NISD Board of Trustees

Board Notes

May 21, 2026

WATCH MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Invocation by T.C. Grohman.
B. Colors were presented by the Navy National Development Cadet Corps from Nacogdoches High School.



The Color Guard from Nacogdoches High School's Navy National Development Cadet Corp presented the colors during Thursday's meeting.

2. RECOGNITION

A. Student Recognition – Les Linebarger

1. McMichael Middle School MathCounts state qualifiers



McMichael Middle School MathCounts team members present at Thursday's meeting include, from left, Ryder Lackey, teacher Brittany Combs and Benjamin Serna and McMichael Principal Gerald Fonzie.

2. Nacogdoches High School state track and field qualifiers



State high jump champion Micah Lockett (left), Nacogdoches High School Athletic Director and Track Coach Jay Brown and state hurdles qualifier Braylon Horton.

3. Nacogdoches High School state welding qualifiers



State qualifiers from the Nacogdoches High School welding team (from left) Israel Hernandez, Gavin Stott, Christian Bach, Erick Leon, Bryan Rodriguez, Heather Hill (Teacher), Lilly Nelson, Mr. Hill

A. Employee Recognition – Charles Zemanek

1. Teacher Incentive Allotment



NISD teachers receiving Teacher Incentive Allotment designation were recognized during Thursday's meeting. Pictured are (from left) Elisabeth Hutchens, Kadie Richburg, Tammy Owens, Shalyn Rocha, Lisa Anthony, Bryan Matzke, Ashley Spain, Kasey Gaska, Brooke Kaczynski, Mark Ampofo, Shelby Little and Suzanna Houston. Those unavailable to attend the meeting were: Jack Adams, Pearl Lee, Jennifer Hibert, Jason Ray, Kinya Rhodes, and Debra Delcambre

2. Anne K. Wallace Excellence in Teaching Award



McMichael Middle School's Reagan Hollomon is the Anne K. Wallace Excellence in Teaching recipient for the 2025-26 academic year. Ms. Hollomon is shown with NISD Deputy Superintendent Michael Martin.

3. Campus and District Teachers of the Year



Campus and District Teachers of the Year were introduced during Thursday's meeting. Shown are, from left, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education Dr. Daya Hill; Melissa Spies, Nacogdoches High School; Reagan Hollomon, McMichael Middle School; Ashley Higgins, Margie Chumbley Academy for Success; Ashley Lumbley, Brooks-Quinn-Jones Elementary; Jeremy Farr, Thomas J. Rusk Elementary; Atalie Blount, Fredonia Early Childhood Center; Susan Bowman, Mike Moses Elementary; and Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education Dr. Kimberly Welsh.

3. EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSION

The board entered closed session at 5:35 p.m.

4. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The board returned to open session at 6:09 p.m.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

B. Superintendent Announcements – Grey Burton

Earlier this month, 147 Career & Technical Education students at Nacogdoches High School signed their letters of commitment to attend the college or trade school of their choice, or a place of employment after graduation, that were in their CTE pathway. Eleven students signed commitments to join a branch of the military. Students who have already secured a job within their field of study or have been accepted to a college, university or technical school or branch of the military to continue their CTE pathway/studies signed their agreements during the ceremony. A little while ago, we had a number of our welding students on hand as they celebrated success in state contests. But the ultimate goal, for Nacogdoches ISD, is to ensure these students are prepared for what comes next in their lives, be it college, trade school, the workforce or military. Congratulations to those students!

Just last week, at the Nacogdoches High School Scholarship Ceremony, the Class of 2026 was recognized for earning more than $8 million in scholarships from colleges and universities, Nacogdoches area organizations, and military enlistment. Now that's Legendary! I'm incredibly proud of the hard work that led to these accomplishments. The future is bright for the Class of 2026, and we can't wait to see all they achieve! A special thanks goes to the Nacogdoches organizations and supporters who have generously given their resources to fund many of these scholarships and invest time and effort in the future of our students. That support continues to make a lasting impact on generations of Dragons.

Now, a busy few days are ahead for that same Class of 2026. First, at 6 p.m. Friday (that's tomorrow night!), the new graduating class at Margie Chumbley Academy for Success will hold commencement at the competition gym at Nacogdoches High School. Then, at 2 p.m. Saturday, the Nacogdoches High School Class of 2026 will hold graduation ceremonies at William R. Johnson Coliseum on the campus of Stephen F. Austin State University. We hold these ceremonies every year, but they remain uplifting and make you feel better about our future and that our best days are still to come.

