



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ABSTRACT

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Seat Belt Report

MEETING DATE: 3/9/2026

PRESENTER: Dr. Jeff Roberts, Ed. D., RTBSA

Reports/Information Presentation/Discussion Consent or Action

RECOMMENDATION:

This study is being conducted in response to Senate Bill 546, which amended Transportation Code §547.701(f) and requires that all school buses transporting children be equipped with three-point seat belts for every passenger.

In accordance with this legislation, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) will collect the following information from each school district:

- *The number of buses not equipped with seat belts.*
- *The number of buses equipped with two-point seat belts.*
- *The number of buses equipped with three-point seat belts.*
- *The estimated cost to equip all buses—whether district-owned or contracted—with three-point seat belts.*

In addition to required reporting to TEA, if a school system board has determined that their budget does not permit the district to purchase buses that are equipped with the seat belts required in Transportation Code §547.701, the same data must be presented in a public board meeting.

To prepare for report submission, please have cost estimates readily available for upload. If your district has determined that purchasing buses equipped with seatbelts is not financially feasible, you must also upload the agenda or minutes from the public board meeting where the following were presented:

- *The number of buses without seatbelts,*
- *The number of buses with two-point seatbelts,*
- *The number of buses with three-point seatbelts, and*
- *The estimated cost to retrofit each bus with three-point seatbelts.*

11/17/25 - Sentinel Access for Bus Reporting

12/3/25 - Acknowledgement of Seat Belt Study Signed

By 4/1/26 - Determine Overall Cost Estimates to complete Bus Seat Installations

Note: This may affect the warranty on a bus and the liability of the district due to installing items that were not initially installed by the manufacturer.

By 5/1/26 - Presentation to the Board of Trustees about Bus Safety Belts

MOTION LANGUAGE:

In addition to required reporting to TEA, the Board of Trustees must review the report and determine whether the district will proceed with retrofitting buses to include three-point seat belts.

PREPARATION ★ PURPOSE ★ PRIDE

Option 1:

I move that the KISD Board of Trustees receive the required Seat Belt Report and determine that the district will not proceed with retrofitting existing buses with three-point seat belts at this time, and direct administration to submit the required report to TEA in accordance with Transportation Code §547.701(f).

Option 2:

I move that the KISD Board of Trustees approve proceeding with retrofitting all district-owned buses not currently equipped with three-point seat belts in order to comply with Transportation Code §547.701(f), and authorize an amount not to exceed \$1,213,000 for that purpose.

BACKGROUND:

This study is being conducted in response to Senate Bill 546, which amended Transportation Code §547.701(f) and requires that all school buses transporting children be equipped with three-point seat belts for every passenger.

In accordance with this legislation, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) will collect the following information from each school district:

- The number of buses not equipped with seat belts.
- The number of buses equipped with two-point seat belts.
- The number of buses equipped with three-point seat belts.
- The estimated cost to equip all buses—whether district-owned or contracted—with three-point seat belts.

In addition to required reporting to TEA, if a school system board has determined that their budget does not permit the district to purchase buses that are equipped with the seat belts required in Transportation Code §547.701, the same data must be presented in a public board meeting.

To prepare for report submission, please have cost estimates readily available for upload. If your district has determined that purchasing buses equipped with seatbelts is not financially feasible, you must also upload the agenda or minutes from the public board meeting where the following were presented:

- The number of buses without seatbelts,
- The number of buses with two-point seatbelts,
- The number of buses with three-point seatbelts, and
- The estimated cost to retrofit each bus with three-point seatbelts.

POLICY:

Not Applicable

BUDGET IMPACT:

Significant - Over \$1 million dollars

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

- Priority 1:** EXCELLENCE in Student Performance
- Priority 2:** EXCELLENCE in a Collaborative Work Environment
- Priority 3:** INTEGRITY- Driven District and Campus Operations
- Priority 4:** Community SERVICE and Engagement

Motion Made By: _____ *Seconded By:* _____

Motion Vote Tally: _____

