



To: Barry Edwards & the BISD Board of Trustees
From: Dr. Kristi Lee, Deputy Superintendent
Date: 15 April 2025
Re: Board Update for April

Athletics: Eliot Allen

Bastrop

- Boys Soccer: Advanced to round 3 of playoffs. The Bears fell to Lake Creek in the regional semi-finals.
- Baseball: Currently sitting 4-0 in district play and looking to compete for a district championship.
- Softball: Undefeated in district play
- Girls Golf: District champions

Cedar Creek

- Girls Soccer: Finished district play with a 7-7 record earning 4th place and a playoff berth. The Eagles fell to Hendrickson in the Bi-District round of the state playoffs.
- Baseball: Several facility upgrades completed. Installed new windscreens in the outfield and on dugout. We completed a new brick backstop, added new bleacher wraps and repainted the Press Box.
- Softball: Rebuild is underway. Student athletes have been working really hard and are continuing to improve.
- Powerlifting: The team ended the season strong sending 3 girls and 4 boys to regionals, advancing 1 young lady to the state meet where she finished in 10th place.
- Track: Freshman Crystal Turner has shattered all school records in the 800 and 1,600 meter runs.

Communications: Cassie Balderas

- We're putting a greater emphasis in the stories we tell on the teaching and learning happening every day across BISD classrooms. Our goal is to shine a light on the academic growth, innovation, and support taking place throughout the district.
Here are just a few of the stories we've recently shared and some you can look forward to seeing in the coming weeks:
 - [Bastrop ISD's CTE Program Prepares Students for Future Careers](#)
 - [Student progress using MyPath](#)
 - [District Curriculum & Instruction support at campuses in preparation for STAAR](#)
 - CCMS Growth in Academic Honors Program
 - Promoting real-world skills through Financial Literacy lessons
 - Blended Learning in BISD
- Recent editions of our bi-weekly parent and staff newsletters are included below:
 - Family Connects (March 6) - <https://secure.smores.com/n/erx0w>
 - Family Connects (March 26) - <https://secure.smores.com/n/m4pdk>
 - The Insider (March 13) - <https://secure.smores.com/n/wucyv>
 - The Insider (April 2) - <https://secure.smores.com/n/mwpz7>
- We have worked with local media to encourage their coverage of positive stories in Bastrop ISD and/or to respond to reporter inquiries. The following are stories that were either in print or on television.
 - [Community Impact March 29-April 28 Online Edition](#)

- Pg. 18 - Bastrop ISD school bus overhaul: What you need to know
- Pg. 29 - New and Returning Student Registration Ad
- KVUE: [Construction underway on Bastrop ISD's new police, operations building](#)
- Community Impact: [Bastrop ISD trustee election nears; one seat contested](#)

Community Relations: Karen Trevino

Bastrop Education Foundation

- BEF grant patrol took place on April 3, 2025. Forty eight grants totaling just over \$250,000 were awarded at 14 campuses and the service center.

Summer STARS and CDC

- Enrollment for summer opened on March 24th. We expect Mina STARS to host 100 children, Emile STARS to host 80 children, Cedar Creek STARS to host 60 children, and Emile CDC to host 40 children. Within the first week, registration reached capacity at both Mina and Emile STARS.
- We will be offering an option for BISD staff children to attend only PD week (August 4-8) of summer STARS. This has been something that's been requested in the past, but we were unable to accommodate due to staffing until now. This will be a tremendous benefit to BISD staff.

Community Education

- Summer Hoopstars enrollment opened on March 24th. We have 111 children signed up as of early April. The Austin Spurs will provide jerseys for all players again this season.
- Our new Friday night care programs, STARS at Night and Twinkles at Night, began on April 11th at Emile Elementary. The program provides a safe and affordable evening care option for families. Children may attend from the end of the school day program until 10:00 pm. The cost is \$20 for the first child and \$15 for each additional child in the family.
- Summer driver's education will be taking place at Cedar Creek High School starting June 2nd. This is a continuation of the program that was held in the spring at CRCA.

