



BISD BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 27, 2025

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Board President Sarah Buenger at 5:30pm with all board members in attendance with the exception of Heather Novicke, Grant Lischka, and with Jim Batson joining at 5:42pm.

2. Invocation was provided by Daniel Symm, BJHS Principal

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. OPEN FORUM/COMMUNICATIONS

There were no open forum public comments.

5. PRESENTATIONS & RECOGNITIONS

- A. Campus Spotlight: O'Bryant Intermediate occurred at the Agenda Review Meeting featuring student leaders who were part of the Science Fair, UIL, the Future Ready Superintendents' Leadership Event, leaders from OBI's Student Led Committees, a Super Star Reader & Math Learner, and the Campus Lead Runner
- B. Campus Spotlight: Bellville Junior High occurred at the Regular Board Meeting featuring BJHS Campus Student Council Officers: Lorenzo, Anaiha, Gracie, and Luke and sponsor Ms. Jessica Jennings. The student leaders shared what they liked about BJHS including athletics, academic UIL, theater arts, band, pep rallies, elective course offerings, learning excursions, and the fun the students have at school.

6. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. GOAL 1: LEARNING was presented by Natalie Jones, Chief Academic Officer at the Agenda Review Meeting focusing on current efforts related to upcoming curriculum adoptions, professional learning facilitated by Mr. Jurek with financial wellness and insurance and health benefits providers on March 17, 2025; Weekly WIG sessions with campus leaders specifically looking at lead measures and mid-year outcome metric data, and noting work on the Math Instructional Framework underway. Questions were asked regarding TSIA Data. Ms. Jones shared historic and current TSI data and how current BHS students are trending for CCMR completion.

B. GOAL 2: LEADERSHIP

- 1. Financial report was presented by Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, Dennis Jurek at the Agenda Review Meeting noting that there are no significant changes from last month, everything is trending as expected with slightly elevated maintenance expenditures this year and us trending slightly below supply expenditures at this time. A question was asked regarding the appraisal district's budget. The district has not received that at this time. Mr. Jurek also shared an update on Bond Interest Earnings and that total approved expenditures for the bond budget are slightly below the approved \$52.5M at this time. Mr. Jurek also reviewed expenditures for capital improvement projects that are not bond-related with approximately \$2.2M slated to come from fund balance pending any year-end budget surplus. Mr. Jurek also noted that there will be a draw from the Food Service Fund Balance for capital improvements specific to our cafeteria equipment. Mr. Jurek also noted interest earnings of current investment accounts ranging from 4.3%-4.6%.

Mr. Jurek noted that the Appraisal District is filing an error on the reporting of property values which is the more beneficial path for correction for the district as well, rather than filing an appeal with a potential % loss. Sealy ISD, also impacted by the error, is taking the same approach for correction.

Dr. Poenitzsch provided the Board with the information that had been requested regarding the Brahma



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Club/Athletic Account expenditures.

2. A Capital Improvement Update was presented by Dr. Michael Coopersmith, Chief Operations Officer at the Agenda Review Meeting noting bond projects currently on track, all steel for the building on-site, the softball field ready for the home-opener tomorrow, March 18, and traffic flow for BJHS slated to be reconfigured in the upcoming summer of 2025. Dr. Coopersmith noted BJHS controls through Honeywell to be completed with BJHS HVAC and the Learning Center Roof Replacement underway to be completed by early next week with a 25 year warranty. Transportation parking civil plans are ready, costs ranges are \$650K for regrading and resurfacing gravel (this will go out to bid for actual numbers); concrete from an engineer's probable cost is an additional \$500K. Dr. Coopersmith asked for guidance on moving forward with going out to bid. J. Lischka recommended considering a drainage solution without any resurfacing. The request of the Board for investigation was to pursue three options: drainage only, drainage with granite top surface, and drainage with concrete resurfacing. Ms. Novicke asked about the light pole in the middle of the bull pen- Dr. Coopersmith relayed collaboration with the coaches to extend the bull pens.

- a. Dr. Poenitzsch gave a comprehensive overview of the 2023 Bond Projects

3. A report on the Vision, Strategic Action Plan was presented by Dr. Nicole Poenitzsch, Superintendent, at the Agenda Review Meeting noting the launch of the learner portfolio, the launch of Local Accountability Surveys, and noted that the outcome of meeting with the Commissioner is possibly some creative leeway in accessing funds through TIA. This will be a continued work in progress.

C. GOAL 3: CULTURE -Dr. Poenitzsch, Superintendent, provided a culture report at the Agenda Review Meeting noting open positions and the addition of a position for a College and Career Advisor as funded through the generous donations made to the BISD Education Foundation. High School Math will be the biggest need going into next year.

D. GOAL 4: COMMUNITY-Dr. Poenitzsch Superintendent provided a report at the Agenda Review Meeting noting weekly meetings with community leaders and February community engagement opportunities.

7. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The following items were approved with a motion by Kenneth Stein, seconded by Jim Batson (Vote 5-0);

- A. Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on February 27, 2025
- B. Minutes from the Agenda Review Meeting on March 17, 2025
- C. PTECH MOU with Blinn College
- D. Budget Amendments and Donations

8. ACTION ITEMS

The following were approved

- A. Approval of a waiver for provision of remote homebound services for a BHS student with a motion by Regina Gillum, seconded by Kenneth Stein (Vote 5-0);
- B. Order of Cancellation for the May 3, 2025 election for the BISD Board of Trustees and certification of unopposed candidate with a motion by Jared Lischka, seconded by Regina Gillum (Vote 5-0);
- C. Recommendation of First Financial Group of America (FFGA) as the District's Employee Benefits Provider following RFP's and interviews with a motion by Kenneth Stein, seconded by Jim Batson (Vote 5-0);
- D. Alternative Scope for the West End Restroom Addition as part of Bond Package C with a motion by Regina Gillum, seconded by Kenneth Stein (Vote 5-0);
- E. Declaration of surplus property and auction list with a motion Jim Batson, seconded by Regina Gillum (Vote 5-0);



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- F. Purchase of two-tier lockers for BHS Boys' Athletics with a motion by Jim Batson, seconded by Kenneth Stein (Vote 5-0)

No action was taken on the following items:

- G. Replacement of Gasoline Fuel Storage Tank for Transportation

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board convened in closed session at 6:04pm with a motion by Regina Gillum, seconded by Kenneth Stein (Vote 5-0);

10. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened in open session at 6:27pm

- A. The board approved the Superintendent's recommendations for issuance of professional contracts with a motion by Kenneth Stein, seconded by Regina Gillum (Vote 5-0)

11. DISCUSSION ITEMS: BOARD REPORT

12. ADJOURN

The board adjourned at 6:29pm with a motion by Jared Lischka, seconded by Jim Batson.

BOARD APPROVAL OF MINUTES: APRIL 24, 2025

BOARD PRESIDENT: SARAH BUENGER

BOARD SECRETARY: KENNETH STEIN