

Killeen Independent School District

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, Regular Meeting September 29, 2026, at 5 p.m. in the Killeen ISD Boardroom

Board Members Present

- Brett Williams, President
- Oliver Mintz, Vice President
- Brenda Adams, Secretary
- Susan Jones, Member
- Marvin Rainwater, Member
- Tina Capito, Member
- Rodney Gilchrist, Member
- **Board Member Absent:** None

Quorum: Established

Call to Order

The meeting of the Killeen Independent School District Board of Trustees was called to order by President Brett Williams at 5 p.m.

The meeting was recorded and streamed publicly

Agenda Item 1: Public Forum

Speaker: Vienna Wolfe

Vienna Wolff, a second-year student on the Harker Heights swim team, thanked the Board for reconsidering the proposal to extend the lease with the Boys and Girls Club and described the challenges the team experiences while practicing and competing at the Armed Services YMCA, including limited pool space, inadequate seating, poor ventilation, and heavily chlorinated air

that affects swimmers' breathing and performance. She explained that the YMCA's smaller pool and limited lanes make hosting meets difficult and noted that inconsistent practice schedules create additional challenges for students who have work, CTC classes, transportation needs, and other responsibilities. She emphasized that access to a more suitable facility and a consistent practice schedule would better support the team's athletic development while allowing student-athletes to balance their academic and extracurricular commitments.

Speaker: Sean Bratton

Mr. Bratton, a parent of four KISD swimmers, encouraged the Board to retain access to the Boys and Girls Club swimming facility and consider a sustained, long-term investment in the district's high school swim programs. He emphasized that swimming supports student wellness, academic habits, confidence, belonging, and equitable access to athletics while providing an opportunity for students who may not be drawn to high-impact, contact, or traditional sports. Mr. Bratton explained that adequate pool time is essential for developing swimming techniques, conditioning, starts, turns, pacing, and stroke efficiency, while consistent access allows coaches to provide meaningful instruction and prepare students for competition. He stressed that long-term stability is necessary to retain qualified coaches, provide reliable practices, increase participation across grade levels, and ensure students can adequately train and compete throughout their time in KISD.

Speaker: Connor Bratton

Connor Bratton, captain of the Chaparral High School swim team, thanked the Board for considering an extension of the Boys and Girls Club natatorium lease while encouraging the district to continue pursuing a long-term solution for the swim program. He expressed concern that the proposed lease ends May 31, 2027, leaving swimmers without pool access during the summer because the current YMCA agreement does not permit use when school is not in session, which could affect competitive preparation and the development of new swimmers. He also noted that the lease does not provide district access to areas containing controls for pool and air temperatures, limiting the team's ability to adjust conditions during practices and meets. He urged the Board to approve continued use of the Boys and Girls Club as a short-term solution while emphasizing the importance of establishing a permanent facility solution that will support current and future generations of KISD swimmers.

Speaker: Shyann Lair

Ms. Lair, a parent of a Harker Heights High School swimmer, thanked the Board for the opportunity to address the needs of the high school and middle school swim programs and explained that the current YMCA facility provides limited practice time, an inconsistent schedule, and inadequate space for spectators at home meets. She emphasized the importance of parents being able to attend competitions and support their student-athletes, noting that families are currently unable to share in those meaningful moments because of the facility's limitations. Ms. Lair asked the Board to continue the contract with the Boys and Girls Club for the swim season, stating that the facility would better support practices and competitions while allowing families to participate more fully in their students' high school swimming experience.

Speaker: Nathaniel Symonds

Nathaniel Symonds, a Chaparral High School athlete, expressed concerns regarding swimmer safety and privacy at the YMCA, explaining that athletes and other facility patrons must share locker room spaces, which has resulted in uncomfortable interactions. He also stated that the pool does not meet regulation requirements for competition and emphasized that access to the Boys and Girls Club previously allowed the team to host meets with swimmers from within and outside the District, providing newer athletes with valuable competitive experience and allowing experienced swimmers to assess their progress. He further noted that limited seating and viewing areas at the YMCA prevent parents from attending home meets and supporting their student-athletes during competitions.

Speaker: Marleigh Mondragon

Marlee Mondragon, a two-year student of the swim team, advocated for continued access to the Boys and Girls Club, explaining that swimmers need consistent practice opportunities during school breaks, adequate recovery time between practices, and a facility that allows parents to attend meets and support their students. She also expressed concerns about ventilation issues at the YMCA that affect swimmers' breathing and performance and asked the Board to pursue a permanent facility solution that would better support the swim program and its community.

