

Agenda of Special Called

The Board of Trustees

Florence Independent School District

A Special Called of the Board of Trustees of Florence Independent School District will be held August 4, 2025, beginning at 6:30 PM in the FES Cafeteria, 810 N. Patterson Ave, Florence, TX 76527.

Videoconference Notice: A quorum of the Board of Trustees will be physically present at the Florence High School Library, 401 FM 970, Florence, Texas 76527, and it is the intent to have a quorum of the Board present at that location. Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.127 if a quorum of the Board is physically present at the designated location, other Trustees may attend and participate in this meeting via videoconference.

In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, the board may enter into closed session at any time during deliberations pursuant to TOMA Governance Code Sections.

- 551.071 (consultation with attorney):
- 551.072 (deliberation regarding real property):
- 551.073 (deliberation regarding prospective gift):
- 551.074 (personnel matters):
- 551.076 (deliberation regarding security devices):
- 551.082 (discipline of student or complaints against employees):
- 551.083 (consultation with representative of employee group): and
- 551.084 (excluding witnesses from board investigation):

When appropriate the board may provide a brief clarification of board actions (not exceeding five minutes) immediately prior to closed session and/or prior to adjournment.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on this meeting notice.

- I. **Call To Order**
- II. **Regular Business: Consideration, Discussion and Appropriate Action**
 - II.A. Consideration and Possible Action to Set the Proposed Tax Rate for the 2025-2026 School Year and Set the Date for a Public Hearing Regarding the Budget and Tax Rate

Presenter: Eric Banfield/Rick Kirkpatrick
 - II.B. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Closure of the New Series 2019 Bond Account at VeraBank, Florence

Presenter: Eric Banfield/Rick Kirkpatrick
 - II.C. Consideration and/or action to approve an Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit (Option 3 Agreement) and to delegate contractual authority

to the Superintendent. For the 2025-2026 school year, we delegated contractual authority to obligate the school district under Texas Education Code (TEC) §11.1511(c)(4) to the superintendent, solely for the purpose of obligating the district under TEC, §48.257 and TEC, Chapter 49, Subchapters A and D, and the rules adopted by the commissioner of education as authorized under TEC, 49.006. This included approval of the Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit (Netting Chapter 48 Funding)

Presenter: Eric Banfield/Rick Kirkpatrick

III. Board Tour of New Florence Elementary School and Discussion

Presenter: Rick Kirkpatrick

IV. **Adjournment**



2025 - 2026 School Year

**Budget Update / Propose Tax
Rates**

August 4, 2025

Objectives

- ▣ **Certified Values**
- ▣ **Revenue Assumptions**
- ▣ **Adopted Budget Summary: General Fund, Child Nutrition Fund & Debt Service Fund**
- ▣ **Propose Tax Rate and Set Date for Budget Hearing**
- ▣ **Calendar**

2025 - 2026 School Year Revenue Assumptions

- ▣ 2025 Certified Tax Values (freeze adjusted) are at \$1,172,418,500 (19.5% inc.), with the \$140,000 Homestead Exemption.
- ▣ Preliminary values from April totaled \$1,214,887,700. (\$100K exemption)
- ▣ M&O tax rate compressed to \$0.7072 from \$0.7552. M&O and I&S budgeted collections on levy are projected using a 99.5% collection rate (including delinquent taxes)
- ▣ ADA for State Funding is budgeted at 1,050

2025 - 2026 School Year Schedules

- ▣ **Certified Tax Values / Levy By CAD**
- ▣ **Adopted Budget Summary, All Funds**
- ▣ **Notice to Publish in the Paper - Budget Hearing and Tax Rate**

M&O TAX RATE PER \$100 VALUE	\$	0.7072	Values	Levy Calculation
FREEZE ADJUSTED TAXABLE VALUE/WILLIAMSON CNTY			1,038,678,015	7,452,129
FREEZE ADJUSTED TAXABLE VALUE/BELL CNTY			133,740,037	1,185,132
TAXABLE VALUE UNDER ARB REVIEW			109,883,450	
TOTAL M&O TAX LEVY:		=	\$ 1,172,418,052	\$ 8,637,261
PROJECTED COLLECTION RATE:				99.5%
				Collections
TAX @ COLLECTION RATE:		=		\$ 8,594,075
PENALTIES & INTEREST:		+		\$ 75,000
PROJECTED M & O TAX REVENUE:				\$ 8,669,075
I&S TAX RATE PER \$100 VALUE	\$	0.3150	Values	Levy Calculation
FREEZE ADJUSTED TAXABLE VALUE/WILLIAMSON CNTY			1,038,678,015	3,319,317
FREEZE ADJUSTED TAXABLE VALUE/BELL CNTY			133,740,037	527,880
TAXABLE VALUE UNDER ARB REVIEW			109,883,450	
TOTAL I&S TAX LEVY:		=	\$ 1,172,418,052	\$ 3,847,196
PROJECTED COLLECTION RATE:		X		99.5%
				Collections
TAX @ COLLECTION RATE:		=		\$ 3,827,960
PENALTIES & INTEREST:		+		\$ 10,000
PROJECTED I & S TAX REVENUE:				\$ 3,837,960
TOTAL TAX LEVY:				\$ 12,484,457
Total Collections				\$ 12,422,035
Total Tax Revenue with P&I				\$ 12,507,035

