

Belton Independent School District

Workshop Meeting Minutes

Board Workshop Meeting, April 8, 2026 - 5:00 p.m.

Dragon Room, 400 N. Wall Street, Belton TX, 76513

Board Members Present:

Manuel Alcozer

Jeff Norwood

Rucker Preston

Chris Flor

Brandon Bozon

Riley Beck

Erin Bass

Board Members Absent:

1. Call to Order:

Manuel Alcozer, Board President, called the workshop meeting of the Belton Independent School District Board of Trustees to order at 5:10 p.m., that the meeting had been duly called, that Brandon Bozon was not yet present, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

2. Public Comments:

None.

3. Action Items:

School Library Advisory Council Recommendation for Library Materials Purchase

Ms. Gabi Nino, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, presented the recommended text list for elementary, middle, and high schools.

Rucker Preston made a motion, seconded by Jeff Norwood, to approve the School Library Advisory Council Recommendation for Library Materials Purchase as presented. The motion passed (6-0).

Brandon Bozon arrived at 5:17 p.m.

4. Workshop:

A. Strategic Plan Discussion

Dr. Malinda Golden, Superintendent, and Jodi Duron, with Moak Casey, led a review of the strategic planning process, which began in February and incorporated feedback from campus leaders, faith-based leaders, and a highly engaged 60-member community advisory committee.

Mission and Vision Revision:

Recommendation: Switch the terminology so that the previous "Vision" statement becomes the "Mission" statement. The District's new Vision will simply be the memorable tagline: "Inspiring dreams. Empowering futures."

Values and Beliefs Review:

The steering committee drafted a narrowed list of core values, proposing the acronym "TEACH".

Board Feedback: Board members requested incorporation of the word "innovation" and suggested clarification of the phrase "civic responsibility", from the community standpoint.

Strategic Objectives Framework: The board reviewed draft strategic objectives across four main priorities.

Priority 1: Students. Focuses on ensuring exceptional learning experiences that embody the "journey of a graduate" competencies.

Objectives include ensuring every student meets/exceeds one year of academic growth, increasing advanced CCMR (College, Career, or Military Readiness) credentials, providing a safe and supportive environment, and balancing technology integration (like AI) with reduced screen time and more hands-on learning.

Feedback: Ensure language is simple and easily interpreted by parents and the external community.

Priority 2: Staff. Focuses on attracting the best talent and providing the support they need to stay.

Objectives include strengthening recruitment pipelines, improving retention, and providing relevant professional learning.

Feedback: The board requested explicitly adding the word "supportive" to Objective 2.2 regarding employee well-being.

Priority 3: Community. Focuses on strengthening community partnerships, delivering clear/targeted communication (informed by ParentSquare survey feedback), and building a responsive, solutions-oriented culture.

Feedback: The board advised replacing the term "stakeholders" throughout the document with clear, accessible language such as "parents, teachers, students, and community members".

Objective 3.1 wording regarding improving student outcomes will also be refined.

Priority 4: Financial Management. Focuses on strategic fiscal management, addressing aging facilities through aligned capital planning, prioritizing the allocation of resources to improve student outcomes, and positioning for long-term sustainability.

Feedback: The board requested that "financial transparency" be added to the objectives or the overarching priority statement.

Next Steps: The leadership team will revise the wording based on board feedback and bring the Mission, Vision, Values, and Strategic Objectives back for formal board consideration at the April 20, 2026, Regular Board Meeting.

Adjourn: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Manuel Alcozer, Board President

Erin Bass, Board Secretary