

**KILLEEN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE**

Friday, November 22, 2024
3:00 p.m.

BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Members present: Marvin Rainwater, Secretary; Brenda Adams, and Oliver Mintz

KISD Administration present: Dr. JoAnn Fey, Superintendent; and Mike Harper, General Counsel

The KISD Board Advocacy Committee met on November 22, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's Conference Room. The Committee began by reviewing the Resolution for Board Advocacy Priorities adopted by the Board on June 11, 2024.

The Committee then discussed other districts' priorities as well as the priorities adopted by the Texas Association of School Administrators. Dr. Fey asked the Committee if they have any interest in signing onto the legislative priorities with other Bell County school districts. The Committee discussed the pros and cons of working with other districts. After discussing the matter, the Committee believed it would be better this year to advocate for the Board Advocacy Priorities approved in June by the Board, as each of those priorities have a great impact on our District.

Mr. Harper then presented information from the Fund Schools First collaborative effort. The priorities of the collaborative include: an increase to the basic allotment, an inflation index, funding gaps, and local control in spending. With feedback from state legislators, the group understands school districts and public education advocates need to have a consistent message about funding. The state legislature passed House Bill 3 in 2019 setting the system up to be moved by the basic allotment. Increasing the basic allotment automatically triggers funding for key programs and state priorities, including school safety, special education, and teacher pay raises. The Committee discussed the benefits of using a consistent message about funding public schools and believes this approach would easily work with the Board Advocacy Priorities previously approved by the Board.

Next, the Committee reviewed information from the Student Behavior Management Coalition, which Dr. Susan Buckley, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, previously presented to the Board.

Finally, the Committee discussed the next steps that include providing testimony to the legislature, as well as Capitol visits to meet with legislators and their staffs. Dr. Fey encouraged the Committee to consider visiting the Capitol themselves.

The meeting concluded at 3:40 p.m.