

Belton Independent School District
Board of Trustee Meeting Agenda Item

October 19, 2026

Item: Public Hearing Regarding the 2025-2026 School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) Report

Contact Person: Melissa Lafferty

Presented for: ☐ Action ☒ Report Only

Supporting Documents: ☐ None ☒ Attached ☐ Provided Later

District Priority or Strategic Objective:

Priority 4: Fiscal Management - Maximize student experiences through transparent, strategic, and sustainable fiscal management.

Background Information:

The State's school financial accountability rating system, known as the School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST), ensures that Texas public schools are held accountable for the quality of their financial management practices and that they improve these practices. The system is designed to encourage Texas public schools to better manage their financial resources to provide the maximum allocation possible for direct instructional purposes.

Ratings are determined by the Texas Education Agency. Districts are measured against financial management criteria established by the State of Texas and receive points based on performance.

The four levels of ratings are:

- A – Superior Achievement 90-100 points
- B – Above Standard Achievement 80-89 points
- C – Meets Standard Achievement 70-79 points
- F – Substandard Achievement 0-69 points

The Belton Independent School District received a rating of (A) Superior Achievement with a score of 98 points for 2025-2026 based on 2024-2025 fiscal year data.

Districts are required to hold a public hearing to discuss the performance rating and prepare an annual financial management report for the attendees at the hearing.

Fiscal Implications:

None.

Administrative Recommendation(s):

Report only.