BRYAN ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

The Bryan ISD Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting on June 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., in the Boardroom of the Bryan ISD Administration Building, located at 801 South Ennis Street, Bryan, TX 77803.

Board members present:

- David Stasny (President)
- Felicia Benford (Vice President)
- Joel Bryan (Secretary)
- Ruthie Waller
- Dr. Julie Harlin
- Leo Gonzalez, II

Absent

- David R. Stennis

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING

Board President David Stasny called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed all attendees.

Pledge of Allegiance

A pre-recorded video of students from Stephen F. Austin Middle School was shown for both the American and Texas pledges.

Spotlight

Auxiliary Employee of the Month

Claudell Lipscomb, Assistant Director of Transportation, introduced Imelda Davila as the Auxiliary Employee of the Month for the Transportation Department. Ms. Davila received a certificate of appreciation and a gift card from Truist Bank.

Community Spotlight Destination Bryan and City of Bryan for the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Girls Basketball Showcase

Executive Director of Athletics, Dereck Rush, introduced members of Destination Bryan and Staff from the Legends Event Center. Coach Rush thanked both entities for their continued support of Bryan ISD.

Recognition of Bryan High School Teacher, Christopher Lehde - Monster Jam Project

Assistant Director of Career and Technical Education (CTE), Laura King, introduced Bryan High School CTE Teacher, Christopher Lehde. Lehde and 14 CTE students were the only team in the country to partner with Northern Tool's Tools for a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the Trade program. The mini Monster Jam Truck made its debut in Austin on June 9 and will be featured at Pit Parties for the next three years.

Board Members Reports

Superintendent's Update - Student and Staff Celebrations

Superintendent Ginger Carrabine provided a comprehensive update on district student activities and staff celebrations. Accolades were given throughout as the district celebrated over 1000 students at the graduation ceremonies held at the end of May. For five consecutive years, Bryan ISD has been named one of the best communities or districts for music education. The new marketing campaign, "This Could be You," featuring a billboard of graduates, was launched. The billboard spotlighted graduates' plans after graduation.

Finance Board Committee Report - Budget Update

Trustee Leo Gonzalez, II, stated that the committee met on June 10, 2025. The committee discussed the 2025-2026 budget and the implementation of House Bill 2, which Governor Abbott signed. HB 2 provides an increase in teacher pay. Teachers with 3-4 years of service will receive a $2,500 raise, and those with five or more years of service will receive a $5,000 raise. The bill did not include adequate funding for raises for other essential positions that support instruction. The administration will continue to monitor information obtained from the State.

Executive Board Committee Report - Legislative Update

Board Secretary Joel Bryan stated that the committee met on June 9, 2025. The committee received a high-level overview of House Bill 2, along with an update on the financial impact it will have on the district. The committee also received information for the upcoming Summer Leadership Institute Conference.

Bond Oversight Update - Status of Bond Projects and Expenditures

Trustee, Dr. Julie Harlin-Wolf, stated that the committee met on June 4, 2025, at Sadberry Intermediate. The committee received an update on the past bond expenditures. From this meeting, it was reported that the district was on track for all budget expenditures for the 2019-2020 bond.

Information Items

Public Hearing 2025-206 Budget

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Norma Friddle, provided an update on the 2025-2026 Budget. An overview of the budget, revenue, and projected revenue was presented. The General Fund budget was prepared at the estimated tax rate of $0.6565 per $100 of valuation. The final proposed budget for the General Fund has expenses exceeding revenue by approximately $6.7 million. Compensation will be addressed with a budget amendment after more guidance is received from the Texas Education Agency.

Receive and Discuss an Update from the Bond Steering Committee Relating to the Committee's Work Associated with its Evaluation of District Facilities and Needs that May be Considered in Connection with a Possible November 2025 Bond Election

Executive Director of Technology Services, Julea Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Norma Friddle, Executive Director of Athletics, Dereck Rush, Assistant Director of Fine Arts, Jacob Justice, Assistant Director of CTE, Laura King, and Construction Project Manager, Bobby Griffin, provided an update from the Bond Steering Committee. A bond proposal for possible district-wide projects was presented.

The district has a bonding capacity of up to $400 million, with no impact on the current tax rate. However, the required ballot language will state this is a property tax increase. The last day to order the general election or an election on a measure is Monday, August 18, 2025. Election Day is Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Item

No comment cards were presented.

