

**Belton Independent School District**  
**Board of Trustee Meeting Agenda Item**  
**November 17, 2025**

**Item:** Recognitions

**Contact Person:** Christine Parks

**Presented for:** ☐ Action ☒ Report Only

**Supporting Documents:** ☒ None ☐ Attached ☐ Provided Later

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**District Goal or Objective Addressed:**

Goal 2: Ensure exceptional learning experiences for each and every student.

Goal 4: Develop a district-wide culture of value, support, and growth amongst all students and staff.

**Background Information:**

**Student Pledges – High Point Elementary School**

This evening, the pledges were led by High Point Elementary students Samuel Parker and Laylah Pekar.

Samuel, a fifth grader, loves math and enjoys the challenge of solving problems. Outside the classroom, he stays active playing soccer and video games. His friends describe him as funny, competitive, sporty and intelligent.

Laylah, a fourth grader, says science is her favorite subject because she loves exploring how things work. At home, she enjoys reading, using her imagination and playing with her siblings. Her friends describe her as caring, empathetic and a wonderful friend to have.

**Student Showcase – Belton High School Phlebotomy**

Tonight, we're spotlighting Belton High School's Phlebotomy Program, where precision and purpose come together in healthcare education.

As part of Belton ISD's Health Science pathway, students gain both medical knowledge and hands-on experience through courses like Principles of Health Science, Medical Terminology, and Anatomy and Physiology.

Their journey culminates in the Practicum in Health Science, where, through a partnership with Baylor Scott and White Health, students practice venipuncture, infection control, and patient care in a real hospital setting.

By the end of the program, students can earn an industry-based certification as a phlebotomy technician, preparing them for careers or continued studies in nursing and medical sciences.

Tonight's presentation also featured Belton ISD graduate Andrea Stonebrook, now a registered nurse serving students at James L. Burrell Elementary. Andrea completed the district's Health Science pathway and credits the experience for sparking her passion for patient care and guiding her journey into the nursing profession.

### **Special Olympics Bowling**

The Board is proud to recognize the Belton Champions Special Olympics Bowling Team for their outstanding performance at the Area 12 Bowling Competition on October 24 at Fort Hood.

The team brought home an impressive set of wins, including five first-place, four second-place, three third-place, and additional top finishes, showcasing their teamwork, focus and determination.

Thank you to coaches Lauren Marx and Misty Norwood for their leadership and support. The Champions will return to competition in February for basketball, continuing to represent Belton ISD with joy, courage and true Champion spirit.

### **National Merit Commended Scholars**

The district is proud to recognize two outstanding Lake Belton High School seniors for their achievements in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Abran Guajardo and Taylor Rogers have been named National Merit Commended Scholars for their exceptional academic promise, ranking among the top 50,000 students nationwide.

Their dedication, perseverance and commitment to excellence exemplify the qualities celebrated in Belton ISD's Journey of a Graduate. Congratulations to these remarkable students on this distinguished honor.

### **Marching Band State Qualifier**

The Board is proud to recognize the Lake Belton High School Stampede Marching Band for advancing to the UIL 5A State Marching Band Contest, continuing the remarkable tradition of excellence since the school opened in 2020.

The band is led by directors Bobby Yerigan, Craig George, Jacob Guerrero, Grant Shane, Jessie Arbolay and student teacher and Belton High School alumnus Jacob Masters.

Under their direction, the Stampede's 2025 show, The Crown, showcased the talent, precision, and dedication of its student performers.

The Stampede represented Lake Belton High School and Belton ISD with excellence at the state contest on November 10 at the Alamodome in San Antonio. Congratulations to the students, directors, and families who continue to raise the standard for musical excellence in Belton ISD.

### **CTE District of Distinction**

We are proud to recognize Belton ISD's Career and Technical Education (CTE) program for earning the CTE District of Distinction honor from the Career and Technical Association of Texas (CTAT) for the second consecutive year.

This statewide recognition celebrates the district's innovation, leadership and commitment to preparing students for success through high-quality, future-focused career programs.

Belton ISD offers 25 programs of study, and in the 2024–2025 school year, students earned 1,116 industry certifications, an increase from 930 the year prior, demonstrating continued growth and excellence in connecting classroom learning to real-world opportunities.

CTE is led by Director of PK-12 Career Readiness Denise Ayres.

### **FIRST, ASBO, GFOA Finance Department Awards**

We are proud to recognize Belton ISD's Finance Department for earning a Superior Achievement "A" rating in the School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) for the 14th consecutive year.

The district also received recognition from the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) and the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for excellence in financial reporting for the sixth consecutive year.

These honors reflect Belton ISD's continued commitment to transparency, fiscal responsibility and sound financial management.

### **Temple Rotary Educator of the Month**

Belton ISD is proud to recognize Heath Conde as the Temple Rotary Club's Educator of the Month for October for his outstanding service to students at High Point Elementary.

Now in his fifth year in education, all at High Point, Heath teaches first grade and is known for his leadership, positivity and student-first mindset.

Principal Courtney Brewer describes him as a dedicated educator who leads with optimism and collaboration. "Mr. Conde plays a key role in our Guiding Coalition and consistently advocates for what's best for every student," Brewer said. "His positivity and adaptability inspire those around him."

Beyond the classroom, Heath leads student leadership initiatives and serves as the campus STEM lead, helping foster innovation and engagement across the school.

### **Department Showcase - Health Services**

This month's department showcase features the Belton ISD Health Services team, a group of 31 full-time nurses, including 21 registered nurses and 10 licensed vocational nurses, who keep students and staff healthy, safe and ready to learn.

From daily care to emergency response, school nurses provide essential support across all campuses. They manage everything from routine health needs to urgent situations, collaborate with staff on safety plans and field trips and ensure students with medical needs can fully participate in school life.

Led by Marylisa Fanning, Director of Health Services, the department follows all state and federal health guidelines and exemplifies compassion, professionalism and dedication to student well-being across Belton ISD.

### **Community Partner Recognition – Baylor Scott & White Healthcare**

Tonight, we are proud to recognize Baylor Scott & White Health as a valued community partner providing Belton ISD students with hands-on healthcare experiences from elementary through high school.

Through programs like Dare to Dream, Healthcare Hero events, and high school job shadowing and mentorship, students explore real-world healthcare careers while building technical skills and leadership.

Belton ISD is grateful for Baylor Scott & White Health's continued partnership and its commitment to inspiring the next generation of healthcare professionals.

**Fiscal Implications:**

None.

**Administrative Recommendation(s):**

None.