

Belton Independent School District

Workshop Meeting Minutes

Board Workshop Meeting, November 17, 2025 - 5:00 p.m.

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

Board Members Present:

Manuel Alcozer	Brandon Bozon
Chris Flor	Riley Beck
Rucker Preston	Erin Bass
Jeff Norwood	

Board Members Absent:

1. Call to Order:

Manuel Alcozer, Board President, called the workshop meeting of the Belton Independent School District Board of Trustees to order at 5:00 p.m., that the meeting had been duly called, 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. Budget Overview

Dr. Malinda Golden, Superintendent, introduced Melissal Lafferty, Chief Financial Officer, who engaged the Board in a workshop that focused on budgetary challenges and future financial planning. Discussions center on recent budget reductions, including staffing adjustments and cuts to campus and departmental budgets, undertaken due to factors like slowing enrollment, decreased federal funding, and rising inflationary costs. The Board also reviews the 2026-2027 budget timeline and assumptions, noting a projected deficit. Dr. Golden asked the Board their input on budgetary goals. Ideas were as follows:

- Maintain 20% fund balance per established policy.
- Increase funding for facilities and capital improvements to 1.5 million, from \$500,000.
- Increase staff compensation and health insurance supplement.
- Reduce the pupil-teacher ratio.
- Continue to identify reductions.

The Belton ISD Board Workshop concluded with the discussion of several goals for the 26-27 budget.

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

Manuel Alcozer, Board President

Erin Bass, Board Secretary