

Killeen Independent School District

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, Workshop Meeting September 15, 2026, at 5 p.m. in the Killeen ISD Boardroom

Board Members Present

- Brett E. Williams, President
- Oliver Mintz, Vice President (joined the meeting at 6:17 p.m.)
- Brenda Adams, Secretary
- Marvin Rainwater, Member
- Tina Capito, Member
- Rodney Gilchrist, Member
- **Board Member Absent:** Susan M. Jones, Member

Quorum: Established

Call to Order

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

The meeting was recorded and streamed publicly.

Agenda Item 1: Public Forum

Speaker: Conner Bratton

Connor Bratton, captain of the Chaparral Swim Team, addressed the Board regarding concerns with using the YMCA as a long-term practice facility for KISD swim teams, while expressing appreciation to the YMCA for providing access to its facilities and resources. He explained that the YMCA pool does not meet the required competition dimensions, which could prevent times recorded during meets at the facility from qualifying for UIL purposes. He also discussed challenges associated with five district swim teams sharing the facility, including limited lane availability and the need to adjust practices to accommodate YMCA patrons. Additionally, he raised concerns regarding shared locker room access

and student safety, emphasizing the need for a facility that can more appropriately support the district's swimming programs.

Agenda Item 2: Closed Session

The Board entered closed session at **5:06 p.m.** for:

2A. Consultation with Legal Counsel Regarding Senate Bill 12 Compliance Certification (Texas Government Code 551.071).

2B. Discussion of Personnel Matters and Nominations for the Bell County Tax Appraisal District Board of Directors for 2027 (Texas Government Code 551.074).

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).

2G. Level III Parent Grievance
(Texas Government Code 551.071, 551.074, 551.0821).

2H. Level III Parent Grievance
(Texas Government Code 551.071, 551.074, 551.0821).

No action was taken in closed session.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at **6:03 p.m.**

Agenda Item 3: Public Forum (Continuation of 5:00 pm Public Forum)

Speaker: Keith Thompson

Keith Thompson, CEO and founder of "You Can Grieve", addressed the Board regarding the impact of

mental health, grief, and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) on students, families, educators, and the broader community. He emphasized the importance of identifying and addressing the underlying causes of trauma and grief, explaining that greater awareness and support could positively affect academics, behavior, school safety, and overall student outcomes. Mr. Thompson advocated for programs that provide opportunities for students, parents, educators, and community members to discuss mental health, grief, and ACEs while strengthening communication among schools, families, law enforcement, and the community. He concluded that addressing these issues at their foundation could contribute to improved outcomes related to student well-being, substance use, violence, and community relationships.

Agenda Item 4: Information Items for Discussion

4A. Discussion of Memorandum of Understanding with the Children’s Advocacy Center of Central Texas for School-Based Mental Health Services

Presenter: Dr. Buckley

Dr. Buckley presented a proposed one-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Children’s Advocacy Center of Central Texas for the 2026–2027 school year, establishing a new partnership to provide school-based mental health services to referred Killeen ISD students and their families. Qualified mental health professionals from the Center would be permitted to provide counseling services on district campuses during the school day in accordance with district protocols, parental consent requirements, and applicable student privacy and confidentiality laws, with no financial impact to the District. Dr. Buckley recognized Shannon Lumar, Director of Mental Health and Wellness, for coordinating the agreement and Debra Longley, Executive Director of the Children’s Advocacy Center of Central Texas, and asked that the agreement would be placed on the Consent Agenda at the next meeting.

4B. Discussion of Memorandum of Understanding with Peaceable Kingdom Retreat Center of Bell County for the 2026-2027 School Year

Presenter: Dr. Lawrason

Dr. Lawrason presented for consideration a Memorandum of Understanding and highlighted the District’s longstanding partnership with the organization. She explained that students in self-contained special education classrooms have historically participated in educational activities at the facility and that the proposed agreement would expand opportunities for special education and general education students, as well as provide space for staff development, conferences, and team-building activities. Available programs include swimming, hiking, nature trails, an accessible ropes challenge course, sports courts, theater activities, gardening, vocational training, and other educational experiences, with accommodations designed to increase accessibility for students with specialized learning needs. Dr. Lawrason emphasized that the facility provides meaningful opportunities for students to develop educational, independent living, transitional, and employability skills through hands-on experiences. In response to a question from Trustee Gilchrist, Dr. Lawrason clarified that the agreement would be

funded through the District's general fund rather than special education funding. Trustee Capito added that the District utilizes the facility to provide students in self-contained special education programs with transitional living and employability skills that support graduation requirements and help students meet College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) expectations. Through hands-on experiences such as working in a movie theater, participating in recreational activities, and learning animal care, students gain practical independent living and job-related skills that prepare them for employment opportunities within the community. The Memorandum of Understanding was asked to be placed on the Consent Agenda at the next Board meeting.