Florence ISD - 2025-2026 School Year				
<u>Budget Totals</u>	<u>Fund 199</u>	<u>Fund 240</u>	<u>Fund 599</u>	
	General Fund	Child Nutrition	Debt Service	
Revenues-By Object				
Local Sources	\$ 8,546,033	\$138,000	\$4,079,881	
State Sources	\$ 8,192,500	\$35,000	\$0	
Federal Sources	\$ -	\$728,447	\$0	Revenue
Total Revenues	\$ 16,738,533	\$901,447	\$4,079,881	\$ 21,719,861
Expenditures-By Function				
11-Instruction	\$ 8,792,775			
12- Instructional Resources & Media Ser	\$ 186,555			
13- Curriculum & Staff Development	\$ 296,160			
21- Instructional Leadership	\$ 418,314			
23- School Leadership	\$ 1,029,660			
31- Guidance, Counseling, & Evaluation S	\$ 429,788			
32- Social Work Services	\$ 5,500			
33- Health Services	\$ 177,008			
34- Student Transportation	\$ 708,217			
35- Child Nutrition	\$ -	\$951,447		
36- Cocurricular / Extracurricular	\$ 710,095			
41- General Administration	\$ 924,031			
51- Plant Maintenance & Operations	\$ 2,149,050			
52- Security & Monitoring Services	\$ 281,624			
53- Data Processing Services	\$ 280,951			
61- Community Services	\$ -			
71- Debt Service	\$ 203,805		\$4,079,881	
81- Facilities Construction	\$ -			
91- Payments to TEA	\$ 40,000			
95- Payments to JJAEP	\$ 25,000			
99- Intergovernmental Charges	\$ 80,000			Expenditure
Total Expenditures	\$ 16,738,533	\$951,447	\$4,079,881	\$ 21,769,861
Difference In Revenues and Expenditures				
	\$ -	\$ (50,000)	\$ -	
Operating Transfers				
Other Resources / NIFA	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	
Other Uses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total Transfers	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	
Difference In Revenues/Resources & Expenditures/Uses				
	\$ 500,000	\$ (50,000)	\$ -	
Fund Balance - September 1				
	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ -	
Fund Balance, Ending				
	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ -	

General Fund

▣ Key Items of Note

- Inflationary price increases for personnel and other costs have increased dramatically, without a corresponding increase in state aid on a per pupil basis.
- The increase to state aid for school district operations was minimal and will help only in the short term, current biennium.
- A balanced budget is projected for the 2025-26 School year.

General Fund

- ▣ **General Fund Budget Total- \$16,738,533**
 - **Salary increases are considered to be a '0%' of midpoint for current personnel, with market/equity adjustments. A 4 / 5⁰% increase TASB model was approved.**
 - **District Contribution for Health Insurance remains the same at \$445 for the 2026 school year.**

Child Nutrition Fund

▣ **Child Nutrition Budget**

- Increase costs due to inflation without a corresponding increase the federal reimbursement rates will make it a challenge to fully fund the program with revenues. The program has created balances by using grant funding that will supplement the program.

▣ **Key Items of Note**

- The District is participating in the CEP program which provides free meals for all students.

Debt Service Fund

▣ Debt Service Budget

▪ I&S Budget

- ▣ The 2026 FY tax rate is estimated at \$0.3150 to pay debt service, including the new bond issues.

2026 FY 0.3150

2025 FY 0.3490

2024 FY 0.3490

2023 FY 0.3420

2022 FY 0.1640

2021 FY 0.2340

Recent property tax reduction legislation will increase the state hole-harmless payment for debt service tax collections.

Public Hearing / Tax Rate Truth In Taxation

Truth-In-Taxation laws have two purposes:

- ▣ **To make taxpayers aware of tax rate proposals**
- ▣ **To allow taxpayers, in certain cases, to roll back or limit a tax increase.**

Public Hearing / Tax Rate Truth In Taxation

For School Districts:

- ▣ Property owners have the right to know of increases in their properties' appraised value and to be notified of the estimated taxes that could result from the new value.
- ▣ A school district must publish its proposed tax rate, VOTER-APPROVAL (rollback) tax rate, and other specific information about its property taxes, including the time and place for the public hearing.

