

Killeen Independent School District

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, Regular Meeting August 25, 2026, at 5 p.m. in the Killeen ISD Boardroom

Board Members Present

- Brett Williams, President
- Oliver Mintz, Vice President (**joined meeting at 5:01 p.m.**)
- Brenda Adams, Secretary
- Susan Jones, Member
- Marvin Rainwater, Member
- Tina Capito, Member
- Rodney Gilchrist
- **Board Member Absent:** None

Quorum: Established

Call to Order

The meeting of the Killeen Independent School District Board of Trustees was called to order by President Brett Williams at 5 p.m.

The meeting was recorded and streamed publicly

Agenda Item 1: Public Forum

Speaker: Barbara Thompson

Ms. Thompson expressed concerns regarding the school's student pickup process, noting a lack of clear signage and confusion among parents and grandparents about where to stand to

retrieve students. She described waiting approximately 30 minutes outdoors with grandparents, pregnant women, young children, and babies while temperatures exceeded 100 degrees and the heat index reached approximately 112 degrees. Concerns were also raised that some parents were checking students out of school early to avoid the lengthy dismissal process, potentially creating additional work for office staff and teachers. Ms. Thompson recommended considering a vehicle-based sign system used successfully at other schools, which could maintain student safety and accountability while providing a more efficient pickup process and reducing families' exposure to extreme Texas weather.

Speaker: Sherry Miller

Ms. Miller, spokesperson for the Killeen Classroom Teachers Association (KCTA), thanked the Board of Trustees and administration for supporting employees despite the financial challenges school districts facing across Texas. She expressed appreciation for the employee pay increase, the additional \$50 contribution toward health insurance premiums, and the continuation of the \$200 classroom teacher supply stipend. Ms. Miller emphasized that these financial supports are especially meaningful as healthcare costs continue to rise and teachers frequently use their own money to purchase classroom supplies for students.

Speaker: Misty Lair

Ms. Lair addressed the Board to continue advocating for KISD's high school swim program and emphasized the importance of finding a sustainable facility solution for current and future student swimmers. She highlighted the students' dedication, noting their early-morning practices, demanding academic schedules, and continued efforts to collect data and develop information to support their concerns. She explained that all five KISD high schools are currently practicing at the YMCA, where the program can host only two home swim meets without spectators, and requested continued consideration of the Boys and Girls Club facility previously used by the program. She encouraged the District to involve parents, swimmers, and coaches in working toward a solution that will allow students to continue growing and thriving as swimmers, scholars, and a team.

Speaker: Nicole Halladay

Ms. Halladay, parent of a Harker Heights High School senior swimmer, urged the District to consider preserving and investing in the Killeen Boys and Girls Club pool as a district swimming facility. She explained that KISD-hosted meets have historically attracted more than 200 swimmers from KISD and neighboring districts, generated spectator revenue, and provided opportunities for special events such as teacher appreciation and senior recognition meets. She emphasized that losing a home facility prevents these traditions from continuing and noted that the existing pool offers greater capacity for swimmers and spectators than other nearby district facilities. She acknowledged the financial investment required but suggested that an indoor district pool could benefit the broader community through learn-to-swim programs, competitive club swimming, lifeguard training, and water aerobics while providing students with opportunities to develop swimming as an important life skill.

Speaker: Orville Froome

Mr. Froome, whose son swims for Harker Heights High School, urged the Board to keep the Boys and Girls Club swimming facility available to Killeen ISD both for the current year and as a permanent home for the district's swim programs. He emphasized that the facility serves more than an athletic purpose by bringing swimmers from five district high schools together and fostering friendships, school pride, confidence, discipline, and a strong sense of belonging. Mr. Froome shared his son's experience of adjusting to a new country, school, and community, explaining that swimming provided him with familiarity, support, and a sense of family during the transition. He acknowledged the financial costs associated with maintaining the facility but noted that losing it could also result in increased transportation, travel time, scheduling challenges, fewer home meets, and additional pressures on students, families, coaches, and district resources. Mr. Froome respectfully requested that the Board work with the District, Boys and Girls Club, community partners, parents, and other stakeholders to develop a sustainable plan that preserves the facility and the opportunities it provides for students

Agenda Item 2: Closed Session

The Board entered closed session at **5:19 p.m.** for:

2A. Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.071 and 551.0821, the Board will Consult with its Attorney Regarding Pending or Contemplated Litigation and Matters Involving Personally Identifiable Student Information, Including Discussion of a Proposed Resolution Agreement Involving Mediation Docket No. 081-DM-0526

2B. Discuss School Safety Audit Presentation (Texas Government Code 551.076).

