



BELLVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

518 SOUTH MATHEWS STREET | BELLVILLE, TX | 77418 | PH: (979) 865-3133 | WWW.BELLVILLEISD.ORG

BISD BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 24, 2026

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Board President Grant Lischka with all board members present.

2. Invocation did not occur

3. Pledge of Allegiance will occur at the Regular Board Meeting.

4. OPEN FORUM/COMMUNICATIONS

There were no public comments.

5. PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

- A. Jamie Zavodny with Parkhill presented information to the BISD Board of Trustees at the Agenda Review Meeting; (See presentation included in the Online BoardBook.)

6. REPORTS & DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. GOAL 1: LEARNING

Ms. Jones shared academic data in the monthly Learning Report specific to science data that was recently received, re-test results for BHS EOC tests, and official summative 2026 for each campus and the district. (See complete report included in the Online BoardBook.) Mr. Lischka asked about discrepancies in CCMR data from previous reports. Ms. Jones, Ms. Barrera, & Mr. Mahlmann relayed the difference attributed to % scores vs. scale scores and a data error in OnDataSuite.

C. GOAL 2: LEADERSHIP

1. Mr. Jurek reviewed the monthly Finance & Operations Report at the Agenda Review Meeting. Mr. Jurek noted year-end budget amendments and overall tracking as anticipated and noting Food Services is trending toward a balanced year-end budget pending August participation rates and sharing that Food Service is going through the required audit this year. (See documents included in the BoardBook online.) Through discussion it was shared that campus Turkey Luncheons will take place a week earlier than normal as to not overlap with dates when auditors are in-district. Mr. Jurek also relayed that we will be moving toward offering ParentPay as an option for on-campus fee collection (not athletic events). There is a convenience fee for use of the ParentPay service option.
2. Dr. Coopersmith provided the Capital Update at the Agenda Review Meeting noting OBI projects are almost complete, remaining items to be completed by during or before fair break include OBP Parking and road for Traffic Flow and extension of side walks at OBI & BJHS, and the drainage swell in BHS parking lot being widened during fair break to improve the impact the current depth has on vehicles driving over it. (See documents included in the BoardBook online.)



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3. Dr. Poenitzsch shared the Leadership Update noting key questions to guide Fall 2026 Listening Tours and Board Visioning conversations to plan moving forward to revisit and define what BISD aims to accomplish for all kids;

D. GOAL 3: CULTURE

Dr. Poenitzsch reviewed the annual Culture Report at the Agenda Review Meeting with summative data from Exit Surveys, Entry Surveys, and Stay Surveys (see documents in BoardBook online.)

E. GOAL 4: COMMUNITY

Dr. Poenitzsch reviewed the monthly Community Report at the Agenda Review Meeting and reiterated up-to-date enrollment numbers at 2270 and the opportunity to celebrate Coach Brewer, the winningest coach in all of Texas History at upcoming home games on Tuesday, August 25, 2026. (see documents in BoardBook online.)

7. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The following items were approved with a motion by Sarah Buenger, seconded by Kenneth Stein, with Kenneth Stein, Heather Novicke, Regina Gillum, Grant Lischka, Sarah Buenger, Kirby Cannon, and Jim Batson voting yes; no members voting no;; (Vote 7-0)

- A. Minutes from Budget Workshop on July 27, 2026
- B. Minutes from Regular Board Meeting on July 27, 2026
- C. Minutes from Agenda Review Meeting on August 17, 2026
- D. Budget Amendments and Donations
- E. Designation of 10 Non-Business Days in response to PIA Requests
- F. MOU with Texas AgriLife (and Washington County 4H)
- G. Library Purchases

8 ACTION ITEMS

The following items were approved:

