

NISD Board of Trustees Board Notes



Oct. 15, 2026

[WATCH MEETING](#)



1. CALL TO ORDER

2. INVOCATION

Trustee Demond Jackson provided the invocation.

3. PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

A. McMichael Middle School Student Council



Members of the McMichael Middle School Student Council and staff at Thursday's meeting: (front row, from left) Jibrelle Berry, Sarah Atienza, Kennedy Anderson, Renee Daniel, Addie Cummings, Presley Cortines, Sienna Soto-Mendoza, Oliver Chism and Jackson Wright; (back row) Will McWhorter, Sara Drewery, Jus'taisha Burleigh and Principal Gerald Fonzie.

4. EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSION

The board entered executive session at 5:05 p.m.

5. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The board returned to open session at 5:39 p.m.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Superintendent Announcements

Cullen Holmes, tennis coach at Nacogdoches High School, has been working with the U.S. Tennis Association to take advantage of a physical education initiative that will bring an introduction of tennis to our elementary students. The initiative with the USTA provides equipment and a brief training to our elementary physical education coaches. This is a zero-cost obligation to the district, and Coach Holmes will be the coordinator for the district and the community. This program will align with the physical education TEKS from State of Texas and will offer our students an opportunity to learn the basic skills of the game. Kayla Hughes, our executive director of special education, also oversees the SHAC (the district's Student Health Advisory Council), and Ms. Hughes will work through several of the compliance components for physical education with the members of that council. We're also going to share this with our neighbors... it will be offered to all Nacogdoches County schools, and their representatives would attend the training session at the same time as the Nacogdoches ISD PE coaches. This has a number of benefits for the district, our students and their families, and the tennis program at Nacogdoches High School.

Congratulations to Nacogdoches High School junior Jose Pasillas for earning 3rd chair trombone in the Region 21 All-Region Jazz Band. Students across the region traveled to UT Tyler on September 30th to compete for a chair in the band. Students are required to learn three brief jazz compositions and perform for a panel of five judges. You might remember our jazz band program got its start last year – in fact, they performed some Christmas favorites in this building before our board meeting back in December (I need to be sure to get with Mr. Johnson to set that up again this year). These guys are so good, and Jose's all-region qualification is likely the beginning of more honors for the jazz band.

The Nacogdoches High School's Golden Dragon Marching Band will be on the field Saturday in Hallsville at the Region 21 Marching Contest. The Dragons will perform at 9:15 p.m. at Hallsville ISD's Bobcat Stadium. The Dragons will be the final 5A school to perform during the daylong contest. The final two performances will be by Class 6A schools Legacy High and Longview. Other Class 5A schools performing include Lufkin, Tyler High, Hallsville and Whitehouse. Good luck to our Dragons!!!

Nacogdoches High School's choir will perform next summer alongside some of the most prominent names in the choral music world at London's Barbican Hall, an iconic venue that seats more than 1,900 people and regularly welcomes internationally acclaimed musicians in both classical and contemporary music. NHS choir director David Brewer and NISD Director of Fine Arts Deshmond Johnson have announced the kickoff of a donation campaign to help pay for travel, a bill that's expected to reach \$50,000 to cover overseas airfare. This opportunity came about after Brewer's own compositions made their way in front of a notable director who then reached out to Brewer about the possibility of the trip more than a year ago. Just like the aforementioned jazz band, our choir program – at both the high school and McMichael Middle School – are doing tremendous work and they are a joy to hear.

I also want to congratulate all of our students from across the district who participated last week in the Pinewoods Fair. We had students who competed in all areas of livestock, floral design and ag mechanics. Also, a big thank you goes to NISD staff who guided these students along the way, spent the weekend with them at the fair and provided support and instruction. That's a lot of time committed by both students and staff to pull off these projects.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

No one requested to address the Board of Trustees.

8. REPORTS

- A. Business reports
- B. Delinquent Tax Report
- C. TASA/TASB Conference Delegate Assembly Report
- D. Bilingual Program Annual Evaluation

9. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Board meeting minutes
 - 1. Sept. 17, 2026 – Regular meeting minutes
- B. Budget amendments
- C. Donations
- D. Investment report

The Rev. **James Ervin** made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by **Demond Jackson**. The motion was approved.

10. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Consideration of and board action on the superintendent's recommendations regarding professional personnel.

Demond Jackson made a motion to approve the superintendent's recommendation of professional personnel as presented. The motion was seconded by **Leabeth Abt**. The motion was approved.

- B. Consideration of and possible board action regarding Chapter 21 contract abandonment under Texas Education Code 21.210.

Dr. T.C. Grohman M.D. made a motion to determine that Jaycie Stewart abandoned her educator contract with Nacogdoches Independent School District and that good cause did not exist for the contract abandonment and authorize the superintendent or designee to submit a written complaint to Texas Education Agency pursuant to Texas Education 21.210 and 19 Texas Administrative Code 249.17. The motion was seconded by the Rev. **James Ervin**. The motion was approved.

C. Consideration of and board action on the first reading of Revised Local Policy EFB – Instructional Resources: Library Materials.

The Rev. **James Ervin** made a motion to approve the first reading of Revised Local Policy EFB – Instructional Resources: Library Materials. The motion was seconded by **Demond Jackson**. The motion was approved.

D. Consideration of and board action on the purchase of services from Cordova Counseling Services.

Demond Jackson made a motion to approve the purchase of services from Cordova Counseling Services. The motion was seconded by **Leabeth Abt**. The motion was approved.

E. Consideration of and board action on the purchase of services from Thrive Learning Services LLC.

Dr. T.C. Grohman M.D. made a motion to approve the purchase of services from Thrive Learning Services LLC. The motion was seconded by the Rev. **James Ervin**. The motion was approved.

F. Consideration of and possible board action to approve the purchase of the Transportation BusPlanner Program.

The Rev. **James Ervin** made a motion to approve the purchase of the Transportation BusPlanner Program as presented.. The motion was seconded by **Demond Jackson**. The motion was approved.

11. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.