2C. Consultation with the District's Legal Counsel Regarding Pending Litigation, a Settlement Offer, or other Issues Confidential under the Attorney-Client Privilege
(Texas Government Code 551.071).

2D. Deliberate the Purchase, Exchange, Lease, or Value of Real Property
(Texas Government Code 551.072).

2E. Deliberate the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee
(Texas Government Code 551.074).

2F. Deliberate a Matter Regarding a Public School Student in which Personally Identifiable Information About the Student will Necessarily be Revealed
(Texas Government Code 551.0821).

No action was taken in closed session.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at **6:02 p.m.**

Invocation and Pledges

Invocation was led by Trustee **Rodney Gilchrist**.

Pledges of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags were led by student **Michael Parham and Mirabelle Nnubia** from Dr. Joseph A. Fowler Elementary School.

Agenda Item 3: Honors and Recognition

Presenter: Karen Rudolph

The Board recognized numerous students, staff members, campuses, and school leaders for outstanding achievements, academic growth, leadership, and service. Killeen ISD Early College High School was recognized for earning the Texas Education Agency's 2025–2026 Designated with Distinction recognition, the highest level awarded to Early College High Schools in Texas. The District further celebrated a record number of Advanced Placement Scholar Awards, with students earning 85 more awards than the previous year and every KISD high school increasing its number of recognized AP Scholars. New secondary and elementary principals beginning their first official year in their leadership roles were introduced and recognized for their commitment to serving KISD students, staff, and families. KISD also recognized students who earned the Lone Star FFA Degree, the highest membership degree awarded by the Texas FFA Association, with 33 district students receiving the distinction. Mr. Sias shared a meaningful story about an old football discovered at Manor Middle School while staff were cleaning. The football, which dated back to approximately 1987, contained the signatures of members of a former Manor Middle School football team and represented much more than the team's win-loss record. Mr. Sias explained that the football symbolized pride, belonging, tradition, and the importance students placed on being part of the Manor community. He connected the football's history to Manor's more recent journey of overcoming years of academic underperformance and challenges involving attendance, discipline, and confidence in the school's ability to succeed. Mr. Sias explained that when he became principal, the goal was not to ignore Manor's past but to understand it while refusing to allow previous struggles to determine the school's future. The campus adopted the expectation of "effort over everything," emphasizing that although students and staff could not change years of challenges overnight, they could control the effort they gave each day. The story became especially significant when Mr. Sias revealed that one of

the names signed on the football belonged to Board President Brett Williams, who attended Manor Middle School as a student and later became President of the Killeen ISD Board of Trustees. Mr. Sias presented the football to Mr. Williams. Board President Williams reflected on his experience as a member of that team, recalling his coach, teammates, friendships, and the challenges the team faced. He expressed appreciation that the football had survived for so many years and stated that it would have an immediate place in his office. Mr. Sias concluded that the football represented not only where Manor Middle School had been, but more importantly where the school was going and what could be accomplished when people worked together. He praised students, staff, and community for achieving progress that many may not have expected. The recognitions concluded with Dr. Davis acknowledging Board members Brenda Adams and Rodney Gilchrist in celebration of their August birthdays.

