

Killeen Independent School District

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, Workshop Meeting January 20, 2026, at 5 p.m. in the Killeen ISD Boardroom

Board Members Present

- Brett E. Williams, President
- Susan M. Jones, Vice President
- Brenda Adams, Secretary
- Marvin Rainwater, Member (**joined meeting during closed session at 5:06 pm**)
- Oliver Mintz, Member
- Tina Capito, Member
- Rodney Gilchrist, Member (**left meeting early at 8:37 pm**)

Quorum: Established

Call to Order

The meeting of the Killeen Independent School District Board of Trustees was called to order by President Brett E. Williams at 5 p.m.

The meeting was recorded and streamed publicly

Agenda Item 1: Public Forum

No members of the public signed up to speak during the forum.

Agenda Item 2: Closed Session

The Board entered closed session at **5:03 p.m.** for:

2A. Consultation with Legal Counsel Regarding Amendments to Local Innovation Plan (Texas Government Code 551.071).

2B. Discussion Regarding Board Operating Procedures (Texas Government Code 551.074)

2C. Consultation with the District's Legal Counsel Regarding Pending Litigation, a Settlement Offer, or Other Issues Confidential under the Attorney–Client Privilege (Texas Government Code 551.071).

2D. Deliberate the Purchase, Exchange, Lease, or Value of Real Property (Texas Government Code 551.072).

2E. Deliberate the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee (Texas Government Code 551.074).

2F. Deliberate a Matter Regarding a Public School Student in which Personally Identifiable Information about the Student will necessarily be Revealed (Texas Government Code 551.0821).

No action was taken in closed session.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at **6:00 p.m.**

Invocation and Pledges

Invocation was led by Trustee **Rodney Gilchrist**.

Pledges of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags were led by student **Cora McQuiston** from Oveta Culp Hobby Elementary School.

President Brett E. Williams called for Agenda item 4

Agenda Item 4: Honors and Recognition

Presenter: Karen Rudolph

District staff recognized multiple students and staff for outstanding academic and professional achievements. Student-athletes were honored for earning THSCA Academic All-State recognition, reflecting excellence in both academics and athletics. The Board

also recognized KISD Teach program graduates who completed their degrees and earned certification, as well as Dr. Janelle Muhammad, Principal of Rancier Middle School, who was named Texas Middle School Principal of the Year by the Texas Association of Secondary Principals (TASSP). Dr. Billy Pringle, Executive Director of TASSP presented Dr. Muhammad with the award. Dr. Muhammad was recognized for her authentic leadership style, strong instructional vision, and commitment to empowering teachers and staff to innovate in their classrooms. Remarks highlighted her visibility on campus, approachability to students and families, and consistent focus on improving the learning environment at Rancier Middle School. Dr. Muhammad will again be recognized during the 2026 TASSP Summer Workshop in Dallas and she will also be honored in Washington DC in April on the national level along with principals from all 50 states. The Board congratulated Dr. Muhammad on her state-level recognition and commended her for representing Killeen ISD with distinction at both the regional and national levels. In honor of School Board Appreciation Month, trustees received proclamations and student-created artwork calendars, and Superintendent Dr. Davis recognized Trustee Marvin Rainwater on the occasion of his birthday.

THSCA Academic All-State Honors

- Gary Adkins – CHS
- Prince Hall – EHS
- Patrick Ramirez – HHHS
- Geoffrey Anderson – HHHS
- Adriana Dean – HHHS
- James Kerney – HHHS
- Cooper Howard – HHHS
- Shaquane De Souza – HHHS
- Isaac Compaore – HHHS
- Dylan Singh- HHHS
- Jake Kilpatrick – KHS
- Elario Chavez – KHS
- Brenden Logan – SHS
- William Thomas – SHS

KISD TEACH Graduates

- Valerie Thomas – Hay Branch Elementary
- Amanda Dominguez – Nolanville Elementary
- Yvonne Villacana – Alice W. Douse Elementary
- Tara Kreinbrink – Richard E. Cavazos Elementary
- Tesa Moore – Reeces Creek Elementary

