



BELLVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

518 SOUTH MATHEWS STREET | BELLVILLE, TX | 77418 | PH: (979) 865-3133 | WWW.BELLVILLEISD.ORG

BISD BOARD MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 14, 2025

AGENDA REVIEW MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Board President Sarah Buenger at 5:32pm with all board members in attendance with the exception of Heather Novicke.

2. Invocation will occur at the Regular Board Meeting

3. Pledge of Allegiance will occur at the Regular Board Meeting

4. OPEN FORUM/COMMUNICATIONS

There were no open forum public comments.

5. PRESENTATIONS & RECOGNITIONS

A. Department Spotlight: The BISD Auxiliary Departments were spotlighted at the Agenda Review Meeting featuring:

- JD Higginbotham, Director of Maintenance spotlighting the amazing job of his custodial team members and San Juana Rubacabla's leadership in helping BISD's custodial team stay staffed through her recruitment and support efforts; And noted how San Juana and Priscilla demonstrate "The Bellville Way" in cultivating a positive team environment with training and support;
- Alyssa Werner, Director of Child Nutrition and managers from each campus team and introducing Rebecca Jamar, a Bellville Alumni, who joined the team as the Assistant to the Director for Food Service. The Food Service team provided a sample meal to Board and audience members and noted the work of the food service team in the numbers of meals served and favorite items;
- Dena Weaver, Director of Transportation, shared insights into the transportation team, relaying that the team has added five additional drivers and added aides to fill each route and shared that there are team members who share across departments such as food service team members who also serve as bus aides in the afternoons when needed. Ms. Weaver shared that the team's participation in the Austin County Fair resulted in a first place award; shared some of the team celebrations that occur; shared "Betty the Bus" for bus safety training; the team's participation in the FRSLN Day; shared the team's Wall of Fame; and shared insights into the new bus wash station.

B. Campus Spotlight: The West End campus spotlight will occur at the Regular Board Meeting

6. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. GOAL 1: LEARNING was presented by Natalie Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Academics shared insights into the schedule for STAAR testing and an overview of test-prep efforts at each campus to elevate each students' performance; Ms. Jones also shared that the 2023 Accountability Ratings will be released in the coming two weeks. BISD's 2023 Academic Accountability Rating is projected to be a B; and shared updated CCMR Data noting increase in CCMR attainment levels after the most recent administrations of the TSIA Assessments. Ms. Buenger inquired about efforts underway to increase TSIA performance specifically in Math. Ms. Barrera and Ms. Jones shared the cadence of when students take the test and training coming up in the summer for math teachers specific to TSIA.

B. GOAL 2: LEADERSHIP

1. Financial report was presented by Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, Dennis Jurek at the Agenda Review Meeting noting that everything trending as expected, noting about a \$500,000 increase in



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expenditures this year compared to last as a result of no longer being awarded ESSER funds. Mr. Jurek also reviewed the projects being planned for expenditure through bond interest earnings and noted that a more in-depth review of year-end budget status will be shared at the Budget Workshop next week; noted the progress of investment accounts, and an overview of what to expect at the Budget Workshop next week.

2. A Capital Improvement Update was presented by Dr. Michael Coopersmith, Chief Operations Officer at the Agenda Review Meeting noting progress on the new BJHS Campus and reviewing the layout of the building; also noting that softball parking will be completed this summer; and noted that an update on HVAC controls under the new system will be shared next week. Dr. Coopersmith also noted the list of each of the new roofs that have now been replaced in response to last year's hailstorm at BJHS, Learning Center, OBP, and Admin. Dr. Coopersmith also noted that the newer parts of West End that were constructed in 2006 have not been replaced since construction. Dr. Coopersmith noted that pursuit of cost options for three different configurations is underway and will be brought to the Board in May/June. Dr. Coopersmith also noted that the tennis courts that were damaged in the hail storm will be resurfaced.
3. Dr. Coopersmith shared findings from the recent security audit at BJHS noting that the mock "intruder" was able to get in through the cafeteria delivery door with a delivery worker. The intruder was immediately caught in the kitchen and the company that was delivering products was contacted to remind them of the district's expectations related to doors remaining locked when a delivery driver is coming to/from the building.
4. A report on the Vision, Strategic Action Plan was presented by Dr. Nicole Poenitzsch, Superintendent, at the Agenda Review Meeting noting upcoming efforts to plan for leadership initiatives for the 2025-2026 school year.