Public Comment on Agenda Item

No comment cards were presented.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND OR ACTION / CONSENT AGENDA

A **motion** was made by Leo Gonzalez, II, and seconded by Felicia Benford to approve the items listed on the consent agenda. *The motion passed unanimously.*

- Meeting Minutes May 5, 2025
- Meeting Minutes May 19, 2025
- Financial Statements and Purchasing Report for May 2025
- 2025-2026 Memorandum of Understanding between Brazos County Juvenile Board and Bryan ISD relating to the Placement of Bryan ISD Students in Juvenile Services Academy/Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program
- Bryan ISD Investment Policy
- Purchase Over $50,000 for NWEA Measures of Academic Progress
- Purchase Over $50,000 for School Object's Eduphoria! Suite
- Purchase Over $50,000 for Branching Minds
- Purchase Over $50,000 for Frontline eStar
- Resolution to Budget and Prioritize State Compensatory Funds for the 2025-26 Fiscal Year
- Purchase Over $50,000 for ELLevation
- Purchase Over $50,000 for Reading Horizons
- Purchase Over $50,000 for Read 180 and The Code
- Memorandum of Understanding with Tarleton State University for the Educator Preparation Program
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Mental Health Routine Services Authority of the Brazos Valley
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Texas A&M Chapter of Advise Texas
- Special Education Contracted Services Over $50,000
- Resolution: Updating the Signers on the TexPool Accounts

Action Items

Consider Approval of Budget Amendment for the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Food Service Fund for the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Kevin Beesaw, presented a proposed budget amendment for the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and the Food Service Fund. Revenue is allocated to support additional expenses, including increased investment earnings, Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA) payouts, an increase in state funding resulting from the homestead exemption hold harmless provision, additional federal programs, and increased meals served under the "everyone eats free" model. There are various transfers between functions to align the budget with final expected actual expenditures, as well as adjustments made due to the change in fiscal year end from August 31 to June 30.

A **motion** was made by Joel Bryan and seconded by Ruthie Waller for the approval of the budget amendment for the year ending June 30, 2025, as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Consider Approval of a Resolution for the Commitment of Fund Balance for the Year Ending June 30, 2025

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Kevin Beesaw, stated that per policy CE(LOCAL) and GASB 54, the Trustees must annually decide on the amounts or percentages in the areas of committed fund balance. The attached resolution allocates 100% of the fund balance to the Group Benefits Risk Pool, Workers' Compensation Fund, and Student Activity Funds. For the General Fund, the resolution requires commitments in amounts to be determined by the Superintendent for specific areas that could materially affect the budget if deemed necessary. For the General Fund commitments, a report was presented detailing the Superintendent's recommendations..

A motion was made by Leo Gonzalez, II, and seconded by Felicia Benford for the approval of the attached resolution committing Fund Balance for the year ending June 30, 2025, as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Consider Approval of Purchase Over $50,000 for Armed Security Guards

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Kevin Beesaw, stated that to meet the requirements of HB3 for armed guards at all Bryan ISD campuses, it is recommended that the partnership with TNT Security Solutions be continued. This agreement will place an armed guard at each campus that does not currently have a Bryan Police Department School Resource Officer (SRO).

The proposed 3% increase will increase the hourly wage to $37.60.

A **motion** was made by Ruthie Waller and seconded by Joel Bryan for the approval of the contract with TNT Security Solutions in the amount of $859,607, as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Consider Approval of the Budget for the Year Ending June 30, 2025, for the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Food Service Fund

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Norma Friddle presented the recommended budget for the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Food Service Fund, totaling $184,661,710. Estimated expenditures exceed projected revenue by $6,742,760 for the year ending June 30, 2026. The budget was prepared to support the district's goals. More details on the proposed budget can be found in the accompanying notes to the attached summary of budgeted funds.

A **motion** was made by Leo Gonzalez, II, and seconded by Ruthie Waller to approve the recommended budget for the year ending June 30, 2026, for the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Food Service Fund as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Consideration and Possible Action to Select the Delivery Method Providing the Best Value for the Way Finding & Graphics, Door Hardware, Exterior Waterproofing Repairs and Maintenance, and to Authorize the Superintendent or her Designee to take all Action for the Procurement of such Services Pursuant to Statute and Board Policy

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Kevin Beesaw, stated that the administration was recommending the use of an interlocal agreement, i.e., a purchasing cooperative, as the procurement method for Wayfinding & Graphics and Door Hardware at various elementary campuses as part of the Elementary Phase 2 Renovations.

