

NISD Board of Trustees

Board Notes



Oct. 16, 2025

[WATCH MEETING](#)



1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Invocation by T.C. Grohman.

B. Pledges of Allegiance led by students from McMichael Middle School.



McMichael Middle School students at Thursday's board meeting include, Genesis Diaz – 7th Grade Rep, Ella Herrera – 7th Grade Rep, Karter Kahler, Kylie Eberlan – 8th Grade Rep, Jackson Wright – 6th Grade Rep, Allison Moreno, Tiana Phillips, Azalia Lopez – 8th Grade Rep, Dayana Venegas, Kinley Pate – Treasurer, Felicity McLemore – Secretary, Sienna Soto-Mendoza – Vice-President, Ava Dermakardijian – Historian, Kevin Molina, Lori Serna – President, Ella Thornley – 6th Grade Rep, Ben Serna-Villanueva, Isabel Andresio, Skyler Furrier, Mia Fierro, Sofi Serna, Melany Acevedo-Chavez and Rosielyn Bonilla.

2. EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSION

Board entered closed session at 5:09 p.m.

Board returned to open session at 5:48 p.m.

3. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

4. INFORMATION

A. Superintendent Announcements – Grey Burton

Sixteen Nacogdoches High School career and technical education students received \$500 scholarships to The Ocean Corporation earlier this month during the Texas Rice Festival Welding competition at Lee College in Baytown. The Ocean Corporation is an underwater diving and welding school in Houston. During the competition, 12 NHS students also passed a visual inspection on their work, earning an industry-based certification from the American Welding Society. This is great, great work here... and it links closely with the continued emphasis on workforce development, both here locally and at the state and national level. Congratulations, welders!

Some more students from our CTE department did well over the weekend at the Pineywoods Fair with their animal, mechanical and floral projects. Several students saw their projects make the sale, as well. We had some first place winners, including in floral design, breeding rabbits, several blue ribbons in mechanical projects and a strong showing in market goats. These students put a lot of effort and time into these projects that serve as outstanding learning opportunities on how to care for an animal, plan out a project and develop a successful business model.

Once again, Japanese students from Ikueikan Junior High are visiting McMichael Middle School this week. This is the annual resumption of a longstanding relationship with two schools in Japan that started back in 1993. The students stay here for a couple of weeks with families of McMichael students. Next month, students from Amami City Public Schools will be here. And in May, students from McMichael will visit Japan on a return trip. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students – and their counterparts from Japan – to experience other cultures... it's a true learning experience.

October is Principal Appreciation Month and I want to take a moment to express my own appreciation for the work these men and women do at Nacogdoches ISD. Being principal of a school – any school – is tackling daily a mountain of challenges and details. Their days start early and, oftentimes, finish late, and I want our principals to know I greatly appreciate their hard work and dedication to our students.

Nacogdoches High School's Golden Dragon Marching Band will perform at 8:15 p.m. Saturday at the Region 21 marching contest at Longview's Lobo Stadium. The Dragons are one of five Class 5A high schools participating Saturday in the regional competition. Results from the Class 5A contest and the Class 6A contest will be

Superintendent report continued...

announced around 10 p.m. that night. The Dragons have a L O N G string of first division ratings going at the regional contest, and the band has been looking great during its halftime performances at Dragon football games. So... good luck Dragons on Saturday!

Speaking of football... our varsity Dragons are now 5-1 on the season and 2-0 in District 7-5A after last week's win at Hallsville. That's four wins in a row... and it's Nacogdoches High School's best start since 2013, when the Dragons began the year 6-1. Tomorrow night, at Dragon Stadium, Nacogdoches will host Whitehouse with a chance to extend that winning streak. Let's go Dragons!

You may have seen social media posts about our "Be Legendary" staff members as I go around the district making presentations to our nominees. These nominations are coming from principals and supervisors around the district, and I instructed them to single out teachers and staff who represent an ongoing and longstanding commitment and do the right things the right way, day after day, week after week, and semester after semester. I'm going to be doing this throughout the year as we continue to emphasize and acknowledge employees who make this district better because they're here!

Speaking of Legendary, this is the final board meeting with Ralph LaRue serving as our Director of Facilities and Construction. Ralph, I really hoped we could get you up here at the podium one more time for a presentation to the board... I'll miss those! The truth of the matter is we're going to miss Ralph here at Nacogdoches ISD. He's done a great job over the years, and since 2018, he's gone full speed overseeing the build out from the successful bond election. The district is hosting a retirement reception for Ralph at 3 p.m., Oct. 30, at the District Support Center. Without a doubt, NISD is all the better because Ralph has been here. Congratulations on retirement!

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

No one asked to address the board.

6. REPORTS

A. Business reports – Ben Eberlan

B. Delinquent tax report – Ben Eberlan

C. TASA/TASB conference delegate assembly report – James Ervin

D. CIPA Compliant internet safety protocols – Michael Martin

E. Bilingual program annual evaluation – Dr. Evelyn Saucedo

7. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Board meeting minutes

1. Sept. 18, 2025 – Regular meeting minutes

B. Budget amendments

C. Donations under \$2,500

D. Investment report

James Ervin made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by **Leabeth Abt**. The motion was approved.

8. DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA

A. Action Resulting From Executive/Closed Session – President Farshid Niroumand

There was no action resulting from executive/closed session.

B. Consideration of and board action on the superintendent's recommendation of professional personnel – Charles Zemanek

Cheryl Brady made a motion to approve the superintendent's recommendation on professional personnel. The motion was seconded by **Mindy Winslow**. The motion was approved.

C. Federally funded vendors: Professional development, coaching and consultation – Dr. Jo Lynn Corley

James Ervin made a motion to approve federally funded vendors for professional development, coaching and consultation. The motion was seconded by **T.C. Grohman**. The motion was approved.

D. Consideration of and board action on contract with Lauren Smith, physical therapist assistant – Kayla Hughes

T.C. Grohman made a motion to approve the contract with Lauren Smith. The motion was seconded by **Leabeth Abt**. The motion was approved.

E. Appointment of School Health Advisory Council members and approval of meeting dates for the 2025-26 school year – Kayla Hughes

Cheryl Brady made a motion to appoint members of the School Health Advisory Council and approve meeting dates for the 2025-26 school year. The motion was seconded by **T.C. Grohman**. The motion was approved.

Action agenda continued...

F. Consideration of and board action on the first reading of Revised Local Policy FNCE – Student Conduct Personal Telecommunications/Electronic Devices – Michael Martin

Mindy Winslow made a motion to approve the first reading of revised local policy FNCE. The motion was seconded by **Cheryl Brady**. The motion was approved.

G. Consideration of and board action on the districtwide radio system upgrade project – Michael Martin

James Ervin made a motion to approve the districtwide radio system upgrade at a cost of \$304,827.79. The motion was seconded by **Cheryl Brady**. The motion was approved.

9. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.