Theatrical Design State Qualifies

- Sasha Lauderdale (Ellison HS)

Accountability Campus Recognitions

Exemplary Growth (2+ letter grade increase or 10 point or more progress)

- Manor Middle School
- Oveta Culp Hobby Elementary School
- Killeen High School
- Dr. Jimmie Don Aycock Middle School
- Live Oak Ridge Middle School
- Rancier Middle School
- Roy J. Smith Middle School
- Alice W. Douse Elementary School
- Hay Branch Elementary School
- Nolanville Elementary School

Accountability Campus Recognitions

Significant Growth (1 letter grade increase or 5-9 points increase)

- Harker Heights High School
- Audie Murphy Middle School
- Pat Carney Elementary School
- Pathways Academic Campus
- Nolan Middle School
- Cedar Valley Elementary School
- Dr. Joseph A. Fowler Elementary School
- Haynes Elementary School
- Montague Village Elementary School

- Saegert Elementary School
- Willow Springs Elementary School
- Eastern Hills Middle School
- Palo Alto Middle School
- Union Grove Middle School
- Iduma Elementary School

Accountability Campus Recognitions

Sustained Excellence (maintained A or maintained B rating while increasing overall score)

- Ellison High School
- Chaparral High School
- Early College High School
- Clarke Elementary School
- Mountain View Elementary School

Designated with Distinction Campus

- Early College High School - Dr. Alime Sadikova

AP Scholar Awards

Chaparral HS

- Abigail Cruz
- Isaiah Francis
- Cole Hequembourg
- Angelica Ibanez
- Daniela Vachier Olivares
- Ferrah Wilkerson
- Avery Wiltzius
- Daniel Fraguada
- Logan Collins
- Arianna Garza
- James Maxwell
- Dylan Ray

Early College HS

- Kimberly Amezcua
- Juan Cossio – AP Scholar with Honor
- Jaelynn Duvall

- David Garcia
- Angel Gonzalez
- Clemente Gonzalez – AP Scholar with Distinction
- Dariel Hernandez
- Armando Lugo
- Fernanda Mendoza
- Angelina Mims
- Andy Pagan Pabon – AP Schola with Honor
- Tristan Rehse – AP Scholar with Honor
- Rose Torres Costas
- Mairalynn Urena – AP Scholar with Distinction
- Adriana Lopez Espinoza
- Eli’An Morales-Restrepo
- Emmanuel Orta
- Laura Nyamari

Ellison HS

- Sarah Ciaburri
- Alysha Edwards
- Andy Harper
- Jaylen Henry
- James King
- Chemahr King-Rivers
- Sasha Lauderdale
- Genevive Pal
- Orryn Zeb Nidoy – AP Scholar with honor
- Amber Daguplo – AP Scholar with Honor

Harker Heights HS

- Jaylynn Bennett – AP Scholar with Honor
- Lillian Carroll
- Kolton Carty
- Hayun Choi
- Amelia Constancio
- Alana Curtis – AP Scholar with Distinction
- Zoey Fisher
- Nora Harden – AP Scholar with Honor
- Nathan Hostettler – AP Scholar with Distinction

- Krishna Montoya – AP Scholar with Distinction
- Ashlyn Towlson
- Eduardo Valdes Munoz
- Mary Coleman
- Bailey Collins
- Isabella Shepherd
- Destiny Sims

Killeen HS

- Trinity Cohn – AP Scholar with Distinction
- Ashton Dicter
- Olijana Gabble
- Aidan Gerberg
- Abril Ramirez
- Jacob Roman
- Joshua Roman – AP Scholar with Honor
- Nikolas Sesma – AP Scholar with Honor
- Marcos Bedolla
- Daniela Calderon
- Courtney Conway
- Amaya Fruitz
- Jose Ramirez
- Moussa Soumahoro

Shoemaker HS

- Paola Alberty Santiago
- Adrianna Boyles
- Kale Clawson
- Jae Uno Dy Eguia – AP Scholar with Honor
- Kiana Johnson
- Sakura Nojiri
- Ismael Willybiro Sako

New Principals - Secondary

- Dr. Darion Walton – Shoemaker High School
- Michael Valentine – Rancier Middle School
- Dr. Alime Sadikova – Early College High School
- Ben Hess – Union Grove Middle School

- Genevive Manning – Liberty Hill Middle School
- Donald Bosier – Gateway Middle and High School