School Board Calendar Artists

- Bianca Duprey- CHS
- Dereck Pagan Pabon – CHS
- Lyla Villafane – CHS
- Anna Wilson – CHS
- Trinity Boyd Salazar – ECHS
- Nile Moreno – ECHS
- Deanna Niles – ECHS
- Jordan Swinson – ECHS
- Krista Garcia – EHS
- Isabella Lopez – ECHS
- Rachel Yancey – HHHS
- Vinyl Brunken – KHS
- Kamara Cruse – KHS
- Jessica Gallegos- KHS
- Frances Motlok- KHS
- Yarecsally Quintanilla Hernandez – KHS
- Ameila Valenzuela – KHS

President Brett E. Williams called for Agenda item 3**Agenda Item 3: Public Forum**

No members of the public signed up to speak during the forum.

Agenda Item 5: Consent Agenda

- Receive and Approve Minutes for December 9, 2025, Regular Meeting
- Receive and Approve Minutes for December 16, 2025, Regular Meeting
- Consideration of the Designation of Ten Non-Business Days in Killeen ISD for Purposes Related to the Public Information Act
- Consideration of Texas Association of School Board (TASB) Policy Manual Updated 126 Affecting Local Policies
- Consideration of Reciprocal Use Agreement with Armed Services YMCA

- **Motion:** Brenda Adams

- **Second:** Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Susan M. Jones, Brenda Adams, Marvin Rainwater, Oliver Mintz, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None
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Agenda Item 6: Action Items for Consideration

6A. Consideration of Resolution to Recognize February 2nd – 6th, 2026, as National School Counseling Week in Killeen ISD

Presenter: Shannon Lumar, Director of Mental Health and Wellness and Guidance Services

The Board considered a resolution recognizing February 2–6, 2026 as National School Counseling Week in Killeen ISD. Trustee Rainwater mentioned the critical role counselors play in student academic, emotional, and social development, particularly during periods of increased campus demands. He emphasized that school counselors serve multiple critical roles on campuses, often supporting students academically, emotionally, and socially during times of increased need. Remarks highlighted the counselors' willingness to step in repeatedly to support students, families, and staff, reflecting their dedication and essential impact on school communities.

- **Motion:** Susan M. Jones
 - **Second:** Tina Capito
 - **Vote:** 7-0-0-0
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Susan M. Jones, Brenda Adams, Marvin Rainwater, Oliver Mintz, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** None
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Agenda Item 7: Information Items for Discussion

7A. Discussion of Killeen ISD Call for Quality Schools/SB 1882 Texas Partnership Public Update

Presenter: Dr. Terri Osborne, Deputy Superintendent

Dr. Osborne provided an update on the SB 1882 Texas Partnership process, noting that one qualified application was received from Third Future Schools following the letter of intent and application phases. Dr. Osborne explained that the district is currently completing the final stage of phase two of the charter authorization process, which includes a rigorous review of the submitted application using a state-provided rubric. Trustees were informed that evaluators will review 82 success criteria and participate in training prior to conducting a capacity interview with the applicant. The upcoming timeline was outlined, including evaluator training, capacity interviews, a partner presentation, and a potential recommendation to the Board in February. Trustees expressed appreciation for the detailed process and acknowledged the significance of this work in shaping future learning opportunities for students. Dr. Osborne noted that performance contract negotiations must be finalized by mid-March in order for the district to remain eligible for Senate Bill 1882 benefits. Trustees discussed how eligibility requirements and timeline constraints limited the applicant pool, while also emphasizing the importance of completing the process carefully to support long-term student success. Trustees asked clarifying questions regarding applicant eligibility and expressed appreciation for the transparency and thoroughness of the process.

