MINUTES

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING – GILA INSTITUTE FOR TECHNOLOGY DISTRICT #2

Tuesday, October 13, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.
GIFT Office

OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present:

Mr. B.K. Merriman, President
Mr. Eddie Bowman, Member
Mrs. Christie Brown, Member
Mrs. Sherry Carbajal, Member
Mr. Mark Claridge, Member
Mrs. Tamara Melton, Member
Mrs. Kim Waters, Member-Conf. call

Clay Emery, Superintendent
Mrs. Michele Johnson, Business Manager
Mrs. Brenda Garcia, Administrative Assistant

Public: Kayla Presley-DHS CTE Director, Mr. Carver, Mrs. Carver-Teacher, Gabbriella Heredia-student, Victoria Kelley-student, Skyla Bellamy-student, Makayla Victor-student, Gene Mattice-Teacher

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. Carbajal to adopt the agenda as presented by the administration. Motion seconded by Mrs. Brown. Motion carried 7/0.

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-Conf. call	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 September 8, 2026, Regular Meeting.
Recommendation to approve/ratify financial matters**.**

A. Payroll and expense vouchers.
B. Cash balance reports.

Motion made by Mr. Claridge to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Motion seconded by Mrs. Melton. Motion carried 7/0.

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 Waters-Conf. call	X			

GAL/FINANCIAL

New Business

4. Discussion and approval of FY 2025-2026 Annual Financial Report (AFR) and the School-Level Reporting Form. **(Action)**

Motion made by Mr. Claridge to approve FY2025-2026 Annual Financial Report (AFR) and the School-Level Reporting Form. Motion seconded by Mr. Bowman. Motion carried 7/0.

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-Conf. call	X			

5. Discussion and approval of funding for the initial phase of DHS Culinary building project. **(Action)**

Motion made by Mrs. Brown to approve funding for the initial phase of DHS Culinary building project in the amount of $200,000. Motion seconded by Mrs. Carbajal. Motion carried 7/0.

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-Conf. call	X			

6. Discussion and approval of funding for FTHS Business Program classroom furniture. **(Action)**

Motion made by Mr. Claridge to approve funding for FTHS Business Program classroom furniture up to $30,000. Motion seconded by Mrs. Melton. Motion carried 7/0.

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-Conf. call	X			

7. Discussion of proposed board policies, second reading. **(Action)**

Policy BCB – Board Member Conflict of Interest
Policy GBEAA – Conflict of Interest

Motion made by Mrs. Brown to approve board policies. Motion seconded by Mr. Claridge. Motion carried 7/0.

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-Conf. call	X			

8. Discussion and approval of food purchasing guidelines. **(Action)**

Motion made by Mrs. Brown to approve food purchasing guidelines. Motion seconded by Mr. Bowman. Motion carried 7/0.

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-Conf. call	X			

BUSINESS/PERSONNEL
New Business

9. Resignation:
--Natalie Reynolds, Instructor/Career Coach – effective October 25, 2026. **(Action)**
Motion made by Mr. Claridge to accept resignation. Motion seconded by Mrs. Melton. Motion carried 7/0.

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-Conf. call	X			

10. . Review/confirm board meeting schedule.
Regular/Special Meetings for 2026-2027 School Year

--- Tuesday, November 3, 2026, 6 pm at EAC Cosmetology Building
--- Tuesday, December 8, 2026, 6 pm
--- Tuesday, January 12, 2027, 6 pm

ADJOURNMENT
Meeting adjourned at: 7:19 pm.

Chairman Signature **Date**