New Principals - Elementary

- Rikki Harper – Maude Moore Wood Elementary School
- Felecia Ware-Johnson – Richard E. Cavazos Elementary School
- Brittany Nault – Clarke Elementary School
- Crystal Smith – Hay Branch Elementary School
- Chelsey Rainwater – Reeces Creek Elementary School
- Jessica Askew – Ira Cross Elementary School

Texas FFA Star Counselor Award State Finalist

- Jamie Stall

Lone Star FFA Degree

- Krystal Gamble – Harker Heights HS
- Savannah Jennings - Harker Heights HS
- Taylan Houston – Killeen HS
- Carson Ingalls – Killeen ISD Career Center
- Madison Shermann – Killeen ISD Career Center
- Nora Harden – Harker Heights HS
- Nevaeh Rodriguez – Harker Heights HS

Agenda Item 4: Public Forum (Continuation of 5:00 pm Public Forum)

No members of the public signed up to speak during the forum.

5. Superintendent Report and Review of First Week of School

Presenter: Dr. Stewart and Scott Hequembourg

Dr. Stewart and Mr. Hequembourg presented the Superintendent's Report reviewing the first week of school, highlighting successes, areas for improvement, and the District's next steps. They reported that newly implemented high school safety protocols resulted in more than a 22-minute improvement in student entry times from Monday to Friday, with campuses continuing to refine the process. Student enrollment reached 38,744, representing approximately 96 percent of the District's projected enrollment, while teacher vacancies decreased to 120 and substitute positions maintained a 98 percent fill rate. District and campus leaders collected feedback throughout the first week and used the information to make immediate operational

adjustments, with strong support from families and the community. Transportation improvements included the launch of the Smart Tag system, which had already attracted nearly 10,000 parent accounts while the District continued refining routes and adjustments associated with campus closures and optimization. The administration explained that staffing and student loads would be balanced across campuses in the coming weeks based on actual enrollment, with personnel redistributed as necessary following the Labor Day holiday. Academically, the District is transitioning from extensive planning and professional development into classroom implementation, using beginning-of-year assessments to establish student performance baselines, identify the needs of students new to KISD, and guide instruction. District and campus leaders will continue monitoring curriculum implementation, student progress, classroom resources, safety procedures, and staff feedback so adjustments can be made quickly and campuses have the support necessary for a successful school year.

Agenda Item 6: Information Items for Discussion

6A. Discussion of Accountability Update

Presenter: Dr. Stewart, Dawn Sills, Dr. Crayton, and Dr. Buckley

Dr. Stewart, Ms. Sills, Dr. Crayton, and Dr. Buckley presented the annual accountability update, reviewing Killeen ISD's state and federal accountability results and explaining how the data will guide instructional planning and campus support. The team explained that state accountability evaluates overall student and campus performance, while federal accountability focuses more specifically on the performance of individual student groups. District leaders emphasized that accountability data is being used not only to evaluate past performance but also to identify strengths, weaknesses, professional development needs, curriculum implementation concerns, and opportunities for improvement. The accountability system incorporates student achievement, academic growth, relative performance, and closing achievement gaps, with the best score from Domain 1 or Domain 2 accounting for 70 percent of the overall rating and Domain 3 accounting for 30 percent. Killeen ISD demonstrated growth in every accountability domain, resulting in a five-point overall increase and a district rating of 79. Elementary results showed that approximately two-thirds of campuses maintained their previous letter grade or improved student achievement, while approximately one-third experienced a decline. Killeen Elementary, Brookhaven Elementary, and Timber Ridge Elementary were identified for additional levels of support, including instructional coaching, more frequent student progress checks, executive coaching, and regular campus visits from district leadership. Middle schools demonstrated substantial improvement. Overall, middle schools averaged approximately seven percent growth, although Patterson Middle School, Nolan Middle School, Rancier Middle School, and Liberty Hill Middle School were identified as campuses requiring continued attention and wraparound support. High schools averaged approximately four percent growth, with Early College High School maintaining an A rating of 98, Pathways earning an A, Harker Heights High School increasing from 86 to 92, and Killeen High School improving 10 points from 73 to 83. District leaders stated that continued priorities will include supporting middle schools, helping Shoemaker High School reach a B rating, strengthening College, Career, and Military Readiness, improving TSIA preparation, and increasing four-year graduation rates. Dr. Stewart

