



To: Barry Edwards & the BISD Board of Trustees
From: Dr. Kristi Lee, Deputy Superintendent
Date: 17 June 2025
Re: Board Update for June

Athletics: Eliot Allen

This summer, our athletic programs are offering Strength and Conditioning camps for 7th-12th grade students across the district. We also are running individual camps in almost every sport, which is taking place at both high schools. We have record numbers participating in our camps, and we are very excited to see the growth in our student athletes.

Communications & Marketing: Cassie Balderas

Media Coverage

- We have worked with local media to encourage their coverage of positive stories in Bastrop ISD and/or to respond to reporter inquiries. The following are stories that were either in print or on television.
 - [Community Impact May 23-June26](#)
 - Pg. 8 - Bastrop ISD defies trend, drives 20% of regions growth
 - Pg. 9 - Bastrop ISD receives D in newly released 2022-23 TEA ratings
 - Pg. 10 - \$17.5M BISD police station underway (corrected editor about this headline)
 - Pg. 10 - 5G rollout set for 2 Bastrop ISD schools
 - Pg. 22 - BISD Enrollment Ad
 - Community Impact Articles:
 - [Renovations continue at Bastrop High School](#)
 - [\\$17.5M Bastrop ISD police operations facility completion expected by March](#)
 - [Bastrop ISD campuses on track to open this fall to meet growth needs](#)
 - KXAN
 - [KXAN School Visit - Cedar Creek Elementary](#)

New Website

- We will launch new district and campus websites in July. The change comes after our current website provider, Blackboard, was purchased by Finalsity, prompting a required platform upgrade. While the look and navigation will change, all the important information our families, staff and the community rely on will still be available.

ParentSquare Communications

- To better serve our school community, we're consolidating our communications tools into one powerful platform—ParentSquare! This will replace both School Status and Blackboard Mass Communications. ParentSquare offers a unified, two-way communication experience for families and staff, including an

app, messaging, phone calls, alerts, calendar events, forms, and more—all in one place. It's designed to make staying informed easier than ever.

BISD News/Stories

- Recent editions of our bi-weekly parent and staff newsletters are included below. We'll take a break on these newsletter over the summer and start back again in late July/early August.
 - Family Connects (May 21) - <https://secure.smores.com/n/5e9vyk>
 - Family Connects (June 5) - <https://secure.smores.com/n/fjkn8>
 - The Insider (May 14) - <https://secure.smores.com/n/uph13>
 - The Insider (May 28) - <https://secure.smores.com/n/w47jm8>
- We've continued to tell the stories of the outstanding teaching, learning, and community engagement happening every day across BISD. Throughout the months of May and June, the Communications Department captured a wide range of district-wide events that showcase the academic growth, innovation, and support taking place across our schools. From campus celebrations to district initiatives, here are just a few of the moments we've shared:
 - [Summer Sports Camps](#)
 - [23rd Annual Memorial Day Ceremony](#)
 - [Bastrop High School Baseball - Special Needs Youth Baseball Game](#)
 - [2025 Graduation Ceremonies](#)
 - [Sames Bastrop Ford Perfect Attendance Car Giveaway](#)
 - [Bastrop Works Transition to Life Ceremony](#)
 - [2025 Retirement Ceremony](#)
 - [Class of 2025 Senior Walk through Elementaries](#)
 - [CCHS Choir Spring Concert](#)
 - [CRCA Senior Commitment Ceremony](#)
 - [BES 2nd Annual Knowledge Fair](#)
 - [BIS/BMS Band Spring Concert](#)
 - [CCHS Band Spring Concert](#)

Community Relations: Karen Trevino

Child Development Centers

- Forty seven children are enrolled in our summer program at Emile. Interest in school year programming is high with 40, 23 and 58 children signed up for Bluebonnet, Cedar Creek and Emile respectively.

STARS

- As of June 1, 176 students have been enrolled in summer STARS. We continue to work on hiring summer staff to be able to get the remaining 34 students off of the waitlist.
- STARS will be partnering with Bastrop County Cares to provide a free workshop for older students entitled *Emotional Backpack-Feelings Matter: A Fun Emotional Wellness Workshop for Kids*. This will help older students understand their emotions, build self-awareness, and learn basic tools for managing feelings in healthy, age-appropriate ways — all through fun, engaging, and interactive activities.

Community Education & Events

- Twenty two students enrolled in the driver education class held at Cedar Creek High School. A "scholarship only" class is being planned in the fall.
- The Central Texas Food Bank's mobile food distribution held at Lost Pines Elementary was a great success with nearly 100 families served in just under an hour and a half.
- Bank Buddies with BISD has over 20 students enrolled. This free, four week class is being presented in partnership with First National Bank and gives students the opportunity to explore the basics of banking, budgeting, and building financial confidence — all while enjoying snacks, activities, and

giveaways.

