

# MINUTES

## GOVERNING BOARD MEETING – GILA INSTITUTE FOR TECHNOLOGY DISTRICT #2

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.  
EAC Science/Allied Health Building

### OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm

#### Pledge of Allegiance

#### Roll Call

##### Present:

Mr. B.K. Merriman, President  
Mrs. Christie Brown, Member  
Mr. Mark Claridge, Member  
Mrs. Tamara Melton, Member  
Mrs. Sherry Carbajal, Member

Mr. Clay Emery, Superintendent  
Mrs. Brenda Garcia, Administrative Assistant

##### Absent:

Mr. Eddie Bowman, Member  
Mrs. Kim Waters, Member

**Public:** Jasmyn Barker-student, Reese Andazola-student, Easton Phillips-student, Chris Murphy-teacher, Heath Maxwell-teacher, Lance Fite-teacher, Marcie Lopeman- EAC instructor

1. Adoption of the Agenda -The Governing Board reserves the right to reschedule, delete, or arrange items on the agenda, to efficiently conduct its business. **(Action) Motion made by Mrs. Brown to adopt the agenda as presented by the administration. Motion seconded by Mr. Claridge. Motion carried 5/0.**

Item #1				
Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Eddie Bowman				X
Christie Brown	X			
Sherry Carbajal	X			
Mark Claridge	X			
Tamara Melton	X			
B.K. Merriman	X			
Kim Waters				X

### CALL TO THE PUBLIC – None

### DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST – None

### REPORTS AND QUESTIONS

2. Superintendent's Summary- **Mr. Emery gave an informative report to the board.**

### CONSENT AGENDA – Action

Approval of routine payroll and expense vouchers/routine matters.

3. Approval of Minutes of January 13, 2026, Regular Meeting.  
 Recommendation to approve/ratify financial matters.
  - A. Payroll and expense vouchers.
  - B. Cash balance reports.

**Motion made by Mrs. Melton to approve the consent agenda items as presented with the corrections on item 8 in last month's minutes. Motion seconded by Mr. Claridge. Motion carried 5/0.**

Item #3				
Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Eddie Bowman				X
Christie Brown	X			
Sherry Carbajal	X			
Mark Claridge	X			
Tamara Melton	X			
B.K. Merriman	X			
Kim Watersl				X

## LEGAL/FINANCIAL

### New Business

4. Discussion and approval of special projects funding for Safford Unified School District Culinary Program, classroom furniture. **(Action)**

**Motion made by Mrs. Carbajal to approve special projects funding for Safford Middle School District Culinary Program, classroom furniture up to \$17,500. Motion seconded by Mr. Claridge. Motion carried 5/0.**

Item #4				
Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Eddie Bowman				X
Christie Brown	X			
Sherry Carbajal	X			
Mark Claridge	X			
Tamara Melton	X			
B.K. Merriman	X			
Kim Waters				X

5. Discussion and approval of special projects funding for Safford Unified School District Film and TV program, lighting update. **(Action)**

**Motion made by Mrs. Melton to approve special projects funding for Safford Unified School District Film and TV program, lighting update in the amount of \$40,000. Motion seconded by Mr. Bowman. Motion carried 5/0.**

Item #5				
Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Eddie Bowman				X

Christie Brown	X			
Sherry Carbajal	X			
Mark Claridge	X			
Tamara Melton	X			
B.K. Merriman	X			
Kim Waters				X

6. Discussion and approval of special projects funding for Safford Unified School District Agriscience Program, Ironworker Upgrade. **(Action) Motion made by Mrs. Brown to approve special projects funding for Safford Unified School District Agriscience Program, Ironworker Upgrade up to \$35,000. Motion seconded by Mr. Claridge. Motion carried 5/0.**

Item #6				
Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Eddie Bowman				X
Christie Brown	X			
Sherry Carbajal	X			
Mark Claridge	X			
Tamara Melton	X			
B.K. Merriman	X			
Kim Waters				X

7. Discussion and approval of special projects funding for Eastern Arizona college, Sports Medicine Program, In Body Wellness Machine. **(Action) Motion made by Mr. Claridge to approve special projects funding for Eastern Arizona college, Sports Medicine Program, In Body Wellness Machine in the amount of \$10,290. Motion seconded by Mrs. Brown. Motion carried 5/0.**

Item #7				
Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Eddie Bowman				X
Christie Brown	X			
Sherry Carbajal	X			
Mark Claridge	X			
Tamara Melton	X			
B.K. Merriman	X			
Kim Waters				X

8. Discussion and approval of purchased services for CTSOs. **(Action) Motion made by Mr. Claridge to approve purchased services for CTSOs in the amount of \$9,000. Motion seconded by Mrs. Carbajal. Motion carried 5/0.**

Item #8				
Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Eddie Bowman				X

Christie Brown	X			
Sherry Carbajal	X			
Mark Claridge	X			
Tamara Melton	X			
B.K. Merriman	X			
Kim Waters				X

9. Discussion and approval of New Central Campus Programs. **(Action) Motion made by Mrs. Melton to approve for exploratory purposes only. Motion seconded by Mrs. Brown. Motion carried 4/1.**

Item #9				
Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Eddie Bowman				X
Christie Brown	X			
Sherry Carbajal	X			
Mark Claridge	X			
Tamara Melton	X			
B.K. Merriman	X			
Kim Waters				X

**BUSINESS/PERSONNEL**

**New Business**

10. Review/confirm board meeting schedule.  
Regular/Special Meetings for 2025-2026 School Year

- Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 6 pm at GIFT Office
- Tuesday, April 14, 2026, 6 pm at SHS
- Tuesday, May 12, 2026, 6 pm at GIFT Office

**ADJOURNMENT**

***Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm***

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Chairman Signature

Date