

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AGENDA**

<input type="checkbox"/> Workshop	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Special
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(A) REPORT ONLY RECOGNITION

**Presenter(s): Rolando Salinas, Deputy Superintendent for District Operations
Manuel Reyes III, Transportation Director**

Briefly describe the subject of the report or recognition presentation.

(B) Action Item

Presenter(s):

Briefly describe the action required.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING SEAT BELTS ON BUSES
PURSUANT TO TEXAS SENATE BILL 693.**


(C) **Funding Source: Identify the source of funds if any are required.**

(D) **Clarification: Explain any question or issues that might be raised regarding this item.**



MEMORANDUM

TO: Gilberto Gonzalez, Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Rolando Salinas, Deputy Superintendent for District Operations 

DATE: December 20, 2017

SUBJECT: Agenda Item – Seat Belts

Attached please find agenda item that will be presented on upcoming Board Meeting on Tuesday, January 16, 2018.

Senate Bill 93: Signed by Governor Abbott in June 2017, Texas requires that three-point seat belts be in school buses that are model year 2018 or later, including buses chartered by school district and used for events and other functions. The measure does not require that older buses be retrofitted with the restraints, and districts that cannot afford seat belts can opt out of the requirement if they hold a public meeting with a vote.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

RS/ggf



EAGLE PASS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Memorandum

To: Gilberto Gonzalez, Superintendent of Schools

From: Manuel Reyes III, Transportation Director

Re: Senate Bill 693 (Seatbelts on School Buses)

Date: 01-09-2018

Senate Bill 693: Signed by Governor Abbott in June 2017, Texas requires that three-point seat belts be in school buses that are model year 2018 or later, including buses chartered by school districts and used for events and other functions. The measure does not require that older buses be retrofitted with the restraints, and districts that cannot afford seat belts can opt out of the requirement if they hold a public meeting with a vote.

This is some information I have gathered concerning the importance of not having seatbelts on school buses.

- First seatbelt training for all school bus drivers and monitors.
- Second who will the liability fall if someone is told to wear the seatbelts and they take them off.
- Third the Pre and Post inspection will add time to the drivers daily route because the seatbelts have to be inspected on a daily basis and before and after each route. Keep in mind 28 school buses have a noon route also.
- Fourth in case of an evacuation, fire or an accident the students panic (especially younger students) and this can cause more injuries and then will become a liability issue to the school.

This are some of the issues that we have to concern ourselves with.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at the following:

Manuel Reyes III
Transportation Director
(830) 773-3725 (work)
(830) 776-6724 (cell)

XC: Ismael Mijares, Deputy Superintendent for Business and Finance
Luis Velez, Purchasing Director

Approved by: Rolando Salinas, Deputy Superintendent for District Operations

1420 EIDSON ROAD • EAGLE PASS, TEXAS 78852 • TEL (830) 773-5181 • WWW.EAGLEPASSISD.NET



Griselda Fernandez <gfernandez@eaglepassisd.net>

Fwd: Seat Belt Agenda Item

Manuel Reyes III <dareofficermriii@eaglepassisd.net>

Wed, Dec 20, 2017 at 10:48 AM

To: Rolando Salinas <rsalinas3@eaglepassisd.net>, "Griselda G. Fernandez" <gfernandez@eaglepassisd.net>

I was advised to use this action item to place on the Eagle Pass ISD School Board agenda for the upcoming School Board Meeting.

Thank you,
Manuel Reyes III

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Luis Velez** <lvelez@eaglepassisd.net>
Date: Wed, Dec 20, 2017 at 10:42 AM
Subject: Fwd: Seat Belt Agenda Item
To: Manuel Reyes III <dareofficermriii@eaglepassisd.net>
Cc: Pamela De Leon <pdeleon@eaglepassisd.net>

Mr. Reyes,

FYI

LUIS VELEZ
PURCHASING DIRECTOR
EAGLE PASS I.S.D. - 1420 EIDSON ROAD, EAGLE PASS TX 78852
PHONE: 830-773-5181 EXT 1062
FAX: 830-773-8845
EMAIL: LVELEZ@EAGLEPASSISD.NET

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Richard Strieber** <rstriber@escamillaponeck.com>
Date: Wed, Dec 20, 2017 at 10:32 AM
Subject: Seat Belt Agenda Item
To: "lvelez@eaglepassisd.net" <lvelez@eaglepassisd.net>
Cc: "imijares@eaglepassisd.net" <imijares@eaglepassisd.net>, Cheryl Allen <callen@escamillaponeck.com>

Luis

In the event an agenda item is needed before the holidays , I went ahead and drafted one. See below.

Richard

Action Item

"Consideration and possible action regarding seat belts on buses pursuant to Texas Senate Bill 693"

Richard A. Strieber
Partner
Escamilla & Poneck, LLP
700 N. St. Mary's, Suite 850
San Antonio, Texas 78205
Direct (210) 503-4117
Cell (210) 818-8877
Fax (210) 225-0041
RStrieber@escamillaponeck.com

Sent from My I-Phone

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Manuel Reyes III <dareofficermrii@eaglepassisd.net>

Fwd: Seat Belt Agenda Item

Luis Velez <lvelez@eaglepassisd.net>
To: Manuel Reyes III <dareofficermrii@eaglepassisd.net>
Cc: Ismael Mijares <imijares@eaglepassisd.net>, Richard Strieber <rstrieber@escamillaponeck.com>

Mon, Jan 8, 2018 at 10:57 AM

Mr. Reyes,

Please see email below from Mr. Strieber.

Thank you.

LUIS VELEZ
PURCHASING DIRECTOR
EAGLE PASS I.S.D. - 1420 EIDSON ROAD, EAGLE PASS TX 78852
PHONE: 830-773-5181 EXT 1062
FAX: 830-773-8845
EMAIL: LVELEZ@EAGLEPASSISD.NET

----- Forwarded message -----
From: Richard Strieber <rstrieber@escamillaponeck.com>
Date: Mon, Jan 8, 2018 at 10:37 AM
Subject: Re: Seat Belt Agenda Item
To: Luis Velez <lvelez@eaglepassisd.net>
Cc: Cheryl Allen <callen@escamillaponeck.com>

Luis

I sent an agenda item before the holidays. It is in the email below. I do not see a requirement for a hearing. Mr. Reyes has some back up material. The requirement for seat belts on buses is an unfunded mandate from the state. The Board will need to determine in an open session vote that the funds for equipping new buses with seat belts are not available if the District wishes to avoid the requirement imposed by the legislature. I believe that a major factor according to Mr. Reyes is that the seatbelts lessen the number of students that can be carried on a bus thus possibly requiring the purchase of additional buses. Once Mr. Reyes has the proposed back up material for the agenda item I am happy to review it. A vote by the Board will apply to the current fiscal year.

Best regards;

Richard

Richard A. Strieber
Partner
Escamilla & Poneck, LLP

1/8/2018

Eagle Pass Independent School District Mail - Fwd: Seat Belt Agenda Item

700 N. St. Mary's, Suite 850
San Antonio, Texas 78205
Direct (210) 503-4117
Cell (210) 818-8877
Fax (210) 225-0041
RStrieber@escamillaponeck.com

Sent from My I-Phone

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