Public Hearing / Tax Rate Truth In Taxation

For School Districts:

- ▣ A school district must hold the public hearing to provide an opportunity for citizen input concerning the budget and tax rate.
- ▣ The Voter-Approval Tax Rate is the highest tax rate a taxing unit may adopt before requiring voter approval.
- ▣ A school district must hold an election to ratify a tax rate adopted above its VOTER-APPROVAL (rollback) rate.

Public Hearing / Tax Rate Truth In Taxation

- ▣ **Williamson County produces the notice to be published in the newspaper. Notice will be published on August 6.**
- ▣ **Williamson County combines Bell County's values with the Williamson County values for the notice.**
- ▣ **The notice includes the following tax rate comparison table from our Summary of Finance.**

Public Hearing / Tax Rate +-Truth In Taxation

Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Budget and Proposed Tax Rate

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	0.75520	0.34900	1.10420	10,536	5,885
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	0.67357	0.00000	0.67357	7,165	5,887
Proposed Rate	0.70720	0.31500	1.02220	11,701	6,654

* The Interest and Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded debt on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Public Hearing / Tax Rate Truth In Taxation

- ▣ **The published notice includes the location, date, and time for the public meeting to discuss the budget and proposed tax rate.**

**Florence High School Library, 401 FM 970,
6:30PM, August 18, 2025.**

Public Hearing / Tax Rate Truth In Taxation

▣ Also included in the notice are the:

*Proposed tax rates:

0.7072 M&O + 0.3150 I&S = \$1.0222 Total

*Budget comparison to prior yr.,

*Property value comparison to prior yr.,

*Outstanding bonded debt,

*Notice of Voter Approval Rate - \$1.0239

. (estimate),

*Fund balance information

Calendar

- ▣ **August 18 - Public Hearing: To Discuss Budget and Tax Rate, 6:30PM**
- ▣ **August 18 - Regular Meeting: Adopt Budget and Set Tax Rate.**

Discussion

- ▣ **Questions?**

FLORENCE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



306 College Ave.
Florence, TX 76527

August 4, 2025

Verabank
101 E Main St.
Florence, Texas 76527

Re: Florence ISD – New Series 2019 Bond Account

To whom it may concern:

The Board of Trustees of the Florence Independent School District at its board meeting on August 4, 2025, authorized the closing of the New Series 2019 Bond account. The final balances for the bond have been expended.

Sincerely,

Edward Navarette

Jason Earp

Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit (Netting Chapter 48 Funding)

This agreement is entered into pursuant to the Texas Education Code (TEC), Chapter 49, Subchapters A and D, and rules adopted by the commissioner of education as authorized by the TEC, §49.006. The purpose of this agreement is to enable the district to reduce its local revenue level to a level not to exceed the level established under TEC, §48.257 for the school year.

The school year to which this agreement applies is _____ (the "school year").

The agreement is for _____ School District ("the district"), with a county-district number of _____, to purchase attendance credit from the state for the school year.

The local revenue level in excess of entitlement will be based on the commissioner's estimate of the cost of credit as determined under TEC, §49.153, using the district's projected maintenance and operations tax revenue that exceeds the level established under TEC, §48.257. Provisions in the TEC, §48.257(c), allow districts to offset the reduction of excess local revenue against state aid under Chapter 48, Education Code, that is not described by TEC, §48.266(a)(3) for the school year. A district that is subject to the reduction in excess local revenue agrees to offset its obligations against state aid in accordance with the provisions specified in the TEC, §48.257(c).

When near-final data are available following the close of the school year to which this agreement applies, the district's entitlement under Chapter 48 will be recalculated. If the district's state aid under Chapter 48, Education Code, that is not described by TEC, §48.266(a)(3) is less than the cost of recapture as determined by the commissioner in accordance with the TEC, §49.153, using near-final data, the district will be required to have an election and the recapture balance will be recovered in accordance with TEC, §48.272, by withholding subsequent allocations of state funds or requiring and obtaining a refund.

The actual cost of credit for the school year will be determined by the commissioner in accordance with the TEC, §49.153, when final data on the district's maintenance and operations tax revenue that exceeds the level established under TEC, §48.257 is available.

The cost of purchased attendance credit will be reduced for county appraisal district costs. The reduction will be computed in accordance with the TEC, §49.157. If the reduction exceeds the cost for the school year, the difference will be carried forward and applied to each subsequent year's cost until the total amount of the reduction has been exhausted.

Date:

Signature of President, Board of Trustees

Date:

Signature of Secretary, Board of Trustees

Signature of Superintendent

Date:

Typed Name of Superintendent

Date:

Signature of Commissioner of Education or Designee