Construction & Planning: Lee Raspberry

- **BHS - PROJECT ON TIME - CD's (early site package) - Construction 4% Complete** - site work started at soccer/pond area, Bear Drive demo completed, replacing of waste water under Bear Dr. waiting on pricing, renovations package due 7/11.
- **Riverside & Creekside MS - PROJECT ON TIME - Renovations 82% Complete** - pond retaining walls complete, MEP/Fire overhead complete,, corridor painting complete, interior wall framing complete and drywall beginning, athletic lighting bases poured, furniture scheduled for 7/2, new monument signs in permitting.
- **Additions - 63% Complete** - Fine Arts building CMU walls ongoing, south parking lot curb & gutter complete, new storm line complete, BEC energized new transformer complete new sanitary sewer complete, new retention ponds complete, rock retaining walls in progress, MEP rough in progress, waterproofing in progress, brick veneer complete.
- **PD/Ops Center - Construction 20% Complete** - slab -100%, PEMB steel erection has begun, domestic water line complete to property, waste water line complete, elevator CMU complete, retention ponds complete, parking areas grade completed.
- **Adelton Elementary - PROJECT ON TIME - Construction 94% Complete** - flooring installation beginning 6/4, playground installation 6/16, furniture delivery 7/15, C of O 7/21, substantial completion 7/28, developing "Armadillo" graphics for campus, new keying complete, begin "punch" walks 6/21.
- **BMS/CCMS Renovations/Additions - PROJECT ON TIME - Construction 30% Complete** - steel erection complete, exterior CMU complete, interior CMU underway, athletic field subcontractor began stripping tracks, waterproofing at exterior walls complete, overhead MEP ongoing, pond flumes underway, exterior brick complete, furniture scheduled for Winter Break.
- **CCHS Additions - PROJECT ON TIME - Construction 44% Complete** - structural steel columns complete, joists & beams complete, stairs complete, roofing ongoing, level 2 stud framing complete, sky bridge connection complete, interior renovations began 6/2, 2nd floor decking complete, curtain wall installation underway, construction trailer removed for parking lot finish, band marching pad grading ongoing, .
- **Gateway Renovation and CRCA/Genesis Renovation - PROJECT ON TIME - Construction 0% Complete** - In design.
- **Mina Elementary Reno Phase 2 - PROJECT ON TIME - Construction 22% Complete** - building pad complete, steel erection ongoing, transformer pad complete, concrete pour at level 2 scheduled for 6/10, slab complete, CMU walls at area "a" underway.
- **Summer Playground Renovations** at LPE, BBE, EES, RRES & CCE ongoing

Human Resources: Diana Greene

- The Human Resources Department and campus administrators are busy with hiring efforts. Our goal is to process new recommendations the same day they're received whenever possible.
- **The New Teacher Academy is scheduled for July 30-31, 2025.** The HR team will present during these sessions to ensure that our new hires have the necessary information to be successful. We plan to embed key onboarding topics typically covered during our in-person training sessions, without requiring teachers to attend an additional day of training over the summer. Our goal is to align our information with other departments to provide timely and essential learning opportunities for new staff.
- We're also excited to welcome **Windy Burnett** as our new **Human Resources Coordinator**. Ms. Burnett is currently supporting Emile Elementary during the leadership transition and has begun

training with our outgoing coordinator, **Jen Gast Greene**. Jen has been an invaluable support to new teachers throughout onboarding and their first year in Bastrop ISD. She will be greatly missed.

- The Human Resources Department is also proud to see the **Communications Department** highlighting our new hires on social media. We appreciate the opportunity to introduce our newest team members to the community.
- We are attending the **University of Texas THRIVE Mentor Institute in June 2025**, a free event for teachers, administrators, and HR professionals who mentor or support early-career educators. Windy Burnett was able to attend as one of her first professional learning opportunities in her new role.

Information Technology: Randy Sharp

Operations

- Our technology team has been busy preparing for renovations, which involved moving TVs and tech equipment from CCH, CCI, BIS, CCM, and BMS to safely store them during renovations.
- To improve technical expertise and infrastructure, our team participated in specialized training to master Apple products, which will help us better manage our iPads, iPhones, and Mac computers.
- We re-wired the stadium with new cables and fiber optics to ensure that future graduation ceremonies and events will have reliable and high-speed connections.
- In a significant step forward for classroom technology, all BenQ interactive TVs are fully online and connected to the school network. We've also brought them under a central management system, which will make them much easier to control and maintain.
- Routine updates were performed to Raptor security systems, ensuring that these vital safety tools are fully functional and up-to-date across all our school campuses.
- The BISD Information Technology Monthly Summary for May show our teams were assigned a total of 1412 tickets. The department successfully resolved 1447 tickets within the same period. Looking at the breakdown by team, the ITS Inventory Team resolved the most tickets at 713, followed by the ITS Operations Team with 349, ITS Applications Team with 187, ITS Infrastructure Team with 121, and ITS Admin Team with 77 resolved tickets. A key metric, "Within SLA" (Service Level Agreement), indicates how many tickets were resolved within our set timeframes. In May, an impressive 1305 out of the 1447 resolved tickets met this "Within SLA" target, showing that the vast majority of IT issues are addressed promptly. Only 142 tickets, or about 9.8%, violated the SLA. When categorizing by ticket type, 1707 incidents and 899 service requests were resolved within SLA, while 325 incidents and 110 service requests violated SLA. **A consistent adherence to our service level agreements highlights our IT department's efficiency and responsiveness in providing timely support to our district's staff and students.** [Click here to see the report for May](#)