4C. Discussion to Approve Certification of Compliance with Certain Laws under Texas Education Code 39.008, as Enacted by Senate Bill 12 (89th Texas Legislative Session)

Presenter: Mike Harper

Mr. Harper explained that the certification must be approved by a majority vote of the Board during a public meeting and advised that the item would be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting for formal consideration. Killeen ISD administration reviewed applicable policies, procedures, programs, and practices for compliance with Texas Education Code Sections 11.005 and 28.0022 and prepared the required certification for the Board. Mr. Harper provided an overview of the statutory requirements and prohibitions addressed by these provisions, including requirements related to diversity, equity, and inclusion practices and certain instructional activities involving debated or controversial public policy or social issues. He further explained that several District policies had been updated or were scheduled for revision in response to Senate Bill 12 and noted that additional policy changes would be presented through an upcoming TASB policy update. Mr. Harper concluded that the Board would need to vote on the certification at the next meeting so that it could be signed and submitted to the Texas Education Agency by the deadline.

4D. Discussion of Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Policy Manual Updated 127 Affecting Local Policies and Exhibits

Presenter: Mike Harper

Mr. Harper presented Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Policy Manual Update 127, which includes revisions to several local policies and exhibits resulting primarily from changes enacted during the most recent legislative session. He reminded the Board that legal policies reflect requirements established by law and cannot be modified by the Board, while local policies may be revised through Board action. Mr. Harper explained that BJCF(LOCAL) would be updated to comply with Senate Bill 12, including revisions related to accommodations for disabilities and additional reasons for superintendent nonrenewal. He also reviewed changes involving the DH policy series, noting that the Educators' Code of Ethics would be moved from an exhibit to a legal policy because the requirements are established in the Texas Administrative Code. Additional revisions would reorganize personnel policies pertaining to principals and counselors, while certain information currently contained in

EHAD(LOCAL) would be removed from the Board Policy Manual and placed in a more appropriate District publication or administrative regulation. Mr. Harper further explained that EHBB(LOCAL), addressing gifted and talented programs, would be updated to reflect amended identification criteria under the Texas Administrative Code, and student safety policy provisions would be revised to incorporate changes resulting from Senate Bill 571. Following the presentation, the Board indicated that TASB Policy Manual Update 127 is asked to be placed on the Consent Agenda at the next Board meeting.

4E. Report on Region 12 PEIMS Final Audit Results

Presenter: Dr. Stewart and Scott Hequembourg

Dr. Stewart and Mr. Hequembourg presented the final results of the Region 12 PEIMS audit, explaining that ten of the District's campuses were reviewed through examination of systems, records, and staff interviews. The audit identified areas for improvement involving attendance, student withdrawal and leaver coding, master scheduling, Career and Technical Education (CTE), College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR), and Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) processes. Regarding attendance, administration described enhanced monitoring by campus, class period, and individual classroom, along with additional training for attendance personnel, registrars, and principals to improve the accuracy and timeliness of attendance reporting. Administration also discussed the use of Minga to capture student check-in and check-out times and noted that inaccurate attendance reporting during the 2025–2026 school year could have placed a significant amount of District funding at risk if identified through a state audit. The audit further identified concerns with withdrawal and leaver coding, resulting in retraining, standardized campus checklists, monthly reviews, and additional verification to ensure students who enroll elsewhere are appropriately coded. Master schedule findings included discrepancies involving students transitioning from full-day to half-day schedules and CTE course contact hours, and administration reported that these coding issues had been corrected and additional review processes implemented. The audit also identified opportunities to optimize enrollment and funding through CTE programming, including expanding access to introductory CTE courses at the middle school level and providing students with earlier opportunities to begin coherent career pathways. Regarding CCMR, Region 12 recognized the knowledge and expertise of District staff while recommending that existing procedures and institutional knowledge be consolidated into a comprehensive manual to promote consistency and accessibility. Administration reported that work was underway to develop the CCMR manual and similarly described additional LPAC training and documentation procedures designed to ensure staff consistently maintain required records as processes evolve. Administration clarified during Board discussion that students participating in the bilingual program may take the applicable assessment in either Spanish or English based upon the determination of the committee and the language in which the student demonstrates the strongest performance. Trustees also discussed accountability for addressing the audit findings, and Dr. Davis explained that senior staff members are required to provide monthly updates regarding progress toward implementing corrective measures and recommendations. Administration emphasized that responsibility has been assigned to specific departments and staff members and that the District intends to continue monitoring, documenting, and reporting progress to ensure the audit recommendations are fully addressed.