Speaker: Blayne Cutbirth

Blayne Cutbirth, a captain of the Shoemaker High School swim team, expressed concerns about the limitations of the YMCA facility, including the small pool deck, limited lanes, longer travel distance, restricted meet schedules, lack of access to the team's timing system, and the inability to practice during school breaks. She emphasized that access to the Boys and Girls Club would provide swimmers with improved practice and competition opportunities, allow the team to host larger meets and participate in more events, and offer a more sustainable long-term option for the District's swim program.

Speaker: Tina Merker

Tina Merker, the parent of a Shoemaker High School senior and swim team member, emphasized the importance of regaining access to the Boys and Girls Club, explaining that the current facility restrictions prevent most parents from attending meets and supporting their student-athletes. She asked the District to provide swimmers with opportunities to host home meets, particularly a senior meet, so graduating athletes who have dedicated several years to the KISD swim program can be recognized and celebrated.

Agenda Item 2: Closed Session

The Board entered closed session at **5:19 p.m.** for:

2A. Discussion Regarding a Cybersecurity Measure, Policy, or Contract Solely Intended to Protect a Critical Infrastructure Facility Located in the Jurisdiction of the Government Body
(Texas Government Code 551.0761).

2B. Consultation with the District's Legal Counsel Regarding Pending Litigation, a Settlement Offer, or other Issues Confidential under the Attorney-Client Privilege
(Texas Government Code 551.071).

2C. Deliberate the Purchase, Exchange, Lease, or Value of Real Property
(Texas Government Code 551.072).

2D. Deliberate the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee
(Texas Government Code 551.074).

2E. Deliberate a Matter Regarding a Public School Student in which Personally Identifiable Information About the Student will Necessarily be Revealed
(Texas Government Code 551.0821).

No action was taken in closed session.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at **6:04 p.m.**

Invocation and Pledges

Invocation was led by Trustee **Marvin Rainwater**.

Pledges of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags were led by student **Alejandro Santillan and Avereigh Hodyniak** from Cedar Valley Elementary School.

Agenda Item 3: Honors and Recognition

Presenter: Karen Rudolph

The Board recognized Killeen ISD students and staff whose accomplishments, service, and dedication reflected excellence throughout the District. In recognition of Attendance Awareness Month, Killeen ISD attendance officers were honored for building relationships with families, removing barriers to attendance, and contributing to continued improvement in districtwide attendance, which reached 95.11 percent this year. To emphasize the importance of an increase

in attendance the following additional information was provided by Dr. Davis. An increase in attendance of 1% equals \$2.7m in funding. Five Killeen ISD employees were recognized for earning bachelor's degrees through the KISD Teach program, which provides paraprofessionals and instructional aides a pathway toward becoming certified teachers while continuing to serve district students. The Harker Heights High School Red Brigade Band was recognized after its Wind Ensemble was selected as one of only 25 high school bands nationwide invited to perform at the Music for All National Festival in Indianapolis. Cedar Valley Elementary School was honored with a national Bright Spots Award for strong third-grade literacy performance resulting from data-driven instruction, targeted support, and the collaborative efforts of students, staff, and families. In observance of National IT Professionals Day, the District recognized its technology professionals for supporting the systems, devices, networks, and data infrastructure essential to daily operations across Killeen ISD. The Board also celebrated 153 Killeen ISD students from Chaparral High School, Early College High School, Ellison High School, Harker Heights High School, Killeen High School, and Shoemaker High School who earned recognition through the College Board BigFuture School Recognition Program, establishing a new district record and representing a 51 percent increase from the previous year.

Attendance Awareness Month

- Attendance Officers

KISD Teach Graduates

- Kimberly Brown
- Candice Arnett
- Shaquira Correa Santos
- Christine Morris
- Alysia Irving

Red Brigade Band National Invitation

- Harker Heights High School
 - Nayeli Waggoner
 - Denzel Luna-Guzman

Literacy Education

- Cedar Valley Elementary School
 - Phylicia Miner
 - Allison Antaramian
 - Melanie Druschke
 - Karin Gay
 - Joanna Trobough