Community Events

- The Community Relations department represented Bastrop ISD at the Fatherhood Summit and a Bastrop County Cares community baby shower in March.
- April events include a community baby shower in LBA (April 3rd), Movies in the Park (April 5th) and Springfest hosted by the Children's Advocacy Center (April 12th).
- The community education team is working to secure booth space at several spring events in Bastrop and surrounding areas in a partnership with SHAC to raise awareness about pediatric trauma-related brain injury. This is a part of the Toyota Way Forward TBI grant partnership.
- We are in the early planning stages for the Back to School Bash.

Construction & Planning: Lee Raspberry

- **BHS - PROJECT ON TIME - Design Development phase - Construction 0% Complete** - additions package due 4/17 - 100% bid set, site work bid 3/12, sitework permit ongoing, main building bid set issued 4/18, additions building permit go in 4/21, CD docs for additions 4/18.
- **BMS/CCMS Weight Rooms - COMPLETE**- Store front and security fencing installed.
- **BIS/CCIS Conversion - PROJECT ON TIME - Renovations 65% Complete** - pond retaining walls ongoing, MEP/Fire overhead ongoing, RTU's to be set 4/15, corridor painting ongoing, interior wall framing complete and drywall beginning.
- **Additions - 50% Complete** - Gym building pads complete and steel erected, Fine Arts building CMU walls ongoing, south parking lot curb & gutter complete, new storm line complete, new sanitary sewer complete, new retention ponds complete, rock retaining walls in progress

- **PD/Ops Center - Construction 15% Complete** - all local permits issued, parking lot fill ongoing, spread footings and grade beams poured, PEMB steel delivered, R.O.W. domestic water line potholed and ready to begin connection, elevator pit floor poured, pre-con with City of Bastrop for water 4/7.
- **Adelton Elementary - PROJECT ON TIME - Construction 65% Complete** - Permanent power delivered by BEC, water meter installed, first lift of parking and drive asphalt on 4/12, fiber/phone service 4/15, Centerpoint to install gas service 4/18, retaining walls complete minus north section, kitchen wall tile complete, roofing complete, HVAC units set, music & dining room glass underway, Area B (classroom) sheetrock complete.
- **BMS/CCMS Renovation - PROJECT ON TIME - Construction 18% Complete** - steel erection starting 4/7, exterior CMU underway, athletic field subcontractor mobilizing, waterproofing at exterior walls ongoing.
- **CCHS Additions - PROJECT ON TIME - Construction 28% Complete** - structural steel columns complete, joists & beams 95%, stairs 75%, begin polished concrete 4/15, 2nd floor decking 4/7, exterior framing 4/7, summer work schedule approved and shared with campus.
- **Gateway Renovation and CRCA/Genesis Renovation - PROJECT ON TIME - Construction 0% Complete** - In design.
- **Mina Elementary Reno Phase 2 - PROJECT ON TIME - Construction 9% Complete** - building pad blue topped, concrete and plumber mobilized 4/7.
- **ES #10 - Construction 0% Complete** - Design in SD phase, awaiting input from developer on site acquisition and secondary access approval via Tucker Hill Ln.
- **Transportation Portable Building at Memorial Stadium** - pre-owned building acquired, scheduled to move to site early May, working on septic design and electrical bids.

Human Resources: Diana Greene

Recruitment/Staffing

- The HR Department has been actively preparing for the 2025-26 school year, with hiring efforts underway. This process includes external recruitment and internal staffing adjustments, such as transferring employees to meet the needs of our campuses and employees. These transitions are progressing smoothly.
- We continue collaborating closely with campus principals through 1:1 meetings to discuss District of Innovation (DOI) updates, contracts, and staffing plans for the upcoming year. These conversations ensure alignment and strategic planning for each campus.
- Job fair season is in full swing. Our team is focused on attracting top talent to join our district. We also work closely with Service Center staff to assess and address staffing needs across all levels for the next school year.

Stay Interviews

- We are now over halfway through our Stay Interviews with current staff and have gathered valuable feedback regarding employee satisfaction, workplace culture, and areas for improvement. The insights we've received so far have been constructive, and we plan to provide a summary of key findings and potential action steps in the near future.

