

Belton Independent School District

Workshop Meeting Minutes

Board Workshop Meeting, October 20, 2025 - 5:00 p.m.

Dragon Room, 400 N. Wall Street, Belton TX, 76513

Board Members Present:

Manuel Alcozer

Chris Flor

Rucker Preston

Jeff Norwood

Brandon Bozon

Riley Beck

Board Members Absent:

Erin Bass

1. Call to Order:

Manuel Alcozer, Board President, called the workshop meeting of the Belton Independent School District Board of Trustees to order at 5:01 p.m., that the meeting had been duly called, noted Ms. Erin Bass was absent, and notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

2. Public Comments:

None.

3. Board Workshop:

A. Goal 2 Update - Academic Progress

Dr. Malinda Golden, Superintendent, introduced Gabi Nino, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, Ben Smith, Executive Director of Secondary Leadership, and Denise Sharp, Executive Director of Elementary Leadership, who engaged the Board in a workshop regarding academic progress. Three strategic areas were discussed: assessment literacy/data-informed decisions, empowering educators through curriculum, and fostering student growth via high-leverage strategies and tiered supports. The balanced assessment framework features formative assessments at the classroom level and larger universal screening and diagnostic data, such as the beginning-of-year STAR Renaissance screener. Based on the screener data, the District projects third graders will exceed 2026 state (HB3) targets in reading (52% at grade level) and math (40%). However, fourth and seventh graders showed a greater degree of summer regression.

To drive improvement, the District uses Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) for planning, prioritizes high-leverage learning standards, and is focusing instruction on critical thinking. Principals conduct weekly classroom walkthroughs, and assessment data informs flexible intervention time built into schedules. These strategies represent significant systemic changes implemented over the last 1.5 years.

Adjourn: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Manuel Alcozer, Board President

Erin Bass, Board Secretary