emphasized that the District's progress resulted from deliberate instructional focus, strong systems, continuous monitoring, and the collective work of teachers, campus leaders, and central administration rather than any single initiative. He explained that the District is becoming more tactical in its approach by strengthening instructional support, developing educators, using professional learning communities, and responding more quickly to student and campus data. Trustees praised the academic gains while emphasizing that the District must sustain the progress, continue improving, and avoid becoming complacent. Trustee Gilchrist specifically expressed concern regarding Ira Cross Elementary School's significant decline and requested that the campus receive sustained attention and support. During the discussion, trustees asked what had changed organizationally to produce broader improvement across the District rather than isolated pockets of high performance. Administration attributed the improvement to a developing cultural shift that includes stronger principal leadership, focused curriculum teams, greater data literacy, consistent instructional expectations, frequent assessment, leadership coaching, and students taking greater ownership of their academic progress. Leaders also emphasized the importance of gathering feedback from campus personnel, responding quickly to concerns, and providing greater consistency in instructional materials and practices across the District. Trustee Jones raised concerns regarding significant declines at Ira Cross Elementary School, Killeen Elementary School, and Peebles Elementary School, prompting discussion regarding leadership transitions, staffing challenges, vacancies, and other campus-level circumstances that affected performance. Administration explained that additional instructional coaches, campus instructional specialists, principal supervisors, targeted improvement plans, and other resources are being directed toward campuses requiring the greatest assistance. Board President Brett Williams emphasized that leadership matters at every level, including the classroom, campus, and central administration, and pointed to academic gains at campuses where experienced leaders had transitioned into new roles. He encouraged successful campus leaders to continue their work while reminding those who experienced challenges to remain focused and persistent in improving student outcomes. Administration added that leadership extends beyond principals and administrators to secretaries, custodians, cafeteria employees, teachers, and other staff members whose collective efforts contribute to effective campus systems. The discussion concluded with recognition that Killeen ISD appears to have greater alignment between classroom instruction, campus leadership, and central-office leadership, which trustees and administrators identified as an important factor in the District's continued academic progress.

6B. Discussion of Remote Homebound Instruction Waiver Requests for the 2026-2027 School Year

Presenter: Dr. Lawrason

Dr. Lawrason presented the Remote Homebound Instruction Waiver Request for the 2026–2027 school year, which would authorize the Superintendent to approve and submit individual waiver requests as needed for eligible students receiving homebound services. The waiver allows approved students with health or medical needs to receive instruction virtually rather than

requiring in-person instruction, ensuring continuity of educational services while maintaining compliance with state requirements. The item is for placement on the next consent agenda.

