

The KISD Board of Trustees met in a regular session on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the KISD boardroom.

Members present:

Brett Williams, President  
Marvin Rainwater, Secretary  
Brenda Adams  
Oliver Mintz  
Tina Capito  
Rodney Gilchrist

Members absent: Susan Jones, Vice President

Also attending:

Dr. Jo Ann Fey, Superintendent  
Megan Bradley, Deputy Superintendent  
Dr. Terri Osborne, Deputy Superintendent  
William Baker, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Jo-Lynette Crayton, Assistant Superintendent  
Brenda King, Board Specialist  
Kristine Caparco, Fort Cavazos School Liaison Officer

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 11, 2025. Mr. Williams took a roll call of Board members, as indicated above. A quorum was established and in attendance, and the meeting was livestreamed and recorded. The invocation was led by Mr. Rainwater, and the pledges to the U.S. flag and Texas flag were led by students Haniel Aglee and Travis Thomas.

The Board recognized the following students selected for the Texas Music Educators Association All-State Choir and All-State Band:

HONORS AND  
RECOGNITION

Chaparral High School

**Reece Richardson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chair E-flat Clarinet in 5A Symphonic Band**

**Zachary Repine, Tenor 2 in Tenor-Bass Choir**

**Zane Conway, Alto 2 in Tenor-Bass Choir**

**Amani Mitchell, Alto 2 in Large School Mixed Choir**

**Gionni Calzado, Bass 2 in Large School Mixed Choir**

Ellison High School

**Callie Walker, Soprano 1 in Treble Choir**

Harker Heights High School

**Lucas Hostettler, Tenor 1 in Tenor-Bass Choir**

**Jasmine Brown, Alto 1 in Large School Mixed Choir**

**Benjamin Saban Contreras, Tenor 1 in Large School Mixed Choir**

**Jaedon Trevino, Tenor 1 in Large School Mixed Choir**

**Malik Dan, Bass 2 in Large School Mixed Choir**

The Board recognized the following school counseling teams for receiving the Counselors Reinforcing Excellence for Students in Texas (CREST) Award:

**Jaime Torres and Vaness Trejo**, Peebles Elementary School  
**Monique Turner and Elsie Velez**, Gateway High School  
**Tiffany Jackson and Megan Gilbert**, Iduma Elementary School  
**Wendy Perry and Maria Jackson**, Harker Heights High School

The Board recognized the **KISD Career & Technical Education Department** for being selected as a District of Distinction by the Career & Technical Association of Texas. The department was represented by Dr. Elizabeth Cunningham, KISD Career Center principal; and John Bridenstine, Career Center welding instructor.

Mr. Williams reviewed the procedures for public forum. As no one had signed up to speak, public forum was closed.

PUBLIC FORUM

Minutes for the January 14, 2025 regular meeting were considered. Mr. Gilchrist moved to approve the minutes, as written. Ms. Adams seconded the motion, which carried 5-0-1, with Mr. Rainwater abstaining and Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

MINUTES FOR 1-14-2025  
REGULAR MEETING

Minutes for the January 22, 2025 regular meeting were considered. Ms. Adams moved to approve the minutes, as written. Ms. Capito seconded the motion, which carried 4-0-2, with Mr. Rainwater and Mr. Mintz abstaining and Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

MINUTES FOR 1-22-2025  
REGULAR MEETING

Kallen Vaden, Chief Financial Officer; and Steve Smith, Executive Director for School Nutrition, proposed the resolution for school breakfast week in the district, with the theme *Clue In to School Breakfast*. Mr. Gilchrist moved to approve the proposed resolution to recognize March 3-7, 2025 as National School Breakfast Week in Killeen ISD, as presented. Ms. Capito seconded the motion, which carried 6-0, with Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

RESOLUTION FOR  
SCHOOL BREAKFAST  
WEEK IN KISD

Dr. Jo-Lynette Crayton, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction; and Morganne Davies, Director for Fine Arts, proposed the resolution for Arts in our Schools Month. Twelve students shared in reading the resolution. Ms. Capito moved to approve the proposed resolution recognizing March 2025 as Arts in our Schools Month in Killeen ISD, as presented. Ms. Adams seconded the motion, which carried 6-0, with Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

RESOLUTION FOR ARTS  
IN OUR SCHOOLS  
MONTH IN KISD

Dr. Susan Buckley, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, proposed the resolution for Athletic Training Month in the district. Mr. Mintz moved to approve the proposed resolution to recognize March 2025 as National Athletic Training Month in Killeen ISD, as presented. Ms. Capito seconded the motion, which carried 6-0, with Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

RESOLUTION FOR  
ATHLETIC TRAINING  
MONTH IN KISD

Dawn Sills, Director for Assessment & Accountability; Jennifer Warren, District Coordinator of School Improvement; and Central Hicks, Manor Middle School principal, presented the Targeted Improvement Plan, and reviewed school demographics, the designation process, and accountability measures, emphasizing academic achievement and growth indicators. They discussed the Effective Schools framework, academic performance matrix and targets, additional support to address instructional challenges, strategies to improve student performance, and challenges of a new principal in a high-needs campus. The importance of building a positive school culture and addressing the needs of at-risk students were highlighted. Per the Texas Education Code, Mr. Williams opened the floor to the public hearing. As no one had signed up to speak, the public hearing was closed. Mr. Gilchrist moved to approve the Manor Middle School Targeted Improvement Plan for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented. Ms. Adams seconded the motion, which carried 6-0, with Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

