



Weatherford Independent School District Board Agenda Item

The mission of the Weatherford ISD is to educate, engage, and empower all students in a safe and positive learning environment to discover and reach their greatest potential.

Date

February 9, 2026

Administrator(s) Preparing Report

Dr. Jason Dunkelberger, Director of Transportation

Subject

SB 546 Three-Point Seat Belt Study

Background Information

SB 546 legislation requires public school districts to present retrofit and replacement requirements for all school buses in the district fleet publicly. Weatherford ISD is required to submit an electronic report of all school bus assets and three-point seat belt information thru Sentinel upon completion. An assessment of the current fleet, in accordance with the SB 546 requirements, was conducted and the results include the retrofitting of 44 school buses and the replacement of 23 school buses prior to September 2029.

Weatherford ISD has been awarded a Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program (TxVEMP) Grant to support the replacement of 3 existing diesel school buses with 3 new electric school buses. Weatherford ISD is pending another TxVEMP Grant for 5 additional EV buses. Weatherford ISD has applied for a TCEQ Clean Bus Grant for 3 diesel school buses being purchased in 2026. There are 6 additional buses that can be submitted for grants prior to September 2029.

There are additional school buses that are anticipated to reach their service life prior to September 2029. TEA has not released retrofitting requirements and restrictions. This information will be released after the study is complete in Summer 2026.

Strategic Plan Information

- Relates to Strategic Goal #1 – Focus on Student Success
- Relates to Strategic Goal #2 – Focus on Students, Parents, and Communities
- Relates to Strategic Goal #3 – Focus on Operational Excellence
- Relates to Strategic Goal #4 – Focus on Employees and Organizational Development
- Relates to Strategic Goal #5 – Focus on Stewardship

Administrative Recommendation

Administration recommends approval of the report in accordance with SB 546. Administration recommends submission through Sentinel upon completion of the public meeting requirement.