6C. Long-Range Facilities Master Plan Overview

Presenter: Adam Rich

Mr. Rich presented the Long Range Facilities Master Plan Overview, describing it as a data-informed framework designed to ensure that District facilities continue to support student success. The planning process included input from more than 100 stakeholders and eight committee meetings focused on optimization, facility conditions, campus needs, financial considerations, and future recommendations. The committee reviewed existing campus conditions, zoning, campus capacities, demographic projections, portable buildings, facility life-cycle data, and the District's bond history before establishing its guiding priorities. The committee recommended closely monitoring campuses that fall to or below 70 percent utilization and considering rezoning, program placement, or consolidation strategies when appropriate. Members also emphasized proactive replacement of major building components, particularly roofs and HVAC systems, which generally reach their expected life cycle at approximately 20 years. The committee further supported reducing instructional use of portable buildings, improving educational adequacy across older and newer campuses, and ensuring facilities appropriately support the programs housed within them. District enrollment projections were also a major consideration, with enrollment expected to decline from approximately 41,670 students to about 36,000 students over the long-range forecast. The District currently maintains approximately eight million square feet of facilities, 134 buildings on 68 properties, approximately 126,000 square feet of portable facilities, and roughly 1,500 acres of land. As enrollment declines, projections indicate that more campuses may fall below the 70 percent utilization threshold, increasing the importance of strategic rezoning and consolidation discussions. Mr. Rich explained that the District must balance facility investments with future enrollment patterns so significant resources are not committed to buildings that could later be consolidated or decommissioned. Life-cycle needs represent a significant financial challenge, with 27 campuses projected to have HVAC systems and 32 campuses projected to have roofs exceeding their expected life cycle within the next five years. Trustees emphasized the urgency of addressing HVAC and roofing needs, particularly because of the Texas climate and the potential health, safety, and operational consequences of system failures. The District has used Strategic Facilities Plan funding and insurance reimbursements associated with the May 2024 hailstorm to address some roofing needs, but administrators noted that these resources are limited. The presentation explained that the District historically allocates approximately \$6.5 million annually toward capital improvement projects, an amount that is insufficient to address the full scope of current and future facility needs. A proposed planning model allocating approximately \$30 million annually would allow the District to make considerably more progress toward bringing roofs, HVAC systems, and other major components back within their recommended life cycles. The committee also evaluated potential districtwide projects involving restroom modernization, specialized learning spaces, security cameras, science laboratories,

exterior canopies, elementary activity spaces, ADA improvements, vestibules, fine arts facilities, inclusive playgrounds, CTE spaces, lighting, athletic spaces, parking, and other campus improvements. Older furniture, aging windows, distribution center needs, and renovations to facilities such as Ellison High School were also discussed as potential future investments. Mr. Rich explained that Ellison High School has significant renovation needs but retains a fundamentally sound structure, making renovation within the existing building envelope a possible strategy. The presentation also explored potential campus configuration changes. One potential concept discussed was converting Eastern Hills Middle School into a new Harker Heights Elementary School campus, which could provide additional flexibility for zoning and relieve enrollment pressures at nearby schools. Funding options were reviewed with the committee, including the District's bonding capacity, although Mr. Rich stressed that the presentation did not constitute a recommendation for a bond election. Financial advisors estimated a maximum bonding capacity of approximately \$728 million, and additional scenarios of \$500 million and \$250 million were presented. The committee's overall message emphasized consistency across District facilities, modernization of aging buildings, health and safety, strategic facility utilization, expanded Career and Technical Education opportunities, responsible financial stewardship, and a clear vision for future schools. Mr. Rich recommended that the District identify campuses requiring additional evaluation, develop rezoning scenarios, and engage the Board and community before committing major capital investments. He emphasized the importance of aligning roof replacements, HVAC projects, renovations, and other capital expenditures with decisions regarding which facilities will remain in long-term operation. Trustee Capito expressed support for developing a comprehensive District-wide rezoning strategy rather than addressing individual attendance zones incrementally. She acknowledged that rezoning and campus consolidation could be difficult for families and communities but emphasized the Board's responsibility to consider the District's long-term financial sustainability. Trustees also discussed the need to receive clear administrative recommendations early enough to incorporate major facility needs into future budget planning rather than waiting until the budget process is underway. The Board recognized that the plan contains numerous interconnected considerations, including declining enrollment, rezoning, potential school consolidations, facility modernization, bonding capacity, and the timing of existing bond obligations. The discussion concluded with recognition that the Long Range Facilities Master Plan is a living document that will require continued Board review, prioritization, financial planning, and adjustment as enrollment projections and District needs evolve.

6D. Annual Public Notice of Federal Grant Applications

Presenter: Kallen Vaden

Ms. Vaden presented the Annual Public Notice of Federal Grant Applications, explaining that the District is required each year to inform the public of the federal grants for which it intends to apply and to provide an opportunity for public input through the District website. The available federal funding primarily supports special education and at-risk student populations, with information provided regarding the purpose of each grant and the student groups served. Ms.

Vaden also noted that the public notice requirement is outlined in Board Policy CB (Local) and that any unspent grant funds may roll forward into the following year.