4F. Board Report Schedule

Presenter: Scott Hequembourg

Mr. Hequembourg presented the proposed Board Report Schedule, developed at the direction of Dr. Davis to establish a predictable timeline for recurring reports and informational updates presented to the Board throughout the year. He explained that the schedule would provide staff with adequate preparation time while allowing Trustees to anticipate when reports regarding the budget, FIRST ratings and public hearings, academics, Third Future Schools, transportation, technology, and other recurring topics would be presented. Administration discussed enhancing the schedule with additional detail that would allow Trustees to identify when specific reports, contracts, and other matters are expected to come before the Board. Trustee Rainwater requested that future financial reporting provide greater visibility into actual expenditures, ADA-related revenue changes, and the District's overall budget position throughout the year, and administration agreed to explore options for providing this information. Trustee Gilchrist recommended replacing policy codes and acronyms with descriptive titles to make the schedule clearer. Administration also identified May as an appropriate time to provide a follow-up report regarding the recently presented audit and the District's progress in addressing the identified findings. Dr. Davis emphasized that the schedule is intended to remain a fluid document and encouraged Trustees to provide feedback so that adjustments can be made as reporting needs evolve. The Board further discussed developing a complementary topic-based reference that would allow Trustees to search for a specific subject and quickly identify when the corresponding report is scheduled to be presented, thereby making the overall reporting process more transparent and user-friendly.

Agenda Item 5: Consent Agenda

5A. Receive and Approve Minutes for August 25, 2026, Regular Meeting

5B. Consideration of Remote Homebound Instruction Waiver Requests for the 2026-2027 School Year

- **Motion:** Tina Capito
 - **Second:** Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Vote:** 6-0-0-1
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** Susan M. Jones
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Agenda Item 6: Action Items for Consideration

6A. Consideration of Franklin and Emily Pratt Learning & Leadership Center Renovation Contractor Rank Order

Presenter: Adam Rich

Mr. Rich presented the proposed contractor rank order for the Franklin and Emily Pratt Learning and Leadership Center renovation project, which will convert existing classroom areas into professional development and conference spaces and relocate Media Center functions from the 72-year-old JPLC facility to the renovated Pratt facility. Following a competitive sealed proposal process that resulted in submissions from ten contractors, STR Constructors was identified as the top-ranked contractor with a proposal of \$2,894,273, including a \$197,500 contingency allowance, with construction anticipated to begin in November 2026 and substantial completion scheduled for April 28, 2027. The project will be funded through the Strategic Facilities Plan budget, and administration recommended approval of the contractor rank order and delegation of authority to the Superintendent or designee to execute the contract, provided there are no material changes to the procurement package.

- **Motion:** Rodney Gilchrist
- **Second:** Oliver Mintz
- **Vote:** 6-0-0-1
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** Susan M. Jones

6B. Consideration of Selection of HVAC Engineer and Commissioning Agent for Fiscal Year 2027 HVAC Life Cycle Replacement Capital Improvement Project

Presenter: Adam Rich

Mr. Rich presented the selection of the HVAC engineer and commissioning agent, explaining that Union Grove Middle School's HVAC systems were prioritized for replacement based on system age, work order history, and replacement-part availability. Administration recommended Hendrix Consulting Engineers to provide mechanical, electrical, and plumbing engineering and commissioning services for the project, which has a design and construction budget of \$3,310,516, including a \$273,596 contingency allowance, plus \$300,956 for engineering and commissioning fees, with substantial completion targeted for July 31, 2027. The administration recommended commissioning Hendrix Consulting Engineers as the MEP engineer commissioning agent for the Fiscal Year 2027 HVAC Lifecycle Replacement Project and delegating authority to the Superintendent or designee to negotiate a contract that would be presented to the Board for possible action.