7B. Discussion of Quarterly Investment Report for the Period Ending November 30, 2025

Presenter: Kallen Vaden, Chief Financial Officer

The quarterly investment report for the period ending November 30, 2025 was presented, showing an increase in the district's investment balance and interest revenue. Ms. Vaden confirmed compliance with the Public Funds Investment Act and highlighted improvements in portfolio performance relative to benchmarks. Trustees asked questions regarding fund balances and program-related expenditures. Ms. Vaden reported that the district's investment portfolio increased by approximately \$42.8 million, largely due to seasonal revenue timing and lower expenditures early in the fiscal year. Interest revenue for the quarter totaled approximately \$3 million. Trustees were informed that the weighted average yield to maturity remained above benchmark levels despite a slight decline. During discussion, trustees asked questions regarding minor fluctuations in the school nutrition fund balance, and Ms. Vaden explained that timing, program start-up costs, and expanded breakfast services contributed to the variance.

7C. Discussion of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Briefing

Presenter: Scott Hequembourg, Deputy Superintendent

Mr. Hequembourg provided a comprehensive briefing on the current and future use of artificial intelligence within the district, including legal requirements, ethical considerations, and operational safeguards. The presentation outlined how AI is used in areas such as HR screening, data analysis, and cybersecurity while emphasizing the importance of human oversight. The presentation outlined applicable state laws and recent legislation governing AI use, including requirements related to ethics, training, transparency, and risk mitigation. Trustees were informed that certain AI systems are classified as “heightened scrutiny” systems and require additional safeguards due to potential impacts on privacy, safety, and rights. Examples of current district AI use were shared, including resume screening, chatbots, data analysis, and biometric timekeeping systems, all of which include human oversight. Mr. Hequembourg emphasized that AI will not replace teachers or student learning but will serve as a support tool when used responsibly. Trustees discussed the importance of ensuring students produce original work and understand proper attribution when using AI tools. Additional discussion focused on the need to update district policies, procedures, and training to align with evolving legal guidance. Trustees requested continued updates on AI implementation, accountability measures, and its impact on employee and student performance. Trustees discussed student use, academic integrity, policy development, and the importance of training and transparency as AI use expands. Staff provided an overview of artificial intelligence as a rapidly expanding technology being used across education, government, and industry to improve efficiency and decision-making.

Agenda Item 8: Discussion of Future Board Meeting Agendas and Trustee Remarks

Trustee Gilchrist shared reflections on recent agenda topics and expressed appreciation for district staff and leadership for their ongoing work, particularly related to the SB 1882 charter process and artificial intelligence initiatives. Trustee Mintz emphasized the importance of balancing innovation with risk mitigation as new technologies are implemented across district systems. Board members encouraged staff and campuses to maintain focus and momentum entering the second semester, noting the critical impact this period has on student success. Several trustees encouraged students and staff to approach the second semester with renewed focus and determination, describing it as a critical period for growth and accountability. The Board concluded remarks by urging all campuses and departments to remain committed to student success and excellence through the remainder of the school year.

Board Returned to Agenda Item 2: Closed Session

The Board entered closed session at **7:02 p.m.** for:

2A. Consultation with Legal Counsel Regarding Amendments to Local Innovation Plan (Texas Government Code 551.071).

2B. Discussion Regarding Board Operating Procedures (Texas Government Code 551.074)

2C. Consultation with the District's Legal Counsel Regarding Pending Litigation, a Settlement Offer, or Other Issues Confidential under the Attorney–Client Privilege (Texas Government Code 551.071).

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2F. Deliberate a Matter Regarding a Public School Student in which Personally Identifiable Information about the Student will necessarily be Revealed (Texas Government Code 551.0821).

No action was taken in closed session.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at **9:50 p.m.**

Agenda Item 9: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned following trustee remarks.

- **Motion:** Tina Capito
- **Second:** Brenda Adams
- **Vote:** 6-0-0-1
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Susan M. Jones, Brenda Adams, Marvin Rainwater, Oliver Mintz, Tina Capito
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** Rodney Gilchrist

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at **9:50 p.m.**

Signatures

Brett E. Williams
Board President

Brenda Adams
Board Secretary
