

Killeen Independent School District

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, Regular Meeting September 23, 2025, at 5 p.m. in the Killeen ISD Boardroom

Board Members Present

- Brett E. Williams, President
- Brenda Adams, Secretary
- Tina Capito, Member
- Rodney Gilchrist, Member
- Marvin Rainwater, Member
- Oliver Mintz, Member (joined during closed session at 5:12 p.m.)

Board Members Absent: Susan M. Jones, Vice President

Quorum: Established

Call to Order

The meeting of the Killeen Independent School District Board of Trustees was called to order by President Brett E. Williams at 5 p.m.

The meeting was recorded and streamed publicly.

Agenda Item 2: Public Forum

2A. Parental Comment on Clear Backpack Policy

Speaker: Phillip Buckler

Mr. Buckler objected to the district's clear backpack policy, comparing it to intrusive mask mandates, and proposed an exemption process for students without disciplinary issues.

2B. Library Services Leadership Request

Speaker: Laura Gregory

Ms. Gregory, a district librarian, urged the Board to establish a certified district-level Library Coordinator to improve compliance, reduce inefficiencies, and strengthen program support. Ms. Gregory also mentioned that we should have used the free features in Destiny instead of Bookshelf.

Agenda Item 3: Closed Session

The Board entered closed session at **5:10 p.m.** for:

- **Personnel matters** (Texas Government Code 551.074).
- **Consultation regarding educator misconduct reporting** (Texas Government Code 551.071).

At **5:12 p.m.**, Trustee **Oliver Mintz** joined the meeting in closed session.

No action was taken in closed session.

Return from Closed Session

The Board reconvened in open session at **6:00 p.m.** in accordance with the posted agenda.

Invocation and Pledges

Invocation was offered by Trustee Marvin Rainwater.

Pledges of Allegiance were led by students Sydni Escobedo and Jonah Reesman from Saegert Elementary.

Agenda Item 1: Honors and Recognition

- **District Academic Honors**

Presenter: Dr. Susan Buckley (on behalf of Karen Rudolph)

Over 80 students were honored for outstanding achievement, including College Board National Recognition Program recipients across six high schools. Students recognized represented multiple categories, including first-generation and rural/small-town distinctions.

Chaparral High School:

Tolulope Abudu, Abigail Cruz, Grace Davila, Alana Green, Jaida Johnson, Zoraya Lazo-Nieves, Kayla Martinez, Erica Mikulec-Dalzell, Oshanna Valentine, Devin Williamson

Early College High School:

Elena Alcaraz, Dayanaris Aviles, Charlotte Borja, Haley Byrd, Tony Chen, Juan Diego Cossio, Danielle Ellis, Elizabeth Favela, Sayuri Fejeran, Luciano Figueroa, Arvin Gonfel, Sienna Gonzalez, Lara Gray, Keith Halton, Sasha Herberger, Juliana Jensen, Kaiyah King, Shane McMichael, Harmony Moralez, Earline Nixon, Thomas Pauley, Carina Pitre, Tristan Rehse, Tyson Salaiz, Erianys Sanchez Ortiz, Isabella Soto, Destiny Sullivan, Rose Torres Costas, Mairalynn Urena

Ellison High School:

Kristina Apiado, Hunter Emblen, Kelysha Linton, Garland Potvin, Belto Villasanta

Harker Heights High School:

Kendra Catlin, Evelyn Counihan, Montserrat Hernandez Martinez, Alexander Kim, Mervin Jayden Narito, Kaden Nguyen, Juan Orduna, Hannah Thompson, Nanami Threadgill, Israel Valdes-Munoz, Caroline Vanderburg, Rachel Yancey

Killeen High School:

Jake Kilpatrick, Malakai Thornton

Shoemaker High School:

Tyller Harris, Jaida Holliman, Kellen McInelly, Charles Rodriguez Caraballo,

- **Lone Star FFA Degree Recipients**

Students earning the Lone Star FFA Degree were celebrated for leadership, community service, and agricultural education achievements. Beautiful Robinson-Thompson, Emily North, Jocelyn Martinez, Veronika Irizarry.

- **Warrior Award Recognition**

Officer Cary Spate of KISD Police was honored as a 2025 Warrior Award recipient by the Texas Municipal Police Association for lifesaving action during a 2024 incident at the Killeen Mall.