National IT Day

- Dr. Nicole Koch
- James Rawls
- Dean Murphy
- Juan Rivera Andaluz

National BIGFUTURE School Recognition Award

- Chaparral HS
 - Eniola Abudu
 - Annelisa Amoako
 - Aniya Coleman
 - Thomas Donnella
 - Isaiah Francis
 - Jasmin Garraway
 - Arianna Garza
 - Jackson Grenier
 - Cole Hequembourg
 - Abdiel Hernandez Torres
 - John Hickock
 - Antonio Hudson
 - Joseph Kianes
 - Daniel McKinnis
 - Isabella Rodriguez
 - Yamil Rodriguez-Perez
 - Andrea Torres Nieves
- Early College HS
 - Malachi Biles
 - Mai-Lee Campos-Leach
 - Jeremy Castillo
 - Jaelynn Duvall
 - Juan-Carsten Essah
 - Victoria Hernandez
 - Angel Gonzalez
 - Clemente Gonzalez
 - Fatima Rodriguez
 - Alexander Harrison
 - Joel Hernandez

- Armando Lugo Maldonado
 - Joselin Miranda Ortiz
 - Eli'An Morales-Restrepo
 - Ashley Moreno
 - Angeliz Nieves Santana
 - Laura Nyamari
 - Aileen Ortega
 - Alexis Plewacki
 - Jomeia Robinson
 - Caiden Rollings
 - Aden Tagabuel
 - Blessing Ugwuanyi
 - Alexia Weatherspoon
- Ellison HS
 - Brianna Brower
 - Tavin Bunes
 - Cody Cagle
 - Sarah Ciaburri
 - Amber Daguplo
 - Isaiah Hulse
 - Dillan Huynh
 - Orryn Zeb Nidoy
 - Amira Nnubia
 - Rabia Warriach
 - Jaide Williams
- Harker Heights HS
 - Jaylynn Bennett
 - Aryanna Caro
 - Aram Salinas
 - Andrea Alicea
 - Amelia Coke
 - Bethany Ferree
 - Gabriel Richardson
- Killeen HS
 - Alyssa Baxter
 - Scarlett Berndt
 - Daniela Calderon De La Rosa
 - Courtney Conway

- Amaya Frutiz
- Olijana Gabble
- Harvey Morris
- Harrison Nguyen
- Jonalis Nieves
- Jacob Roman
- Joshua Roman
- Victor Sanchez
- Nikolas Sesma
- Moussa Soumahoro
- Jaden Sowell
- Jeremiah Zirkle
- Shoemaker HS
 - Lilyanna Calaf
 - Liam Caley
 - Kale Clawson
 - Ndeye Diop
 - Ja'Bari Dudley
 - Jae Uno Eguia Dy
 - John Hall
 - Layla Llantada
 - Benjamin Merker
 - Jada Oatis
 - Shalom Olanihun
 - Kaden Roskamp
 - Dejanee Walker
 - Jakaro Warthen
 - Jamal Wilson
 - Brooklyn Winget

Agenda Item 4: Public Forum (Continuation of 5:00 p.m. Public Forum)

No members of the public signed up to speak during the forum.

Agenda Item 5: Information Items for Discussion

5A. Report on Technology Update

Presenter: Scott Hequembourg and Dr. Koch

District administration presented an overview of Killeen ISD's current technology environment and its plans to improve efficiency, security, device management, and long-term technology sustainability. The presentation noted that campuses currently have approximately 77,000 devices and explained that inconsistent device types across secondary campuses have created additional software, maintenance, cybersecurity, and operational challenges. Administration emphasized the need to standardize technology based on instructional requirements while continuing to provide students with quality devices that support educational outcomes. Significant attention was given to device repairs and replacement costs, particularly as more than 25,000 devices purchased during the COVID period are expected to reach the end of their useful life and become unable to receive necessary security updates. Administration explained that the District anticipated this transition and has been purchasing replacement devices over time to avoid having to replace the entire group at once. The Board of Trustees was also presented with a comparison between the current classroom device model and a potential one-to-one model, with administration noting that assigning individual devices to students could substantially reduce the total number of devices required and associated purchasing and repair costs. Device pricing and lifecycle costs were reviewed for iPads, MacBook Neos, and Dell laptops, with administration emphasizing the importance of purchasing technology based on actual instructional needs rather than individual campus or department preferences. The presentation also reviewed the District's campus technology support structure, which provides tiered assistance through technology support assistants, campus technology specialists, coordinators, and district-level staff to ensure campuses receive daily support. Administration discussed efforts to strengthen the professional qualifications of technology employees by supporting industry-standard CompTIA certifications and exploring opportunities to coordinate staff training and testing with programs already offered through the District's Career Center. During Board discussion, trustees raised concerns regarding accountability for damaged district devices, and administration explained that the Student Code of Conduct now addresses intentional or inappropriate damage through disciplinary consequences rather than relying primarily on monetary reimbursement. Trustees also discussed whether employees receiving district-funded professional certifications should be required to make a commitment to the District, and administration agreed to examine the feasibility of such requirements. Additional discussion focused on devices that have not recently connected to the network, with administration explaining that these include equipment awaiting repair or disposal, devices that have reached the end of their lifecycle, and replacement devices being held until needed. Trustees requested additional information demonstrating the relationship between technology use, teacher effectiveness, and student performance, and administration indicated that the District is examining this issue and would provide further information. The discussion concluded with consideration of a one-to-one device model, including potential benefits related to student ownership, accountability, device performance, lifecycle management, buyback opportunities, and security updates, with administration continuing to evaluate the operational and instructional implications before moving forward.