Information Technology: Randy Sharp

Operations

- **Phone Updates/Replacements:** Phones were updated or replaced at several locations (BES, CCE,

- EES, LPE, BHS, and RRE) as part of the upgrades we are making with our communications systems.
- **Cell Dialer for 911:** Installed new cell dialer at BHS to replace cut copper lines at BHS. This installation provides a backup or alternative system for emergency 911 calls ensuring reliability even if traditional phone lines are disrupted.
 - The BISD Information Technology Monthly Summary for March highlights the department's continued efforts in managing technology support across the district. In March, a total of 1,540 tickets were assigned, with 1,381 tickets resolved. This represents a high completion rate, though some tickets extended beyond the Service Level Agreement (SLA) timeframe. Tickets related to Inventory (560) and Operations (495) generated the largest share. Despite the high workload, over 85% of incidents and service requests were resolved within the SLA, ensuring timely support for students and staff. The department remains committed to enhancing efficiency, reducing SLA violations, and ensuring seamless technology operations throughout the district. [Click here to see the report for March](#)

Applications

- **Touchscreen TV Updates:** All touch screen TVs in the district were updated with the latest firmware to ensure they operate smoothly and have access to the newest features and security improvements.
- **VISIX Player Updates:** All VISIX players were updated to the latest 1.87 software upgrade. VISIX players are used for digital signage or media distribution within the district, and this update ensures they function optimally.
- **Device Mapping:** All Visix players, TVs, and additional TVs were mapped for ease of identification, location, and status to make it easier to manage them, know where they are located, and monitor their operational status.
- **Knowledge Base Updates:** Over 25 Knowledge Base articles were updated for client and IT reference. The Knowledge Base is a collection of informational documents that help users and IT staff resolve common issues or learn how to use systems, and these updates ensure the information is current and accurate.
- **CLI Engage and MyPath Access Resolution:** Access issues for CLI Engage and MyPath were troubleshoot and resolved.
- **Skyward Addendum Update:** The latest addendum update was implemented across both student and employee environments in Skyward.

Infrastructure

- Network Infrastructure
 - **Classroom Monitoring System:** Cameras and microphones were installed in two special ED classes at BMS and three rooms at BHS to enhance classroom oversight and security, potentially for behavioral monitoring or student safety.
 - **Projector Upgrades:** New projector cabling and input/output panels were installed at CCM and BIS to improve audio-visual capabilities and the user experience for presentations.
 - **Avigilon Server Access:** Secure access to the Avigilon server was maintained for BPD and campus administrators to ensure that authorized personnel can access critical surveillance footage.
- Server Infrastructure
 - **DevOps/Testing Environment:** The bisdtx.net domain was planned and configured for a separate DevOps/testing environment. This creates a dedicated space for software development and testing, separate from the live production environment. Domain controller setup and additional infrastructure servers were created for support. This provides the necessary server resources to support the testing environment.
 - **Group Policy Cleanup:** Group Policies were cleaned up, using production as a guide and standard. Group Policies are rules that control the behavior of computers and users on a network, and this cleanup ensures they are organized and efficient. Newly imaged Windows 11 was tested for group policy accuracy. This verifies that the policies are being applied correctly to new computers.

