

# Minutes of Regular Meeting

## The Board of Trustees

### Devine ISD

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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Devine ISD was held on Monday, May 18, 2026 beginning at 6:30 PM in the Administration Building, 605 W Hondo Ave., Devine, TX 78016

**Board Members Present:** Nancy Pepper (President), Henry Moreno (Vice-President), Keri James (Secretary), Carl Brown, Alixana Buvinghausen, Chris Davis, Candace Esparza, Britny Stricker

**Guests Present:** Gloria Moreno, Adam Moreno, Sarah Moreno, Ronda Shelton, Linsey Outlaw, Linda McAnelly, Doug Bull, Robby Brown, Kandy Stein, Shelby Haass, Charles Stricker, Cooper Stricker, Chloe Stricker, Charlie Stricker.

**School Officials Present:** Dr. Todd Grandjean (Superintendent), Dawn Schneider (Director of HR/Info Mgmt), Michael Gomez (DHS Principal), Kandi Darnell (DMS Principal), Lysandra Reyes (Intermediate Principal), JodiAnn Dzierzanowski (DAEP/DLA Principal), Jenni Hagdorn (Special Ed Director), Shannon Ramirez (CFO), Geri Woods (Recording Secretary)

#### 1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Nancy Pepper called this meeting of the Devine Independent School District Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. and stated for the record that a quorum of board members was present, that this meeting had been duly called, and that notice of this meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551. She further stated that trustees Keri James, Candace Esparza, Carl Brown, Chris Davis, Ali Buvinghausen, Nancy Pepper, and Henry Moreno were present.

#### 2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation led by Nancy Pepper

#### 3. Citizen Communication

##### A. Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items

Robby Brown spoke regarding placing speed bumps on Warhorse Drive. Linsey Outlaw spoke on the Teacher Incentive Allotment.

##### B. Public Address for Items on the Agenda. None.

#### 4. Administer Statement of Elected Officer and Oath of Office to District 3, and District 4 Trustees. Britny Stricker and Nancy Pepper were sworn in by Notary Public, Geri Woods.

#### 5. Recognize Outgoing Board Member

Todd Grandjean recognized Henry Moreno for his years of service to Devine ISD and presented him with a plaque.

At this time, Henry Moreno left the meeting, and Britny Stricker took her place at the board table. Board Secretary, Keri James, resumed the meeting as presiding officer.

#### 6. Closed Session

Keri James stated for the record that the Board of Trustees, beginning at 6:51 p.m., will convene in a closed session in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of discussing items listed under Texas Government Code Section 551.074. NO FINAL ACTION, DECISIONS, OR VOTES WILL BE TAKEN WHILE THE BOARD IS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

#### 7. Reconvene from Closed Session

The board reconvened in open session at 7:08 p.m.

#### 8. Action Items Discussed in Closed Session

A. Personnel

1. Reorganization of Board Officers

a. Carl Brown nominated Nancy Pepper for School Board President. There being no further nominations, Nancy Pepper was elected by acclamation.

President Pepper resumed duties as presiding officer at this time.

b. Ali Buvinghausen nominated Carl Brown for School Board Vice-President. There being no further nominations, Carl Brown was elected by acclamation.

c. Chris Davis nominated Keri James for School Board Secretary. There being no further nominations, Keri James was elected by acclamation.

B. Consider and take possible action to appoint Board Governance Committee Members

Keri James moved and seconded by Ali Buvinghausen to appoint committee members as follows: Executive Committee Nancy Pepper and Todd Grandjean; Facilities Committee Candace Esparza, Ali Buvinghausen, and Chris Davis; Audit Committee Nancy Pepper, Keri James, and Ali Buvinghausen; Policy Committee Candace Esparza, Carl Brown, and Britny Stricker; Safety and Security Committee Britny Stricker, Carl Brown, and Chris Davis. This motion passed, 7-0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker. Those opposed: 0

9. **Public Hearing on Accelerated Instruction Program**

Michael Gomez provided report on the accelerated instruction program at the high school.

10. **Administrative Reports and Discussion**

A. Central Office Reports

a. Superintendent's Monthly Reports on Board Priorities, Bond Projects, Safety & Security Report, Monthly Activity Calendar, and District Event Calendar

2. Director of HR/Info Mgmt Monthly Report

3. Director of Special Education Monthly Reports

B. Business Office Monthly Reports and Payment of Bills

C. Principals' Reports on Campus Activities

1. Devine High School Principal's Report

2. Devine Middle School Principal's Report

3. Devine Intermediate School Principal's Report

4. JJ Ciavarra Elementary School Principal's Report

5. Devine Learning Center/DAEP Principal Monthly Reports

D. Directors' Monthly Reports

11. **Consent Agenda**

Carl Brown moved and seconded by Candace Esparza to approve consent agenda as presented. This motion Passed, 7-0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker. Those opposed: 0

A. Minutes of regular Board Meeting on April 20, 2026, and Called Meetings on May 5, 2026, and May 12, 2026.

12. **Action Item(s):**

A. Candace Esparza moved and seconded by Carl Brown to Approve Innovative Courses as presented. This motion Passed, 7-0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker. Those opposed: 0

B. Candace Esparza moved and seconded by Keri James to Adopt the 2026-2027 Compensation Plan as presented. This motion Passed, 7-0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker. Those opposed: 0

C. Consider and discuss the budget and take possible action to set a date for a third budget workshop, if needed. After discussion it was determined that a third budget workshop was not needed; no action taken.

D. Carl Brown moved and seconded by Alixana Buvinghausen to set June 15, 2026 for public hearing to adopt the budget as presented. This motion Passed, 7-0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker. Those opposed: 0

**13. Closed Session**

Nancy Pepper stated for the record that the Board of Trustees, beginning at 7:46 p.m., will convene in a closed session in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of discussing items listed under Texas Government Code Section 551.074, and 551.082. NO FINAL ACTION, DECISIONS, OR VOTES WILL BE TAKEN WHILE THE BOARD IS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

**14. Reconvene from Closed Session**

The board reconvened in open session at 9:33 p.m.

**15. Action Items Discussed in Closed Session**

A. Personnel

1. Alixana Buvinghausen moved and seconded by Candace Esparza to increase the superintendent's salary as discussed in closed session. This motion Passed, 7-0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker. Those opposed: 0

**16. Adjournment**

Chris Davis moved and seconded by Alixana Buvinghausen to adjourn. This motion Passed, 7-0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker. Those opposed: 0

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

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Board President

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Board Secretary