5B. Discussion Regarding Early College High School Lease Agreement with Fort Hood

Presenter: Adam Rich

The Board discussed the proposed Early College High School lease agreement with Fort Hood, beginning with Trustee Marvin Rainwater's request to table the item until broader discussions regarding high school attendance zones, enrollment, and facility utilization could occur. Trustee Rainwater expressed a concern that proceeding with the lease discussion could create the perception that decisions regarding future high school facilities had already been made; however, his motion to table the item died for lack of a second. Mr. Rich explained that the District's previous lease had expired but remained active while negotiations for a new agreement continued, noting that the federal review and renewal process had begun approximately eight months to a year before the expiration date. The proposed agreement would provide a 25-year lease beginning September 1, 2026, and ending August 31, 2051, while removing the Fort Hood Stadium locker rooms from the lease and retaining provisions allowing the District to terminate with 30 days' written notice. Trustees discussed the termination provision and the District's responsibility to restore the property to a condition satisfactory to the Army, which could potentially include demolition of district-owned buildings depending on the Army's intended use of the property. The Board clarified that Killeen ISD leases the land but owns the buildings constructed on the property, creating additional considerations regarding the District's responsibilities if the lease is terminated. Trustees also discussed whether the proposed agreement would limit the Board's future options, with discussion indicating that the 30-day termination provision provides flexibility should the District later determine that the property is no longer needed. The discussion concluded with direction that the lease not be placed on the consent agenda but a separate item on the next meeting agenda so trustees could continue discussing the agreement and address concerns before considering approval.

Agenda Item 6: Consent Agenda

6A. Resolution to recognize October 12th – 16th, 2026, as National School Lunch Week in Killeen ISD.

6B. Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding with the Children's Advocacy Center of Central Texas for School Based Mental Health Services.

6C. Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding Peaceable Kingdom Retreat Center of Bell County for the 2026-2027 School Year.

6D. Consideration of Texas Association of School Board (TASB) Policy Manual Updated 127 Affecting Local Policies and Exhibits.

- **Motion:** Tina Capito
 - **Second:** Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Susan M. Jones, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None
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Agenda Item 7: Action Items for Consideration

7A. Public Hearing Regarding Consideration and Approval of Certification of Compliance with Certain Laws under Texas Education Code 39.008, as Enacted by Senate Bill 12 (89th Texas Legislative Session)

The public hearing was opened and closed with no citizen comments submitted.

7B. Consideration and Approval of Certification of Compliance with Certain Laws under Texas Education Code 39.008, as Enacted by Senate Bill 12 (89th Texas Legislative Session)

Presenter: Mike Harper

Mr. Harper presented the 2026–2027 Certification of Compliance required under Senate Bill 12, explaining that school districts must annually submit a Board-approved certification to the Texas Education Agency following a majority vote at a public meeting with an opportunity for public testimony. He reported that Killeen ISD administration had reviewed the applicable policies, procedures, programs, and practices and, following approval of Update 127, determined that the District was in compliance with the applicable statutory requirements.

- **Motion:** Rodney Gilchrist
- **Second:** Tina Capito
- **Vote:** 6-0-1-0

- **For:** Brett E. Williams; Oliver Mintz, Susan M. Jones; Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** Brenda Adams
 - **Absent:** None
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7C. Consideration of Changes to Local Policies to Reflect the District of Innovation Plan Amendments

Presenter: Mike Harper

Mr. Harper presented proposed revisions to local policies to align with the recently approved District of Innovation Plan amendments, including policies governing employee, student, parent, and community complaints and grievances. He explained that the revisions primarily standardize grievance timelines and change applicable deadlines from calendar days to business days to provide greater consistency and avoid deadlines occurring during weekends or school breaks.