Board Policy CV (Local) states that the project delivery/contract award method to be used for each construction contract valued at or above $50,000 shall be the competitive sealed proposal method. If another method is deemed to be more appropriate for a particular project. In that case, the Superintendent or designee shall submit a recommendation to the Board to consider, determine, and approve as the best value, before advertising.

A **motion** was made by Leo Gonzalez, II, and seconded by Joel Bryan to approve the the Board select the interlocal purchasing cooperative method of procurement of construction services as providing the best value for the Wayfinding & Graphics, Door Hardware, and Exterior Waterproofing Repairs and Maintenance and authorize the Superintendent or designee to take all action for the procurement of such services pursuant to statute and Board Policy. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Discuss and Consider Approval of the School Leaders' Liability Insurance Annual Renewal

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Kevin Beesaw, reported that the School Leaders Liability Insurance policy's current term expires June 30, 2025. Per policy CH (Local), administration is presenting to Trustees the annual policy renewal for the District's School Leaders Liability Insurance for the term July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. ANCO Insurance requested proposals on behalf of Bryan ISD and received declinations from numerous carriers stating they could not match the current carrier's terms, conditions, and premiums.

AIG has proposed an annual renewal premium of $63,764 for a $5,000,000 shared limit for Errors and Omissions Liability and Employment Practices Liability. The expiring premium was $37,210 for all coverages for the period from November 30, 2024, to June 30, 2025, last year. All coverages will remain the same for the new policy year and include "Full Prior Acts" coverage.

A **motion** was made by Felicai Benford and seconded byJoel Bryan to approve AIG as Bryan ISD's School Leaders Liability Insurance Carrier as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Discuss and Consider Approval of a Purchase Over $50,000 for Excess Workers' Compensation Insurance

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Kevin Beesaw, stated that Bryan ISD is self-insured for Workers' Compensation coverage. The administration recommended renewing with Midwest Employers Casualty Company based on the company's financial stability and strong financial rating.

A **motion** was made by Joel Bryan and seconded by Ruthie Waller for the approval of the renewal of the excess workers' compensation insurance coverage with Midwest Employers Casualty Company, as presented. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Discuss and Consider Approval of a Purchase Over $50,000 for Property, General Liability, Cybersecurity, and Automobile Insurance

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Kevin Beesaw, reported that the property's general liability and auto insurance expire on June 30, 2025. This market has continued to harden, and some insurance companies still do not write these types of policies in Texas, citing the high cost of climate-related disasters, increased construction costs, and inflation. As in the last couple of years, other carriers declined to submit a quote, citing market conditions in general and our loss runs for the previous five years, which included two large hailstorms (2020 and 2021) and the winter storm freeze of 2021. This year, the 2020 hailstorm was excluded from our loss runs, allowing more companies to submit quotes and resulting in increased competition. With that being said, we were able to get a renewal quote from our current carrier, Texas Political Subdivisions (TPS). The expiring policy premium was $2,309,941, covering a 10-month period to align the policy with the fiscal year. The 12-month renewal quote is $2,382,508.

A **motion** was made by Ruthie Waller and seconded by Leo Gonzalez, II, to approve Texas Political Subdivisions (TPS) as the property, general liability, and automobile insurance carrier for the policy period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, as presented.

Closed Session

CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION

President David Stasny called for a closed session on the subjects allowed at 8:57 p.m. as authorized by Texas Government Code Chapters 551.074, 551.0821, 551.072 and 551.087.

DISCUSS ISSUES PERTAINING TO APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION, REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF A PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE - TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.074

The agenda item was discussed in a session closed to the public.

DISCUSSION RELATED TO A PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT WHEREIN PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION WILL NECESSARILY BE REVEALED - TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS 551.0821

The agenda item was discussed in a session closed to the public.

Conduct Superintendent Formative Evaluation - Texas Government Code 551.074

The agenda item was discussed in a session closed to the public.

Economic Development Discussion Regarding America Foundry JETI Application - Texas Government Code Chapter 403, Sec. 551.087

The agenda item was discussed in a session closed to the public.

CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY TO DISCUSS LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND FINANCIAL TERMS OF JETI TAX INCENTIVE PROGRAM - TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS 551.071 AND 551.087

The agenda item was discussed in a session closed to the public.

Discuss Issues Related to the Purchase, Exchange, Lease, or Value of Real Property - Texas Government Code Chapter 551.072

The agenda item was discussed in a session closed to the public.

Reconvene in Open Session

The Board reconvened in an open session at 10:20 p.m. No action was taken during the closed session.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

President

Secretary