

GULF COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

The Gulf County School Board held its annual organizational meeting Tuesday, November 4, 2025, at 9:30 (Agenda-Review Workshop) and 10:00 (School Board Meeting) at their Administrative Office in Port St. Joe. Superintendent Norton, Attorney Costin, and the following School Board Members were present: Vice Chairman Ruby Knox, Chad Bailey, Equillar Gainer, and Matt Terry. Chairman Wooten was unable to attend due to a work-related commitment.

Agenda-Review Workshop: The board reviewed the November 4 agenda packet. They discussed holding public workshops to educate staff and the public on the rationale for Gulf District Schools placing a Half-Cent Sales Tax Referendum on the 2026 General Ballot. Mr. Terry requested the board review resolution language at the workshop so that the resolution could be placed on the December 9 agenda for board action.

BOARD MEETING:

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Vice-Chairman Knox called the meeting to order at 10:00.

II. **BOARD ORGANIZATION:** Superintendent Norton presided over the organizational portion of the meeting. (SM: 25/26 – 061)

- Election of Chairman:** On motion by Mr. Terry and seconded by Mrs. Gainer the board unanimously approved Mr. Wooten to serve as Chairman for the next year. and
- Election of Vice-Chairman:** On motion by Mr. Terry and seconded by Mrs. Gainer the board unanimously approved Mrs. Knox to serve as Vice-Chairman for the next year, and
- 2025-2026 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING DATES:** On motion by Mrs. Gainer and seconded by Mr. Bailey the board unanimously approved the list of meeting dates for the next year, and
- SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS' ANTICIPATED TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR 2025-2026:** On motion by Mr. Terry and seconded by Mrs. Gainer the board unanimously approved the school board members' anticipated travel expenses for 2025-2026, to include travel expenses for board-related meetings, functions, training, and conferences, and
- Liaison for SSDCC (Small School District Council Consortium):** On motion by Mr. Terry and seconded by Mr. Bailey the board unanimously approved Mrs. Gainer continuing to serve as the SSDCC Liaison for the next year.

III. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** On motion by Mr. Terry and seconded by Mr. Bailey the board unanimously approved the addition of pages 4.02, 7.04, 7.05, 11.01-11.04, the replacement of page 7.03, and advertisement for a November 17 Workshop to discuss the proposed Half-Cent Sales Tax on the November 2026 General Election ballot.

IV. **HEAR FROM THE PUBLIC:** None

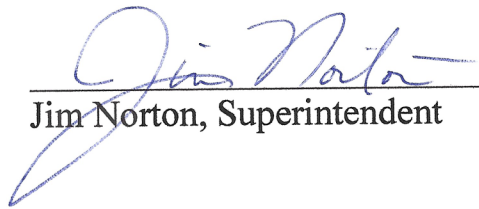
V. **CONSENT MATTERS:** On motion by Mrs. Gainer and seconded by Mr. Terry the board voted unanimously to take the following action:

- Approved the October 16 Minutes, and (SM: 25/26 –062) (SM: 25/26 –063 ↓)
- Approved Budget Matters and Payment of Bills, including a change order for the PSJ Baseball Field project, and PERSONNEL: (SM: 25/26 –064)
- Approved George Thompson's resignation letter effective November 14, 2025, and
- Approved Linda Joann Pitts for a bus driver position in the Wewahitchka area, and
- Approved Allie Dorsch's request for maternity leave February 16, 2026, through June 30, 2026, and
- Approved buying WES Bridges Teacher - Maggie McCoy's planning and lunch for 2025-2026, and
- Approved Kara Bremer to receive a stipend for 2025-2026 her leadership role in the WES Girls that Code Club, and
- Approved Jennifer Worthy to receive a stipend for 2025-2026 for her leadership role in the PSJH Girls that Code Club, and
- Approved the following substitute teacher applicants: Tabitha Chapman, Eric Langston, and Santana Suit.
- Approved the list of Fall Sports supplements, and
- Approved adding one instructional coach position for WHS for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year, and
- Approved a part-time Pre-K paraprofessional position at WES for the 2025-2026 school year, and

OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL: (SM: 25/26 –065)

- Approved the WHS band to travel to band camp at Troy University November 14-15, and February 6-8, 2026.

	November 4, 2025 Page 2
VI.	<u>PROGRAM MATTERS:</u> On motion by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mrs. Gainer the board voted unanimously to take the following action: -Approved the SSDCC Resolution and Invoice, and (SM: 25/26 -066) -Approved the 2026 Insurance Renewal Recommendation. (SM: 25/26 -067)
VII.	<u>SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:</u> District staff reminded everyone of the Half-Cent Sales Tax Workshop scheduled for Monday, November 17, 2025, at 4:00 PM EST.
VIII.	<u>BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:</u>
IX.	<u>ADJOURNMENT:</u> Vice-Chairman Knox adjourned the meeting at 10:27.



Jim Norton, Superintendent



Ruby Knox, Vice-Chairman