Infrastructure

- *Network Infrastructure* - Implemented a new system called Extreme Control to better manage who can access our network and what they can do once connected. Developed a plan for regularly updating all network switches to the latest software and created a new set of standards for how we configure our switches across the district. Updated wireless network security policy to allow for more secure monitoring.
- *Server Infrastructure* - Focused on data protection and system efficiency. A preliminary plan has been developed for offsite backups, which is crucial for protecting our data in case of a major event. Cleaned up Active Directory and improved Group Policies. Streamlined systems with a process for safely removing old or outdated systems.
- *Cyber Security* - Installed important updates to our firewall and Global Protect, which are critical for protecting our network from outside threats. Updated our Onesync system for account automation. Fine-tuned Solarwinds notifications, which helps us quickly identify and respond to potential issues. Created a new Service Desk Policy and reviewed device lock policies to ensure that devices

automatically lock or log out after a certain period of inactivity.

- *Mimecast* - During May, our email system processed 639,872 inbound messages and 49,557 outbound messages. Of the incoming messages, 18% were rejected, indicating our system is effectively blocking unwanted or malicious emails before they reach inboxes. We detected 31 instances of inbound malware, showing our defenses are catching threats. Importantly, there was no outbound malware detected, confirming that our systems are not sending out malicious content. Our URL Protect feature recorded 56,455 total clicks on links, with only 1 in 664 of these being unsafe, demonstrating that most clicks are on legitimate links, and our system is preventing a significant number of unsafe ones. For attachments, our Attachment Protect feature sandboxed 29,707 attachments, and successfully identified no unsafe attachments within that process. This indicates our proactive measures are effective in neutralizing potential threats before they can cause harm. [Click here to see the Mimecast report for May](#)
- *Bitdefender* - During May, our security measures blocked 127 threats, including web malware, phishing attempts, lateral movement attempts, viruses, and potentially harmful applications. It's important to note that all threats were detected on workstations, with no threats found on servers during this period. Overall, 96.85% of detected threats were blocked, with a small percentage (3.15%) being deleted. Our automated systems also proactively blocked 379,349 potentially malicious websites. The report also shows that our various security tools, such as Antimalware, Advanced Threat Control, Firewall, and Network Protection, are enabled on the vast majority of our devices. Our company risk score of 16% highlights that while our defenses are strong, there are still areas, primarily app vulnerabilities (70%) and identity risks (25%), that we continue to monitor and address. [Click here to see the BitDefender report for May](#)
- *Content Keeper* - System recorded 601.49 million transactions and blocked a total of 46.98 million items. Observed 9 behavioral alerts and 51.2 thousand attempts to get around our security filters, along with 838 search term violations. This data highlights the continuous efforts of our system to filter content, block threats, and monitor user behavior, all of which are essential to keeping our network and users safe online. [Click here to see the ContentKeeper report for May](#)
- Unified Communications - Upgraded our communication platform Webex at Special Programs and Service Center. Moved overhead paging system from old setup (CUCM) to Webex making the paging system more integrated. Set up important safety features for emergency calls within Webex, working with Red Sky.

Student Services: Dr. Janel Morris

- Of the 41 May graduates served through the McKinney-Vento program, 32% will enroll in a 4-year college or university this fall, which is four times higher than the national average. We are so proud of our students for beating the odds, and we are grateful to their teachers, coaches, and mentors who have inspired them to postsecondary success.
- Vaccine clinics will be offered August 7th and September 16th to assist families in preparing for the new school year.
- The 2024-25 chronic absenteeism rate was 4.7% lower than in 2023-24, which nearly matched our pre-COVID rates. This is an outstanding achievement, and we appreciate the partnership with our schools and families in getting students to school each and every day.
- The 2024-25 Average Daily Attendance (ADA) was greater than 2023-24 ADA during 8 out of 10 school months. In addition, ADA increase year-over-year was 1.16% in October, 1.97% in December, and 1.29% in March. These increases represent 151-256 more students who consistently attended school during these months, compared to the same months the previous school year.