C. GOAL 3: CULTURE -Dr. Poenitzsch, Superintendent, provided a culture report at the Agenda Review Meeting noting open positions, efforts planned for development next year, and summative data to be presented to the Board in August from Exit, Stay, and Entry Interviews.

D. GOAL 4: COMMUNITY-Dr. Poenitzsch Superintendent provided a report at the Agenda Review Meeting noting efforts for continued community engagement in the form of events for the 2024-2025 school year and plans for recruitment for committees for the 2025-2026 school year.

7. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The following items were discussed for consideration at the Regular Board Meeting

- A. Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on March 27, 2025
- B. Minutes from the Board Walk on April 11, 2025
- C. Budget Amendments and Donations: Mr. Jurek noted donations from:
 - a \$5,000 donation from the Will and Bailee Byler Foundation for the FFA Scotland Trip;
 - a \$2,500 donation from Austin County State Bank for the FFA Scotland Trip;
 - a \$1,000 donation from William and Bonnie Peschel for the FFA Scotland Trip

8. ACTION ITEMS

The following items were discussed for consideration at the Regular Board Meeting:

- A. Adoption of Instructional Materials through the 2024 IMRA and actions related to purchase; Ms. Jones expressed



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the process of reviewing materials and the rationale for the products selected with recommendation for adoption of the state provided Bluebonnet RLA and Math Curriculum; Mr. Stein asked to talk more in-depth about the content of the curriculum materials and will be meeting with Ms. Jones to review the materials directly; Ms. Jones noted that all costs related to the curriculum purchased included manipulatives, etc. will be able to be funded through the IMRA allotment

- B. Certification of Provision of Instructional Materials Survey for 2025-2026
- C. An OER Instructional Materials transition plan will be presented to the Board at the Regular Board Meeting
- D. Purchase of a fuel storage tank for transportation in the amount of \$12,269. BISD is not able to procure a free tank from a provider as it would require a sole-source agreement and the District is required to maintain an open bid process for fuel purchases. The district utilizes approximately 800 gallons of fuel every two weeks. Mr. Lischka asked why the current tank hasn't been cleaned. Mr. Jurek shared that the request for the tank is to increase the size, upgrade the ventilation to current code requirements, and provide a mechanism for multiple companies to be able to access and fuel the new tank. Mr. Lischka also asked if the tank was monitored so companies could automate sending fuel bids. Ms. Weaver noted that she received fuel bids on a daily basis and noted that the increase in the size and replacement of the rotted fuel skid will be beneficial for the District in both cost and safety moving forward. Upon approval, the tank should be in place in the summer of 2025. Ms. Weaver noted that the existing diesel tanks will be cleaned this summer as well- a cost that will be covered through the transportation budget. Ms. Weaver shared that the district uses approximately 7,500 gallons of diesel every month.
- E. An inter-local agreement for sale of a BISD Bus to Hempstead ISD if available by next week will be shared at the Regular Board Meeting

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board convened in closed session at 7:19pm with a motion by Grant Lischka, seconded by Jared Lischka, (Vote 6-0)

10. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened in open session at 8:01pm

- A. The board approved the Superintendent's recommendations for issuance of professional contracts with a motion by Kenneth Stein, seconded by Regina Gillum (Vote 5-0)

11. DISCUSSION ITEMS: BOARD REPORT

- A. A report on Board Training Hours will be shared at the Regular Board Meeting
- B. Discuss beautification of areas in need of repair at the Admin Building Park: specifically at this time the awning and benches at the entry area and plumbing repairs needed in the restroom area. The Board discussed preference for a non-profit organization to take on maintenance and/or costs, etc. Dr. Poenitzsch shared the possibility of reaching out to the EDC.
- C. Board Meeting Dates for 2025-2026

12. ADJOURN

The board adjourned at 8:01pm with a motion by Grant Lischka, seconded by Jared Lischka; (Vote 6-0).

BOARD APPROVAL OF MINUTES: APRIL 24, 2025



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BOARD PRESIDENT: SARAH BUENGER

BOARD SECRETARY: KENNETH STEIN