- **Region 12 Outstanding Principal of the Year**

Dr. Janelle Muhammad, principal of Rancier Middle School, was recognized for her leadership and campus turnaround work, making her eligible for Texas Principal of the Year consideration.

- **Attendance Awareness Month**

Executive Director Iris Felder and district attendance officers were recognized for efforts to promote consistent student attendance and engagement. Iris Felder, Katina Bowers, Victoria Mintz, Roberta Wilson, Anthony Barr, Todd Gawryszewski, Reginald Perry, Jason Gray.

- **IT Professionals Day**

District IT staff were honored for their critical role in maintaining secure, effective technology infrastructure supporting classrooms and district operations. Dr. Nicole Koch, James Rawls, Juan Rivera-Andaluz, Dean Murphy, Taresa Moosman.

Public Forum

No members of the public signed up to speak during the forum.

Agenda Item 4: Consent Agenda

4A. Approval of Minutes from the September 9, 2025, Meeting

Trustees approved the official minutes from the prior meeting, ensuring accuracy of the public record.

4B. Adoption of System Scorecard Priorities and District Goals

The Board adopted districtwide priorities and goals as part of the system scorecard. Discussion emphasized alignment with long-term strategic planning and accountability.

- **Motion:** Brenda Adams
 - **Second:** Rodney Gilchrist
 - **Vote:** 6–0–0–1
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Brenda Adams, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist, Marvin Rainwater, Oliver Mintz
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** Susan M. Jones
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President Brett E. Williams called for Agenda item 6B

6B. Texas Education Agency Requirement to Develop and Implement Campus Turnaround Plans

Presenter: Dr. Terri Osborne

Dr. Osborne presented a detailed overview of the turnaround plan requirements for Manor, Palo Alto, and Eastern Hills Middle Schools. She explained that each campus triggered the state mandate after multiple years of unacceptable ratings, necessitating a three-year comprehensive plan. The presentation described the Effective Schools Framework and the

role of district and campus collaboration in addressing persistent underperformance. Trustees asked questions about accountability cut scores, community involvement, and the differences between targeted improvement and turnaround plans. Discussion also included restructuring options such as ACE programs or 1882 partnerships, and the potential long-term implications for district governance if improvement benchmarks are not met.

This item is for information.

President Brett E. Williams called for Agenda item #5

Agenda Item 5: Action Items for Consideration

5A. Cooperative Agreement with Advent Health for School Behavioral Health Centers (2025–2026)

Presenter: Dr. Jo-Lynette Crayton

Trustees reviewed a proposed agreement with Advent Health to expand school-based behavioral health centers. Discussion emphasized improving access to mental health care for students and ensuring alignment with existing counseling supports. Trustees moved to approve the cooperative agreement with Advent Health for School Behavioral Health Centers for the 2025-2026 School Year.

☐ **Motion:** Brenda Adams

☐ **Second:** Oliver Mintz

☐ **Vote:** 6–0–0–1

- **For:** Brett E. Williams, Brenda Adams, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist, Marvin Rainwater, Oliver Mintz
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** Susan M. Jones
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5B. Commercial Real Estate Brokerage Services Rank Order

Presenter: Adam Rich

The Board considered ranking brokerage firms to provide real estate services for district facilities. Trustees stressed the need for vendor expertise and alignment with district growth and facility priorities. Trustees moved to approve the real estate brokerage services rank order.

☐ **Motion:** Oliver Mintz

☐ **Second:** Rodney Gilchrist

☐ **Vote:** 6–0–0–1

- **For:** Brett E. Williams, Brenda Adams, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist, Marvin Rainwater, Oliver Mintz
- **Against:** None
- **Abstained:** None
- **Absent:** Susan M. Jones

5C. Resolution to Nominate Candidates for the Board of Directors of the Bell County Tax Appraisal District (2026)

Presenter: Kallen Vaden

Trustees discussed the resolution process for nominating candidates to the county appraisal district. Mr. Mintz confirmed that he is interested in being nominated as candidate for the Board of Directors of the Bell County Tax Appraisal District (2026). Trustees moved to approve the resolution.

☐ **Motion:** Tina Capito

☐ **Second:** Rodney Gilchrist

☐ **Vote:** 6–0–0–1

- **For:** Brett E. Williams, Brenda Adams, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist, Marvin Rainwater, Oliver Mintz
- **Against:** None
- **Abstained:** None
- **Absent:** Susan M. Jones

5D. Memorandum of Understanding with Bell County JJAEP

Presenter: Micah Wells

Trustees considered renewal of the memorandum of understanding with the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program. The discussion highlighted the importance of continuing support for referred students while maintaining compliance with state law. Trustees moved to approve the memorandum of understanding with the Juvenile Alternative Education Program.