- **Motion:** Oliver Mintz
 - **Second:** Brenda Adams
 - **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams; Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Susan M. Jones; Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None
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7D. Consideration and Possible Action Regarding a Resolution Authorizing the Use of School Buses for a Community-Related Activity, Laying of the Wreaths at the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery

Presenter: Dr. Wilkerson

Dr. Wilkerson presented a resolution authorizing the annual use of seven Killeen ISD school buses and certified drivers to provide shuttle transportation between Texas A&M University–Central Texas and the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery for the laying and retrieval of

wreaths. She explained that the event attracts more than 3,000 volunteers and community members and that the shuttle service provides safe and efficient transportation while supporting the community's efforts to honor veterans interred at the cemetery.

- **Motion:** Brenda Adams
- **Second:** Tina Capito
- **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Susan M. Jones, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None

7E. Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding with Bell County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) for the 2026-2027 School Year

Presenter: Micah Wells

Mr. Wells presented the Memorandum of Understanding with the Bell County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) for the 2026–2027 school year, explaining that the agreement supports the District's continued partnership with Bell County for students assigned to the program. He stated that the agreement establishes provisions related to program capacity, placement, assessments, attendance, placement reviews, curriculum, special program guidelines, and funding.

- **Motion:** Rodney Gilchrist
- **Second:** Brenda Adams
- **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Susan M. Jones, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None

7F. Consideration of Clements Boys and Girls Club Inc. of Central Texas Natatorium Lease and Use Agreement

Presenter: Adam Rich

Mr. Rich presented the proposed natatorium lease and use agreement between Killeen ISD and the Clements Boys and Girls Club of Central Texas, which would be effective September 30, 2026, through May 31, 2027, following the expiration of the previous agreement. He explained that the agreement maintains terms similar to the prior lease, including district responsibility for utilities, pool operating expenses, custodial services, maintenance and repairs, while noting that the District spent approximately \$443,000 on the facility in fiscal year 2025 and \$203,000 in fiscal year 2026. Trustees discussed concerns regarding the financial obligations, including potential maintenance and HVAC expenses, while also noting that the District may terminate the lease without penalty with 60 days' written notice. Board discussion also focused on the impact of the previous lease expiration on student swimmers, including practice conditions, access to appropriate facilities, and the ability to host meets where families can attend and support students. Trustees acknowledged that the proposed agreement would serve as a short-term solution and emphasized the need to begin planning rather sooner than later for a sustainable long-term option for the District's swim program.

- **Motion:** Tina Capito
- **Second:** Rodney Gilchrist
- **Vote:** 5-2-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Brenda Adams, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** Oliver Mintz, Susan Jones
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None

Agenda Item 8: Discussion of Future Board Meeting Agendas and Trustee Remarks

Trustee Tina Capito recognized the Transportation Department following her opportunity to ride a district school bus and observe the student identification and safety systems, and she encouraged parents to remain patient as transportation staff adjust to new technology and routes. Trustee Marvin Rainwater emphasized the importance of receiving detailed data regarding technology investments and their relationship to student performance, stating that

the Board needs relevant information to evaluate programs, expenditures, and instructional effectiveness. Secretary Brenda Adams recognized the District's transition into its new administration building as an important milestone for the community and noted that the consolidated location will provide families with more convenient access to district services. Trustee Rodney Gilchrist shared his positive observations from a visit to Manor Middle School, commending Third Future Schools, campus staff, students, and District leadership for their work and student engagement. Vice President Oliver Mintz discussed declining enrollment, budget constraints, campus optimization, and other anticipated changes, emphasizing the Board's responsibility to maintain fiscal stewardship while directing resources toward improving student achievement. President Brett Williams expressed appreciation to district employees for their work and encouraged staff to remain focused as the school year progresses, while Dr. Davis thanked the Board and staff for their willingness to engage in difficult discussions and make necessary decisions on behalf of the District. Trustees concluded by recognizing examples of district progress, including the contributions of attendance officers and Cedar Valley Elementary School's third-grade performance, noting that these accomplishments demonstrate measurable growth and the results of staff dedication.

Board Returned to Agenda Item 2: Closed Session as allowed by Texas Government Code 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, and 551.0761

The Board entered closed session at **7:44 p.m.** for:

No action was taken in closed session.

The Board reconvened in open session at **8:30 p.m.**

Agenda Item 9: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

- **Motion:** Rodney Gilchrist
- **Second:** Brenda Adams
- **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Oliver Mintz, Brenda Adams, Susan M. Jones, Marvin Rainwater, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at **8:30 p.m.**

Signatures

Brett E. Williams

Board President

Brenda Adams

Board Secretary