2024-25 MANOR MIDDLE  
SCHOOL TARGETED  
IMPROVEMENT PLAN  
AND PUBLIC HEARING

At 7:39 p.m., the Board convened in closed session for agenda item V-A, Discussion of Participation in Multi-District Litigation involving Youth Social Media Usage and Related Litigation and Entering into a Contingency Fee Contract with Thompson & Horton, LLP; Eiland & Bonnin, PC; and O’Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC, to represent the District, as allowed by Texas Government Code 551.071 and 551.129. At 8:00 p.m., the Board reconvened in the open meeting. No action or voting took place in closed session.

(CLOSED SESSION)  
DISCUSSION OF YOUTH  
SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE  
LITIGATION & ATTORNEY  
CONTINGENCY FEE  
CONTRACT (551.071,  
551.129)

As a result of discussions in closed session, Ms. Adams moved to adopt the resolution approving contingent fee legal services contract, including findings needed for submission of contingent fee legal services agreement and request for expedited review by the Texas Attorney General, as presented. Mr. Mintz seconded the motion, which carried 6-0, with Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

RESOLUTION FOR  
CONTINGENT FEE LEGAL  
SERVICES CONTRACT

As a result of discussions in closed session, Ms. Adams moved to approve the contingent fee legal services agreement with Thompson & Horton, LLP; Eiland & Bonnin, PC; and O’Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC, as presented. Ms. Capito seconded the motion, which carried 6-0, with Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

CONTINGENT FEE LEGAL  
SERVICES AGREEMENT

The district’s Teacher Incentive Allotment program has provided salary enhancements to over 425 teachers in the past four years. William Baker, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, shared the district’s plan to consult with Education Service Center 18 for assistance in data analysis, teacher evaluations, and securing additional grants to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of this program. They also assist with the application process to continue the program with the Texas Education Agency. The consultation will cost up to \$4,500 for three days at \$1,500 per day.

ESC 18 INTERLOCAL  
AGREEMENT FOR TIA  
CONSULTATION

Ms. Capito moved to approve the proposed interlocal agreement with Education Service Center Region 18 for consultation services regarding the administration of the Teacher Incentive Allotment through August 31, 2025, as presented. Mr. Gilchrist seconded the motion, which carried 5-1, with Mr. Rainwater abstaining and Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

Dr. Don Rowls, Executive Director for Transportation Services, recommended the purchase of two new diesel school buses. The district currently operates a fleet of 324 buses with an average age of 14 years, exceeding the district's goal of a ten-year service life. The proposal includes two 2025 model C2608 CE 54-passenger school buses with three wheelchair spaces for a cost of \$323,078 and \$800 BuyBoard Purchasing Cooperative fee. The purchase will be made from the general fund budget. Mr. Gilchrist moved to approve the proposal to purchase two diesel school buses from Longhorn Bus Sales, LLC, through the Texas BuyBoard Purchasing Cooperative, as presented. Ms. Capito seconded the motion, which carried 6-0, with Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

PURCHASE OF TWO 54-PASSENGER DIESEL SCHOOL BUSES

Kallen Vaden, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed that the Board awards endowed scholarships annually to graduating seniors. The Board also approves the number and dollar amount of scholarships from the Amanda Ware scholarship fund that is awarded by the head cross-country coach at Harker Heights High School each year. The scholarship rebalancing process occurs annually upon scholarship cash withdrawal as outlined in endowment procedures to allow additional revenue to grow the endowments. The original endowments total \$1,217,621. The value of the endowments as of December 31, 2024 was \$3,208,538. This recommendation does not cover the scholarships to be awarded from the Philanthropic Trust, which will be presented at a future meeting. Ms. Adams moved to approve the annual Board scholarships for Fall 2025 in the following numbers and dollar amounts: Parrie Haynes - 2 @ \$2,500 each (\$5,000); Franklin & Emily Pratt - 2 @ \$3,000 each (\$6,000); Maude Moore Wood - 3 @ \$5,000 each (\$15,000); Ira Cross, Jr. - 17 @ \$4,000 each (\$68,000); and Amanda Ware - 2 @ \$3,500 each (\$7,000). Mr. Gilchrist seconded the motion, which carried 6-0, with Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

NUMBER AND DOLLAR AMOUNTS OF ANNUAL BOARD SCHOLARSHIPS

Per *Texas Government Code* and Local Board Policy CDA, Kallen Vaden, Chief Financial Officer, presented the quarterly investment report for the period ending November 30, 2024, for the Board's consideration. Highlights of the report included overall investment balances increased slightly from September to November due to normal operating processes; investments are held in investment pools and agency security investments; the district continues to utilize the 180-day Treasury Bill as a benchmark; and interest rates have decreased slightly in response to current market conditions. The district's focus is on principal preservation (safety), then liquidity, and lastly yield.