- **Cyber Security**
 - **Content Keeper Load Balancer Resolution:** An issue with the Content Keeper Load Balancer was resolved. Content Keeper is a web filtering and security tool, and this resolution ensures it is functioning properly.
 - **Solarwinds Monitoring System Improvement:** Continued improvement was made on the Solarwinds monitoring system. Solarwinds is a network monitoring platform, and this ongoing improvement enhances the ability to monitor network performance and security.
 - **Off-Domain Bitdefender Policy:** An off-domain Bitdefender policy was created. Bitdefender is an antivirus solution, and this policy allows computers outside the school network to be protected.
 - **Email Security Enhancement Discussion:** A meeting was held with a Google engineer to discuss potential security enhancements to the email system and routing. This indicates a proactive approach to improving email security.
 - The Mimecast Executive Summary for March highlights the district's ongoing efforts to safeguard email communications against cyber threats. In March, the system processed 803,431 inbound emails, blocking 32,890 due to security risks such as phishing, malware, and impersonation attempts. URL protection scanned 33,347 links, with 1 in 521 links identified as potentially dangerous. Additionally, the attachment security system reviewed 32,270 files, ensuring that no unsafe attachments reached users. The impersonation protection system detected 1,018 threats, preventing email-based fraud attempts. Overall, the district's email security measures continue to be effective in blocking harmful messages and protecting staff and students from cyber risks. [Click here to see the Mimecast report for March](#)
 - The Bitdefender Executive Summary for March provides an overview of cybersecurity activity and the health of Bastrop ISD's managed devices. The district had around 1,500 active devices being monitored. During this period, 213 threats were blocked, which is a 65% decrease from the previous month—indicating a quieter month in terms of cyber threats. The most common threats detected were web malware, phishing attempts, potentially harmful applications, and viruses. All threats were found on workstations, with none reported on servers. Over 77% of the threats were automatically blocked, while the rest were deleted by the system. Security tools across all devices remained active, with protections like antivirus, firewalls, and advanced threat detection running as expected. The report also shows that 72% of devices had findings, such as app vulnerabilities or identity risks, but these are being actively managed. In short, the district's cybersecurity defenses are working effectively, and while threats still exist, the system is doing a strong job of detecting and stopping them before they cause harm. [Click here to see the BitDefender report for March](#)
 - Our Content Filtering System saw significant online activity, though the specific volume varied across the provided reports, the combined data reveals significant levels of network activity and security events. In total, there were over 2 billion online transactions (2,039.07 million). Security systems collectively blocked access attempts to websites 167 million times, and flagged policy-violating application usage over 12 million times (12.442 million). The systems also blocked access to websites, with a total of 166.98 million blocked sites. There were over 4,500 instances (4,524) of unusual user behavior that triggered alerts, and attempts to circumvent security measures totaled over 53,000 (53,529). Violations of search term policies were also recorded, totaling over 8,500 (8,514). These numbers indicate that our security systems are actively working to monitor network activity, block potentially harmful or inappropriate content and actions, and generate alerts for review, thus contributing to the safety and security of our users online. [Click here to see the ContentKeeper report for March](#)
- **Unified Communications**
 - **Webex Upgrades:** Webex upgrades were completed at BES, CCE, EES, LPE, BHS, and RRE.
 - **E911 for Red Sky:** Work was done on MAC address information for e911 for Red Sky. Red

Sky is an emergency location information service, and this work ensures accurate location data is provided during 911 calls.

Student Services: Dr. Janel Morris

Health Services

- SHAC held its final 2024-25 meeting on April 1, 2025. The BISD Wellness Plan, developed by the child nutrition and student health services committee, was presented and unanimously approved by a quorum of voting membership for adoption and implementation in the 2025-26 school year. Elections were held for a new SHAC secretary and Mrs. Jennifer Blum, MES counselor, was elected by majority decision.
- BIS and CCIS saw amazing turnout during the April 8, 2025 vaccine clinics conducted on campus. This event helps families get ahead of the state Tdap and meningitis immunization requirements for students entering 7th grade. Vaccines were provided free of charge to all students who presented verification of current, active health insurance or \$10 per immunization for those without insurance.
- More than 100 BISD students in Grades 7-12 voluntarily attended "Stop the Bleed" training at BHS on April 3, 2025. This course satisfies the HB 496 requirement that all schools maintain fully-stocked bleed control kits on campus and offer training to staff and students who could assist in life-saving operations in the event of a campus emergency. This training session was conducted as a collaborative effort by the BISD student health, BISD school safety and security, BISD police department, and Ally Medical teams.

Student Services

- The Family Resource Center staff provided transportation for approximately 25 CCHS students on Saturday, April 12, 2025 to attend PROMRack in Austin. These young women were able to select a gown, shoes, and jewelry of their choice, at no cost, to attend this once-in-a-lifetime event in style.

Transfers

- A total of 477 campus transfer requests were submitted for the 2025-26 school year. Families will be notified whether their request is approved or denied by April 30, 2025.