SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

5 NOVEMBER 2026

Vice-Chair Commissioner Matthew Hopkins (Chair Commissioner Judy Pruett – absent) opened the meeting asking Commissioner Rickie Carpenter to offer a prayer and lead the pledge. The Minutes of 14 July 2026 were moved for approval by Commissioner Thomas Price, seconded by Commissioner Sarah Suddarth, and were approved unanimously. The public was asked if there were any comments on the agenda and there were none.

Budget Amendment for General Purpose School Fund was provided in a handout. Director of Schools, Dr. Vickie Beard noted that only two parts of that amendment required the Commission's approval, the LEA Liaison for new PT position (salary $37,728 based on a daily hourly rate, a contract position with no benefits, and required no new funding), and the purchase of new buses ($353,977) one bus for special ed and one passenger bus. The other parts of the amendment were provided for information and required no additional funding. Motion by Commissioner Steve Woods, seconded by Commissioner Cathy Roberts to approve the amendment. Discussion included: LEAPS to align with state funding; Summer Camp funding allowed to carryover into next fiscal year; Public School Security Grant from 2 years ago; Healthy Students Stronger Learners – Carryover and funding only recently released; Other Student Support for VCA person on staff; 294 teachers in total for all schools; land acquisition by UTS providing a non-binding worksheet on appraised property which would include leasing for few years (garage and maintenance department); completion of school renovations with additional potential of Richland School roof (cost approximated $700K). Motion approved.

Unfinished business, New Business, and public comments (none) Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Steve Woods, seconded by Commissioner Sarah Suddarth, approved.

ATTENDEES: Vice Chair Commissioner Matthew Hopkins (Absent Chair Judy Pruett), other Commissioners Cathy Roberts, Sarah Suddarth, Thomas Price, Steve Woods, Richard Kemp, Mike Cesarini (absent Judy Pruett) Other Commissioners in attendance Lynn Albury, Jan Beecham, Brandon Beard, Tracy Wilburn, Rickie Carpenter, Gayle Jones, Tommy Pollard, Evan Baddour, James Gentry Others in Attendance County Executive Knox Vanderpool, Financial Manager Beth Moore-Sumners and Shana Woodard, Property Assessor Tommy Hyatt, Circuit Court Clerk Crystal Greene, Road Superintendent Gene Barnickle, Trustee Tony Risner, EMS Director Walter Daugherty, members of the public

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