11/30/2024 QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT

Mr. Mintz moved to approve the Quarterly Investment Report for the period ending November 30, 2024, as presented. Ms. Capito seconded the motion, which carried 6-0, with Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

Megan Bradley, Deputy Superintendent for Operations, reviewed that per *Texas Election Code*, the School Board Secretary is the official election administrator for the school district. The Board may appoint an employee of the political subdivision to serve as the agent to perform the election duties required under the *Texas Education Code*. The election agent shall maintain office hours for at least three hours of each regular business day of the district and shall be effective through July 2025 unless a contested election or criminal investigation necessitates an extension. Mr. Gilchrist moved to approve the appointment of JC Schoel to serve as Killeen ISD's Election Agent for the May 3, 2025 Board of Trustees election. Ms. Capito seconded the motion, which carried 6-0, with Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

#### APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION AGENT

Megan Bradley, Deputy Superintendent for Operations, reviewed that the *Texas Education Code* requires school districts to hold joint elections with another entity, which reduces cost and provides convenient polling locations for voters. Central Texas College and the cities of Killeen and Harker Heights have agreed to contract with the district and share in the costs. The main early voting site will be at Jackson Professional Learning Center and several branch locations. Election day polling sites are listed in the Order of Election. Ms. Capito moved to approve the joint election contracts for early voting and election day voting services with the City of Killeen and Central Texas College and the City of Harker Heights; and a contract with Bell County Elections Administrator for election services, for the May 3, 2025 Board of Trustees election, as presented. Mr. Rainwater seconded the motion, which carried 6-0, with Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

#### JOINT ELECTION CONTRACTS WITH KILLEEN, CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE, HARKER HEIGHTS, AND BELL COUNTY

Megan Bradley, Deputy Superintendent for Operations, reviewed that the uniform election date for the KISD School Board election is May 3, 2025, with Places 1, 2, and 3 up for election. Trustees are elected at-large by place and serve a three-year term. Per the *Texas Election Code*, the governing body of a political subdivision that holds elections on a uniform election date must order the election not later than the 78th day before the election date (February 14, 2025). The order must state the date of the election and the offices or measures to be voted on, the location of the main early voting polling place, the dates and hours for early voting and other information required by law. Mr. Gilchrist moved to approve and adopt the Order of Election to conduct the Killeen ISD Board of Trustees election to be held on Saturday, May 3, 2025, as presented. Ms. Capito seconded the motion, which carried 6-0, with Ms. Jones absent and not voting.

#### ORDER OF ELECTION FOR MAY 3, 2025

Dr. Don Rowls, Executive Director for Transportation Services, discussed the tiered campus bell schedule planned for the 2025-2026 school year to improve operational efficiencies, increase on-time arrivals and departures, and reduce transportation delays. The new schedule addresses issues such as tight morning windows and afternoon take-backs. Dr. Rowls answered questions and concerns of the board. This item was for information.

CAMPUS BELL  
SCHEDULE AND  
RELATED DISTRICT  
OPERATIONS

Adam Rich, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities Services, provided an update on the board's request to connect existing sidewalks at Dr. Jimmie Don Aycock Middle School (JDA MS) and Chaparral High School. The project requires redesigning the existing drainage channel and adding a continuous curb along the east side of Chaparral Road for safety. Lighting options are still being considered. The sidewalk, curb, and drainage improvement costs are \$691,212, including a \$40,000 contingency allowance. This project will be funded with the contingencies and buyout savings of \$4,621,101.89 left from the JDA MS construction contract. The remaining unused balance from the JDA MS project will be returned to the district after sidewalk completion. This item was for information.

DR. JIMMIE DON  
AYCOCK MIDDLE  
SCHOOL SIDEWALK  
INSTALLATION

Dr. Fey reviewed the agenda for the next meeting, which was rescheduled to Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 1:00 p.m., due to scheduling conflicts. Mr. Williams noted Megan Bradley would be leaving the district and praised her for 27 years of exemplary KISD service. This item was for information.

FUTURE BOARD  
MEETING AGENDAS AND  
TRUSTEE REMARKS

At 9:02 p.m., the Board convened in closed session for agenda item V-D, Discussion of Personnel Matters, as allowed by Texas Government Code 551.074; and agenda item V-E, Discussion of Superintendent of Schools Evaluation Instrument and Annual Appraisal, as allowed by Texas Government Code 551.074.

(CLOSED SESSION)  
PERSONNEL MATTERS  
(551.074)

At 10:39 p.m., the Board reconvened in the open meeting. No action or voting took place in closed session. No action was needed.

(CLOSED SESSION)  
SUPERINTENDENT  
EVALUATION  
INSTRUMENT AND  
ANNUAL APPRAISAL

There being no further business or discussion, Ms. Capito moved to adjourn. Mr. Gilchrist seconded the motion, and by consensus, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

ADJOURN

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President

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Secretary