Agenda Item 7: Consent Agenda

7A. Receive and Approve Minutes for August 11, 2026, Workshop Meeting

- **Motion:** Oliver Mintz
 - **Second:** Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Vote:** 6-0-1-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** Susan M. Jones
 - **Absent:** None
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7B. Consideration of School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) Membership Roster for the 2026-2027 School Year

7C. Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding for Temple College for the Texas Bioscience Institute Program for School Year 2026-2027

7D. Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding for Central Texas College Dual Credit Programs for School Year 2026-2027

- **Motion:** Brenda Adams
- **Second:** Rodney Gilchrist
- **Vote:** 7-0-0-0

- **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Susan M. Jones, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
- **Against:** None
- **Abstained:** None
- **Absent:** None

Agenda Item 8: Action Items for Consideration

8A. Consideration of Proposed Final Budget Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2026 Adopted Budget

Presenter: Kallen Vaden

Ms. Vaden presented the proposed final budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2026, explaining that the purpose was to align the year-end budget as closely as possible with projected actual revenues and expenditures. The proposed General Fund amendment reflected approximately \$518 million in revenues, \$512 million in expenditures, and an estimated \$4.8 million increase to fund balance, while the School Nutrition Fund included a slight increase related to the supper program and no change was recommended for the Debt Service Fund.

- **Motion:** Marvin Rainwater
- **Second:** Oliver Mintz
- **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams; Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Susan M. Jones; Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None

8B. Public Hearing to Discuss the Budget and Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2027

Presenter: Kallen Vaden

Ms. Vaden presented the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget and Tax Rate highlighting several priorities and efficiencies incorporated into the proposed budget. She reported that optimization efforts allowed the District to better prioritize resources while supporting specialized learning, departmental reorganization, middle school instructional improvements, additional professional

development, and expansion of the supper program. The budget also includes previously approved employee compensation enhancements, including a \$14-per-hour minimum wage, a 1% pay increase, an additional \$50 per month, and an increase in beginning teacher salary to \$59,400. Safety and security investments include replacing seat belts on approximately one-third of the bus fleet each year over the next three years, additional weapons detection systems, school resource officer support, and implementation of the Smart Tag transportation program. She reported that the proposed overall tax rate represents approximately a 1.8% decrease and continues the District's downward tax-rate trend, with the estimated impact on the average residence resulting in approximately \$538 less in taxes. The proposed General Fund budget reflects an anticipated \$1.3 million deficit, with more than 82% of the budget dedicated to payroll and more than \$50 million allocated to plant maintenance and operations, including utilities and insurance. The School Nutrition Fund projects approximately \$39.5 million in revenue and \$37 million in expenditures, while the Debt Service Fund uses a proposed interest and sinking tax rate of \$0.1940 per \$100 valuation to meet principal and interest obligations on voter-approved bonds.

The public hearing was opened and closed with no citizen comments submitted.

8C. Consideration of the Fiscal Year 2027 Accelerated Instruction Budget

Presenter: Kallen Vaden

Ms. Vaden presented the Fiscal Year 2027 Accelerated Instruction Budget, explaining that the District is required to budget State Compensatory Education funds to support accelerated instruction for students who do not meet End-of-Course assessment requirements.

- **Motion:** Rodney Gilchrist
- **Second:** Brenda Adams
- **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Susan M. Jones, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None

8D. Consideration of Adoption of Fiscal Year 2027 District Budgets

(1) General Fund Budget

(2) School Nutrition Fund Budget

(3) Debt Services Fund Budget

Presenter: Kallen Vaden

Ms. Vaden presented the Fiscal Year 2027 General Fund, School Nutrition Fund, and Debt Service Fund budgets, reflecting approximately \$569 million in revenues, \$568 million in expenditures, and an overall projected \$1.8 million addition to fund balance across the three funds.

