

***Killeen Independent School District
Board Agenda Item Information Sheet***

Date: April 14, 2026

Agenda Item Caption: Discussion Regarding Senate Bill 546 – Required Reporting on School Bus Seat Belt Cost

Purpose of Agenda Item: Information Only

Administrative Recommendation: Place on next consent agenda to determine that our budget does not permit the District to purchase or contract buses that are equipped with three-point seatbelts required by Transportation Code §547.701.

Background Information: Senate Bill 546, passed during the 89th Texas Legislature, strengthens standards for school buses transporting students in Texas by requiring that all school buses operated by or contracted for use by a school district be equipped with three-point seat belts for every passenger, including the driver.

If a school board determines that the district's budget does not allow for the purchase of buses equipped with three-point seat belts, the district must present a report in a public board meeting, and submit it to TEA, that includes:

1. The number of buses operated by or contracted for use by the district that:
 - a. are not equipped with seat belts;
 - b. are equipped with two-point seat belts;
 - c. are equipped with three-point seat belts; and
2. The estimated cost to the district to equip all buses with three-point seat belts.

Fiscal Analysis: Total cost is \$10.2 Million to retrofit 66 school buses with 3-point seat belts and replace 53 existing school buses with new buses equipped with 3-point seat belts to comply with Texas Senate Bill 546.

Regulatory Requirement: Board Policy CH (Local): Purchasing and Acquisition, requires Board approval of all contracts/purchases with a single amount of \$100,000 or more.

Contact Person for Additional Questions/Information:

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Attachments: 1) Presentation.

Signature Requested: No