- A. Defeasance Resolution (noting a savings of over \$3M in bond interest through the defeasance program) with a motion by Sarah Buenger, seconded by Regina Gillum with Kenneth Stein, Heather Novicke, Regina Gillum, Grant Lischka, Sarah Buenger, Kirby Cannon, and Jim Batson voting yes; no members voting no; (Vote 7-0)
- B. Adoption of the General Operating Budget for the 2026-2027 School Year in the amount of \$30,363,766 with a motion by Sarah Buenger, seconded by Kirby Cannon with Kenneth Stein, Heather Novicke, Regina Gillum, Grant Lischka, Sarah Buenger, Kirby Cannon, and Jim Batson voting yes; no members voting no; and no members abstaining; (Vote 7-0)
- C. Adoption of the Interest and Sinking Budget for the 2026-2027 School Year in the amount of revenues \$4,563,526 with a motion by Sarah Buenger, seconded by Kenneth Stein with Kenneth Stein, Heather Novicke, Regina Gillum, Grant Lischka, Sarah Buenger, Kirby Cannon, and Jim Batson voting yes; no members voting no; and no members abstaining; (Vote 7-0)



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- D. Adoption of the Food Service Budget for the 2026-2027 School Year in the amount of \$1,708,699 with a motion by Kirby Cannon, seconded by Jim Batson with Kenneth Stein, Heather Novicke, Regina Gillum, Grant Lischka, Sarah Buenger, Kirby Cannon, and Jim Batson voting yes; no members voting no; and no members abstaining; (Vote 7-0)
- E. Proposed I&S Tax Rate with a motion for the proposed rate to pay debt service of \$0.21000 per \$100 of taxable value be approved. This rate exceed the district's debt service rate determined under the Texas Education Code section 44.004(c)(5)(A)(ii)(b) of \$0.16450 by \$0.04550. The excess revenue collected from the proposed rate will be used for defeasance of outstanding school debt with a motion by Regina Gillum, seconded by Heather Novicke with Jim Batson voting Yes, Sarah Buenger voting Yes, Kirby Cannon voting Yes, Grant Lischka voting Yes, Regina Gillum voting Yes, Heather Novicke voting Yes, and Kenneth Stein voting Yes; (Vote 7-0)
- F. Adoption of the BISD Tax Rate to levy or set the tax rate on \$100 valuation for the District for the tax year 2026 at a total tax rate of \$0.92530, to be assessed and collected by the duly specified assessor and collector as follows: \$0.71530 for the purpose of maintenance and operations, and \$0.2100 for the purpose of payment of principal and interest on debts, totalling \$0.92530. Such taxes are to be assessed and collected by the tax officials designated by the District with a motion by Heather Novicke moving that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.92530, which in effectively a 1.88 percent increase in the tax rate, (this tax rate will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate. The tax rate will effectively be raised by -3.15 percent and will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately -\$55.10), seconded by Sara Buenger with Jim Batson voting Yes, Sarah Buenger voting Yes, Kirby Cannon voting Yes, Grant Lischka voting Yes, Regina Gillum voting Yes, Heather Novicke voting Yes, and Kenneth Stein voting Yes; (Vote 7-0)
- G. Certified Appraisal Roll with a motion by Sarah Buenger, seconded by Regina Gillum, with Kenneth Stein, Heather Novicke, Regina Gillum, Grant Lischka, Sarah Buenger, Kirby Cannon, and Jim Batson voting yes; no members voting no; and no members abstaining; (Vote 7-0)
- H. Investment Policy Resolution with a motion Grant Lischka, seconded by Sarah Buenger, with Kenneth Stein, Heather Novicke, Regina Gillum, Grant Lischka, Sarah Buenger, Kirby Cannon, and Jim Batson voting yes; no members voting no; and no members abstaining; (Vote 7-0)
- I. Provider for Master Planning Services with a motion by Kenneth Stein, seconded by Jim Batson, with Kenneth Stein, Heather Novicke, Regina Gillum, Grant Lischka, Sarah Buenger, Kirby Cannon, and Jim Batson voting yes; no members voting no; and no members abstaining; (Vote 7-0)

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board remained in Open Session

10. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board remained in Open Session.



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11. DISCUSSION ITEMS: BOARD REPORT

Reminders for upcoming events were shared.

12. ADJOURN

The board adjourned at 5:57pm with a motion by Sarah Buenger and seconded by Regina Gillum

13. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

A. Taxpayer Impact Statement

BOARD APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Pending September 28, 2026.

BOARD PRESIDENT: GRANT LISCHKA

BOARD SECRETARY: KENNETH STEIN