☐ **Motion:** Brenda Adams

☐ **Second:** Tina Capito

☐ **Vote:** 6–0–0–1

- **For:** Brett E. Williams, Brenda Adams, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist, Marvin Rainwater, Oliver Mintz
- **Against:** None
- **Abstained:** None
- **Absent:** Susan M. Jones

Agenda Item 6: Information Items for Discussion

6A. System Scorecard Priority 1: Student Success

Presenter: Dr. Terri Osborne

Dr. Osborne provided a comprehensive review of the district's student success goals under the system scorecard. She highlighted the ongoing tracking of student performance measures, including academic growth, graduation readiness, and college/career pathways. Trustees emphasized the importance of consistent monitoring and accountability across campuses. They also asked for clearer timelines on performance reporting to ensure progress can be evaluated regularly. Discussion reflected strong board interest in aligning student success metrics with district priorities and community expectations.

This item is for information.

6C. Future Board Meeting Agendas and Trustee Remarks

Presenter: Trustees

Trustees engaged in a forward-looking discussion regarding upcoming board meetings, governance training, and Lone Star Governance sessions. Several members emphasized the need for better alignment between administrative planning and trustee expectations to ensure efficiency and consistency in decision-making. Concerns were raised about uneven enforcement of policies across campuses, particularly around student attendance and behavioral guidelines. Trustees also noted the importance of stronger communication with families and staff to build trust and clarity on district initiatives. These remarks will inform adjustments to future agendas and guide administrative priorities moving forward.

This item is for information.

Agenda Item 7: Closed Session

The Board entered closed session at **8:33 pm** pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071, 551.074, and 551.0821.

7A. Attorney consultation regarding pending or contemplated litigation and student information, including settlement agreements related to TEA Docket Numbers 280-SE-0525 and 075-DM-0425 (Texas Government Code 551.071, 551.0821).

The Board consulted with counsel regarding proposed settlement agreements involving TEA Docket Numbers 280-SE-0525 and 075-DM-0425. Trustees discussed potential delegation of authority to the Interim Superintendent to execute final agreements on behalf of the district.

7B. Superintendent Search Process

Trustees were scheduled to review the duties of the Superintendent search process under Section 551.074. This item was posted but not discussed.

7C. Duties of Interim Superintendent

Trustees were scheduled to review the duties of the interim superintendent under Section 551.074. This item was posted but not discussed.

7D. Attorney Consultation Regarding Legislative Update

The Board consulted with legal counsel regarding the legislative update from the 89th Texas Legislative Session as authorized under Section 551.071.

7E. Consultation Regarding Educator Misconduct Reporting

Trustees met with legal counsel to review Texas Education Agency guidance on reporting educator misconduct under Section 551.071. This item was moved to the closed session at the beginning of the meeting.

No action was taken in closed session.

The Board reconvened in open session at **11:02 p.m.** following the closed session.

Agenda Item 8: Consideration of Action Following Closed Session

The Board considered proposed settlement agreements related to Texas Education Agency Docket Numbers 280-SE-0525 and 075-DM-0425. Trustees discussed possible delegation of authority to the Interim Superintendent to execute the agreements.

As a result of discussion in closed session Mr. Mintz moved to approve the proposed settlement agreements for Texas Education Agency docket number 280-SE-052 and Texas Education Agency docket number 075-DM-0425 and authorized the Interim Superintendent to execute all necessary documents on behalf of the District.

- **Motion:** Oliver Mintz
 - **Second:** Tina Capito
 - **Vote:** 6-0-0-1
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Brenda Adams, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist, Marvin Rainwater, Oliver Mintz
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** Susan M. Jones
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Agenda Item 9: Adjournment

- **Motion:** Tina Capito
- **Second:** Brenda Adams
- **Vote:** 6-0-0-1
 - **For:** Brett E. Williams, Brenda Adams, Tina Capito, Rodney Gilchrist, Marvin Rainwater, Oliver Mintz
 - **Against:** None
 - **Abstained:** None
 - **Absent:** Susan M. Jones

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at **11:04 p.m.**

Signatures

Brett E. Williams
Board President

Brenda Adams
Board Secretary
