below). He expressed concern that establishing a daily prayer period could cause some students to feel pressured to conform with beliefs they do not share, and that when, where, and how to pray should be determined by individuals and families, not local public schools.

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(Dawn Miller arrived at 6:18 p.m. and was presented for the remainder of the meeting.)

Public Hearing

27500 **Joint Public Hearing with District Continuous Improvement Team on District Annual Performance Report**: Trustees held a Joint Public Hearing with the District Continuous Improvement Team (DCIT) on the District Annual Performance Report. School districts are required to hold a public hearing to discuss this annual report which includes academic performance data, financial report, accreditation status, campus performance objectives, information on violent or criminal incidents, and performance in post-secondary institutions. Chief Academic Officer Dr. Robert Trejo presented the 2024-2025 District Annual Performance Report. The full report, including the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) will be posted on the district website within two weeks, as required.

Immediately following the presentation, Board President Tammy Hawkins declared the Joint Public Hearing with District Continuous Improvement Team on District Annual Performance Report, ***open***.

There was no public comment.

Board President Tammy Hawkins declared the Joint Public Hearing with District Continuous Improvement Team on District Annual Performance Report, ***closed***.

No action required.

Report/Discussion Items

27501 **Discussion to Delay Teacher Certification Requirements Until the Beginning of the 2029-2030 School Year**: Chief Human Capital Officer Dr. Matthew Spivy presented this item for discussion. The state has re-emphasized its expectation that all teachers be certified; however, the Texas Education Code allows school districts to delay full implementation of teacher certification requirements until the 2029-2030 school year. ECISD currently has 263 uncertified core-content instructors and will rely heavily on its internal certification program, Odessa Pathway to Teaching, as well as the University of Texas Permian Basin's certification program, while continuing to inform teacher candidates about other available programs. There are five requirements to become a certified teacher in Texas: obtaining a bachelor's degree, completing an educator preparation program, passing certification exams, submitting a state application, and completing fingerprinting. ECISD is making a concerted effort to support new teachers in becoming certified by meeting with those who need certification, designing individualized certification plans, building study plans, hosting weekly sessions with candidates, and administering monthly certification practice tests.

No action required.

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27502 **Discussion of Statutory Resolution Regarding Establishing a Daily Prayer Period:** Superintendent Dr. Keeley Boyer and Chief of Schools Mauricio Marquez presented this item for discussion. Senate Bill 11, enacted during the most recent legislative session, authorizes school districts to establish a daily period for prayer and the reading of religious texts. The law requires school boards to formally vote on such a resolution no later than March 1, 2026. If a district chooses to adopt this daily period, it must apply uniformly to every campus each day; it may not replace instructional time; and participation is limited to staff and students who have submitted a signed consent form. Furthermore, prayer or the reading of religious texts may not occur within the physical presence or hearing distance of any individual who has not provided consent; the use of the PA system for this purpose is prohibited; and activities are restricted to classrooms or areas in which all individuals present have submitted consent forms. In regard to religious freedom practices, ECISD observes a daily moment of silence at every campus, has adopted policy GKG (Local) allowing chaplains as volunteers; and allows students to participate in voluntary events and organizations such as *See You at the Pole*, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Fields of Faith, and First Priority. The Board of Trustees will conduct the required vote on February 17, 2026.

No action required.

27503 **Discussion of Community Advocacy Program:** Superintendent Dr. Keeley Boyer presented this item for discussion. The purpose of this program would be to increase understanding of school governance, finance, operations, and academics; strengthen trust, transparency, and shared ownership of district outcomes; and build informed community advocates. Membership would be representative of all seven school board districts, and could be parents, business leaders, civic leaders, or others interested in public education and considering future service with ECISD.

No action required.

27504 **Possible Request for Approval to Move to Closed Meeting – Personnel Matters – Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code [Board will deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of public employees of the District, or hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.]; Consultations with Attorney – Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act [The Board will meet in Closed Session in Consultation with the Board’s Attorney Regarding all Matters as Authorized by Law.]:**

There was no closed session.

27505 **Closing Remarks by Superintendent:** There were no closing remarks.

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27506 **Adjournment:** Board President Tammy Hawkins adjourned the Board meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Board President
Tammy Hawkins

Board Secretary
Robert Thayer