

Belton Independent School District
Board of Trustee Meeting Agenda Item

March 30, 2026

Item: Temple Rotary Educator of the Month

Contact Person: Jennifer Ramirez

Presented for: Action Report Only

Supporting Documents: None Attached Provided Later

District Goal or Objective Addressed:

Goal 3: Attract, retain, and support a world-class team of employees.

Background Information:

Janet Sossamon is being recognized by the Temple Rotary Club as the Rotary Educator of the Month for February for her outstanding service to Belton ISD. Janet serves as a 7th grade Science teacher at Lake Belton Middle School. She is in her 14th year in education and 7th with Belton ISD.

Rachel Ramirez, Principal at Lake Belton Middle School, stated the following about Ms. Sossamon:

Mrs. Sossamon comes to work each day ready to give her very best. From the moment she walks into her classroom, her enthusiasm is evident. She sets a positive tone that immediately lifts the energy in the room, and her students can feel the excitement she brings to teaching. That kind of presence is hard to miss—her energy is contagious, and it naturally encourages her students to engage and participate.

What makes Mrs. Sossamon so special is not only her preparation and dedication, but the way she connects with her students. She has a gift for making lessons meaningful and fun, finding ways to spark curiosity and keep students thinking deeply about the material. Her lessons are never passive. Instead, she asks questions, encourages conversation, and creates opportunities for students to discover and share their own ideas. This approach gives her students a sense of ownership in their learning and makes them want to do their best.

Her students enjoy being in her class because they know she genuinely cares about them. She celebrates their successes, no matter how big or small, and helps them build confidence along the way. When challenges arise, she encourages perseverance and reminds them that mistakes are part of learning. By balancing high expectations with warmth and encouragement, she helps her students grow not only as learners but also as individuals.

The atmosphere in her classroom is one of excitement and support. Students feel comfortable taking risks, asking questions, and exploring new ideas because they know they are in a safe and welcoming space. Mrs. Sossamon has a way of making each student feel valued and capable, and that sense of belonging is what allows them to flourish.

In every way, Mrs. Sossamon demonstrates what it means to be a dedicated teacher. Her energy, passion, and commitment shine through each lesson she teaches. She inspires her students to think critically, engage with curiosity, and believe in themselves. It is clear that she loves what she does, and her students benefit every day from the enthusiasm and care she pours into her classroom.

Fiscal Implications:

N/A

Administrative Recommendation(s):

Honor Janet Sossamon for her service to Belton ISD.