Superintendent report continued…

Nacogdoches ISD is once again a "Best Communities for Music Education." It's the seventh time the district has earned the designation, which is awarded to school districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students. The designation comes from the NAMM Foundation, the charitable arm of the National Association of Music Merchants. Now, if you spend any time in the district, you know our music programs are incredibly successful. I consider the band and choral performances as "must-see," and they help set Nacogdoches ISD apart from other schools districts in the region. So, it's fitting that just a little more than a week ago, we recognized Jim Hagood for his contributions to the band program at Nacogdoches High School and the school district. We had Mr. Hagood in this same room and honored his work in laying a foundation for success in band that's remained in place for some 46 years. His successors have continued to raising the bar, something that has played a key role in this string of Best Communities awards.

And, finally, something that everyone – teachers and students – are thrilled to hear: Today was the last day of school. Not to worry though… work has long since been underway for the next school year that will begin August 12. But until then, everyone enjoy your summer!

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

No one requested to address the Board of Trustees.

7. REPORTS

A. Business office reports – Ben Eberlan

B. Public Notice of Federal Grant Application for 2026-27 ESSA Programs, including Title I, Title II, Title III and other eligible programs – Ben Eberlan

C. School Health Advisory Council yearly update – Kayla Hughes

D. Implementation of Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) Training – Chief Joel Barton

E. Weapon/Metal Detection System for extracurricular activities – Michael Martin

8. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Board meeting minutes
1. March 26, 2026 – Regular meeting minutes
2. March 31, 2026 – Special meeting minutes

B. Donations under $2,500

C. Budget admendments

D. Investment report

James Ervin made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by **T.C. Grohman.** The motion was approved.

9. DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA

A. Action Resulting From Executive/Closed Session

1. Consideration of and board action on the superintendent's recommendation of administrative personnel.

James Ervin made a motion to approve the superintendent's recommendation of administrative personnel. The motion was seconded by **Farshid Niroumand.** The motion was approved.

B. Consideration of and board action to authorize the superintendent to employ personnel under teacher contracts for the 2026-27 school year – Charles Zemanek

Farshid Niroumand made a motion to authorize the superintendent to employ personnel under teacher contracts through Sept. 1, 2026, for the 2026-27 school year. The motion was seconded by **Leabeth Abt.** The motion was approved.

C. Consideration of and board action on the audit engagement letter with Crowe LLP for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 – Ben Eberlan

Farshid Niroumand made a motion to approve the engagement letter as presented. The motion was seconded by **T.C. Grohman.** The motion was approved.

D. Consideration of and board action authorizing the CFO to sign a commercial card program agreement with Huntington Bank – Ben Eberlan

Cheryl Brady made a motion to authorize the CFO to sign a commercial card program agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by **James Ervin.** The motion was approved.

E. Consideration of and board action on the final (3) year contract payment for Imagine Learning LLC (Edgenuity) for the 2026-27 school year – Dr. Jo Lynn Corley

Farshid Niroumand made a motion to approve the final contract payment as presented. The motion was seconded by **Leabeth Abt.** The motion was approved.

F. Consideration of and board action on the first reading of the Revised Local Policy FFAC-Wellness and Health Services Medical Treatment – Michael Martin

T.C. Grohman made a motion to approve the first reading of the revised policy as presented. The motion was seconded by **Cheryl Brady.** The motion was approved.

G. Consideration of and board action on a Resolution for Senate Bill 546 determination of financial feasibility for school bus seat belt compliance – Michael Martin

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

H. Consideration of and board action on the NHS gates access control project – Michael Martin

Demond Jackson made a motion to approve the gate access control project as presented. The motion was seconded by **Cheryl Brady.** The motion was approved.

I. Consideration of and board action on the proposal from Vero for the Fiber Resiliency Project – Michael Martin

James Ervin made a motion to approve the proposal from Vero as presented. The motion was seconded by **Demond Jackson.** The motion was approved.

J. Consideration of and board action on the proposal from Vero for the Margie Chumbley Fiber Upgrade Project – Michael Martin

Cheryl Brady made a motion to approve the proposal from Vero for the Margie Chumbley project as presented. The motion was seconded by **Farshid Niroumand.** The motion was approved.

K. Consideration of and board action on the proposal from EM3 Networks for district network services and equipment – Dr. Jo Lynn Corley

T.C. Grohman made a motion to approve the proposal from EM3 Networks as presented. The motion was seconded by **Cheryl Brady.** The motion was approved.

10. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.