- **Motion:** Rodney Gilchrist
- **Second:** Oliver Mintz
- **Vote:** 6-0-0-1
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** Susan M. Jones

6C. Consideration of Selection of an Engineer for Fiscal Year 2027 Roofing Life Cycle Replacement Capital Improvement Projects

Presenter: Adam Rich

Mr. Rich presented the selection of an engineer, explaining that assessments of existing conditions resulted in recommended roof replacements at the Harker Heights High School Field House and Auditorium and the Audie Murphy Middle School Gymnasium. Administration recommended Engineered Exteriors as the roofing consulting engineer for the projects, which have a combined budget of \$2,012,030, including \$172,558 in contingency funds, with substantial completion anticipated by July 31, 2027 and funding provided through Capital Improvement Project funds within the Strategic Facilities Plan. The administration recommended commissioning Engineered Exteriors as the roofing consultant engineer for the projects and delegating authority to the Superintendent or designee to negotiate a contract to be presented to the Board for possible action.

- **Motion:** Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Second:** Brett E. Williams
 - **Vote:** 6-0-0-1
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** Susan M. Jones
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6D. Consideration of Recurring Contracts Exceeding Aggregate Threshold per Policy CH(LOCAL)

Presenter: Kallen Vaden

Ms. Vaden presented the recurring contracts exceeding the \$3 million aggregate threshold under Policy CH(LOCAL), explaining that the Board requires semiannual review and approval and that three vendors—Bartlett Cocke for construction services, ESS for substitute staffing, and Labatt for food service—met the threshold for the six-month period from March 1st through the end of August.

- **Motion:** Tina Capito
- **Second:** Oliver Mintz
- **Vote:** 6-0-0-1
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** Susan M. Jones

Agenda Item 7: Discussion of Future Board Meeting Agendas and Trustee Remarks

Trustee Capito commented on the positive start to the school year, expressed appreciation for the work of District staff, and encouraged everyone to continue building upon the progress occurring throughout the schools. Trustee Rainwater asked the community to remember the Mills family following the loss of Billy Joe Mills and recognized the family's longstanding connection and service to the District and community. Board President Williams recognized student Mylan Taylor for advocating on behalf of her teacher, Ms. Kelly, following a classroom staffing change and commended her for respectfully speaking up for something she believed was important. He also praised Ms. Kelly for making a meaningful impact on her students in a short period of time and joined Trustee Rainwater in extending condolences to the Mills family while recognizing the contributions of community members who had recently passed. Trustee Capito additionally praised the District's September 11th observance, highlighting the students who participated and thanking Dr. Wilkerson and the team for organizing a meaningful student-led event.

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

The Board took a recess at **7:09 p.m.**

The Board entered closed session at **7:15 p.m.**

No action was taken in closed session.

The Board reconvened in open session at **7:31 p.m.**

President Brett E. Williams called to move back to Agenda item 8 and 9:

Agenda Item 8: Consider and Take Possible Action Regarding Level III Parent Complaint

Mr. Rainwater moved that the Board of Trustees uphold the Level II grievance response and deny Grievant one's requested relief for the reason set forth in the local record.

- **Motion:** Marvin Rainwater
 - **Second:** Tina Capito
 - **Vote:** 6-0-0-1
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** Susan M. Jones
-

Agenda Item 9: Consider and Take Possible Action Regarding Level III Parent Complaint

Ms. Adams moved that the Board of Trustees uphold the Level II grievance response and deny Grievant two's requested relief for the reason set forth in the local record.

- **Motion:** Brenda Adams
- **Second:** Oliver Mintz
- **Vote:** 6-0-0-1
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None

- **Absent:** Susan M. Jones
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Agenda Item 10: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

- **Motion:** Brenda Adams
- **Second:** Rodney Gilchrist
- **Vote:** 6-0-0-1
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** Susan M. Jones

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at **7:33 p.m.**

Signatures

Brett E. Williams

Board President

Brenda Adams

Board Secretary
