

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2021  
6:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Jon Keller, President  
Mr. Rickie Blackmon, Vice-President  
Mrs. Jamie Robertson, Secretary  
Mr. Garth Cockerell  
Mr. David Floyd  
Mr. Ross Morgan - arrived at 6:55

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mr. Jeff Cook

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Dr. Sedic Clark, Superintendent  
Dr. Cliff Lightfoot, Assistant Superintendent – Student Learning and Services  
Ms. Kim Chatman, Chief Operations Officer  
Mrs. Glenda Hickey, Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. Paul Allen, Transportation Director  
Mr. Derrick Floyd, Principal GHS

President Keller called the School Board meeting of Monday, September 20, 2021, to order. Mr. Floyd gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board then entered into a public hearing for the purpose of discussing the proposed 2021-2022 school year tax rate. No action was taken (See attached).

After the conclusion of the Public meeting President Keller stated that the Board would move into the Regular Board meeting of September 20, 2021.

Ms. Hickey asked the Board to approve the tax rate for the 2021-2022 school year as follows:

\$1.083400/\$100 for the purpose of Maintenance and Operations  
~~\$0.366300/\$100~~ for the purpose of Interest and Sinking  
\$1.449700/\$100 total tax rate

Mr. Blackmon made the motion to adopt the 2021-2022 school year tax rate and Mrs. Robertson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Floyd made the motion to approve the consent agenda items, Minutes of the Regular Board meeting of August 16, 2021 and the bills and accounts for the months of July and August. Mr. Cockerell seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Reports:

A. Superintendent

1. **State of the District:** Dr. Clark reported that there is only three weeks remaining in the first 9 weeks of the 2021-2022 school year. After a week of increased COVID positive diagnosis and declining attendance rates, we closed school from Tuesday August 31<sup>st</sup> through Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. At the time of closure, attendance was averaging 80.5% at all 4 schools, several bus drivers were out sick, and teacher absenteeism due to illness made it difficult for principals to staff schools. Since our return to school, we have seen a steady increase in both student and employee attendance. At this time, I want to give special recognition and appreciation to members of our coaching staff. For a full week, they covered both morning and evening bus routes and filled in for bus drivers who were ill. We would not have made it through that week without their assistance. The GISD community is truly BEAR STRONG and remains both focused and committed to achieving excellence in all areas. We will not have to add or make up days due to our week of closure. Dr. Clark gave the Board enrollment numbers.
2. Dr. Clark thanked the following for their donations: Shana Evans/Gonc East Boutique - Several pairs of new shoes to WES students; First Methodist Church – Boxes of school supplies to GPS; Hellas – Gift cards; Lions Club- Clothes for GPS' clothes closet and school supplies to all schools; Jennifer Smith – a supply of Kleenex to GPS; Whataburger – Food coupons to staff and students and Tee Shirts to students.
3. Dr. Clark announced that each campus will be showcased twice during the school year. The first campus is Gladewater High School. Dr. Clark then asked Principal Derrick Floyd to give a brief description of some of the high lights from the High School. Principal Floyd introduced the Gladewater High School AG officers and teachers. The following AG officers Board President- Breanna Newman, Vice President- Zachary Polanco, Reporter- Benjamin Alvarez, Sentinel- Lyndsey Robertson, Student Advisor- Adam Miles, Parliamentarian- Madison McGuire, Historian- Logan Bohanon presented a short presentation of good things happening in the AG Department.

4. Dr. Clark asked Ms. Kim Chatman, Chief Operations Officer and Mr. Paul Allen, Transportation Director to give information to the Board regarding the need to possibly reduce bus routes. Ms. Chatman told the Board that current conditions, including a large shortage of bus drivers has caused a hardship on the district and the situation will get increasingly worse due to new federal rules on CDL licensing. Ms. Chatman and Mr. Allen gave the Board some recommendations for the Board to consider.
- B. Finance
1. Mrs. Hickey gave the financial reports for the months of July and August, including budget expenditure comparison reports, cash in bank reports, investment reports, summary of utilities, and tax assessor-collector's reports.

Per a request from Trecia Turner, Tax Assessor-Collector, Mrs. Hickey recommended the Board approve a tax refund to Raymond Johnson in the amount of \$780.90 due to homestead and over 65 exemptions granted by GCAD for the 2019 tax year. Mr. Cockerell made the motion to approve the tax refund as presented and Mr. Blackmon seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

TAX REFUND  
APPROVED

Dr. Lightfoot presented to the Board information regarding the purchase of interactive flat panels using ESSER III grant funds. Mr. Floyd made the motion to approve the purchase as presented and Mrs. Robertson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

PURCHASE OF  
INTERACTIVE  
PANELS APP

Mr. Morgan arrived at this time.

The Board entered into executive session to consider personnel matters as allowed by the Texas Government Code §551.074 involving the employment of professional personnel.

Dr. Clark recommended the Board employ Katherine Pace on a professional 11-month probationary contract for the 2021-2022 school year. Mr. Cockerell made a motion to employ these as presented and Mr. Morgan seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

EMPLOYED:  
K. PACE

There being no further business, Mrs. Robertson made a motion to adjourn the Gladewater ISD regular School Board meeting for September 20, 2021 and Mr. Blackmon seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting was adjourned.

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President

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Secretary

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Date Approved