- **Motion:** Brenda Adams
 - **Second:** Oliver Mintz
 - **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Susan M. Jones, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None
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8E. Consideration of Resolution to Adopt the Maintenance and Operations Tax Rate of \$0.6682 and Debt Services Tax Rate of \$0.1940 for a Total Tax Rate of \$0.8622 for the Fiscal Year 2027

Presenter: Kallen Vaden

Ms. Vaden presented the resolution to adopt the Fiscal Year 2027 tax rate, consisting of the Maintenance and Operations rate and Debt Service rate for a total tax rate of \$0.8622. She explained that the proposed rate was used to prepare the Fiscal Year 2027 budgets and that all statutorily required notices had been published in the newspaper and on the District website. Administration clarified that although the required motion language describes the rate as a 0.41% increase compared with the no-new-revenue tax rate, the District's actual overall tax rate decreased from the previous year.

- **Motion:** Rodney Gilchrist
- **Second:** Oliver Mintz
- **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Susan M. Jones, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None

8F. Killeen ISD 3-Year Cycle Safety Audit Final Report for 2023-2026

Presenter: Scott Hequembourg

Mr. Hequembourg presented the Killeen ISD Three-Year Cycle Safety Audit Final Report for 2023–2026, acknowledging that the Board had received the required briefing during closed session.

- **Motion:** Oliver Mintz
- **Second:** Rodney Gilchrist
- **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Susan M. Jones, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None

President Brett E. Williams called to move forward to Agenda item 10:

Agenda Item 10: Discussion of Future Board Meeting Agendas and Trustee Remarks

During discussion of future Board meeting agendas and trustee remarks, Trustee Capito thanked District employees for their hard work and wished everyone a successful school year, noting

that she enjoyed visiting staff across the District on the first day of school. Trustee Rainwater reflected on a visit to a hearing impaired education classroom, expressing appreciation for the specialized services, interpreters, aides, and educational opportunities KISD provides to students with significant needs. Secretary Adams praised campus employees for demonstrating patience and grace while managing unexpected first-day challenges and specifically thanked teachers for their continued dedication to student learning and the District's academic improvement. Trustee Jones emphasized that KISD is educating "America's children" and recognized the District's strong connection to the military community, while asking that the families of two KISD graduates who recently died in an Apache helicopter crash be remembered. Trustee Gilchrist stated that many positive developments are occurring throughout KISD and thanked employees for helping those successes become more visible. Vice President Mintz reflected on the District's academic progress, stating that he believes KISD has experienced a fundamental shift by narrowing its focus, strengthening its practices, and beginning to see meaningful results from its efforts. He emphasized that every employee contributes to the District's success, regardless of position, and encouraged continued investment in leadership at every level of the organization. COL. McClellan expressed excitement about the District's growth and future, while Board members also noted the significant improvement in the District's overall atmosphere, leadership, direction, and confidence compared with the previous year. The Superintendent expressed gratitude for the Board's comments but emphasized that the District must continue working, build upon its recent progress, and remain focused on reaching the next level rather than becoming satisfied with current accomplishments. Trustee Gilchrist concluded by recognizing the Superintendent's leadership, thanking him for guiding the District over the past year, and expressing appreciation for the positive direction of Killeen ISD.

Board Returned to Agenda Item 2: Closed Session as allowed by Texas Government Code 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, and 551.0821

The Board entered closed session at **9:20 p.m.** for:

No action was taken in closed session.

The Board reconvened in open session at **10:36 p.m.**

President Brett E. Williams called to move back to Agenda item 9:

Agenda Item 9: Consider and Take Possible Action on a Proposed Settlement Agreement Involving Mediation Docket No. 081-DM-0526, Including Possible Delegation of Authority to the Superintendent to Execute a Final Resolution Agreement on Behalf of the District

Vice President Mintz moved to approve the proposed settlement agreement involving mediation docket no. 081-DM-0526 and authorized the Superintendent to execute all necessary documents on behalf of the District.

- **Motion:** Oliver Mintz
 - **Second:** Brenda Adams
 - **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Susan M. Jones, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None
-

Agenda Item 11: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

- **Motion:** Brenda Adams
- **Second:** Rodney Gilchrist
- **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Susan M. Jones, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at **10:37 p.m.**

Signatures

Brett E. Williams

Board President

Brenda Adams

Board Secretary
