

The KISD Board of Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the KISD boardroom.

Members present:

Brett Williams, President
Susan Jones, Vice President
Brenda Adams, Secretary
Marvin Rainwater
Brenda Adams
Oliver Mintz

Members absent:

Tina Capito
Rodney Gilchrist

Also attending:

Dr. King Davis, Interim Superintendent
Dr. Terri Osborne, Deputy Superintendent
Scott Hequembourg, Deputy Superintendent
William Baker, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Susan Buckley, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Jo-Lynette Crayton, Assistant Superintendent
Mike Harper, School Attorney
Brenda King, Board Specialist
Kristine Caparco, Fort Hood School Liaison Officer

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 26, 2025. Mr. Williams took a roll call of Board members, as indicated above, with a quorum established and in attendance. The meeting was livestreamed and recorded. Mr. Rainwater led the invocation, and the pledges to the United States flag and the Texas flag were led by students Josephine Ortiz and Kiana Young.

The Board recognized the **KISD Fine Arts Department** for receiving the District of Distinction Award from the Texas Arts Education Association. Representing the department were Director Morganne Davies, and Assistant Directors Amy Bennet and Deborah Barrick; Visual Arts Leadership, Angela Caddell of Chaparral High School, Jordan Love of Union Grove Middle School, Miranda Meyer of Harker Heights High School, and Stephanie Wilson of Killeen High School; Music Leadership, Erik Reynolds and Amy Triggs of Ellison High School, Alice Morris of Nolan Middle School, Lori Kostencki of Saegert Elementary School, and Sherry Miller of Skipcha Elementary School.

HONORS AND
RECOGNITION

The board recognized the following Career Center students as recipients of the Texas FFA Association Lone Star degree: **Yaniris Paz, Gabriela Rivera, Ayden Rose, Khallid Burke, Annalicia Sanchez**

The board recognized the following students as College Board AP Scholars:

Grace Davila, Chaparral HS
Yul Eroy, Chaparral HS
Fenix Green, Chaparral HS
Jaslyn Singer, Chaparral HS
Tyler Smith, Chaparral HS
Andrea Torres Nieves, Chaparral HS
Christian Zimmerman, Chaparral HS

Brianna Brower, Ellison HS
Hunter Emblen, Ellison HS
Kristopher Pelayo, Ellison HS
Garland Potvin, Ellison HS
Abigail Thompson, Ellison HS
Rabia Warriach, Ellison HS

Andrea Alicea, Harker Heights HS
Jaylynn Bennett, Harker Heights HS
Madison Cho, Harker Heights HS
Evelyn Counihan, Harker Heights HS
Alexander Kim, Harker Heights HS
Rebekah Koh, Harker Heights HS
Hannah Shin, Harker Heights HS
Hannah Thompson, Harker Heights HS
Tevita Vuiyanuca, Harker Heights HS
Gabrielle Watkins-Broadnax, Harker Heights HS
Rachel Yancey, Harker Heights HS
Gloria Yi, Harker Heights HS

Daniela Calderon, Killeen HS
Joselinee Castelan Angulo, Killeen HS
Olijana Gabble, Killeen HS
Marie-Noelle Medlin, Killeen HS
Arrayah Sanchez, Killeen HS
Zoe Sene-Atkinson, Killeen HS
Nikolas Sesma, Killeen HS
Kaylee Wood, Killeen HS

Yanelis De Sedas, Early College HS
Eniangelys Garcia Castro, Early College HS
Lara Gray, Early College HS
Jeffery Kelley, Early College HS
Alexandra Reyes Gumbs, Early College HS
Elijah Robles, Early College HS
Isabella Soto, Early College HS
Mairalynn Urena, Early College HS

Gunnar Lyall, Shoemaker HS

Mr. Williams reviewed the procedures for Public Forum and invited anyone who had submitted a form to speak.

PUBLIC FORUM

The following individuals advocated against the establishment of a school library advisory council and stressed that librarians are uniquely qualified with master's degrees specific to the profession of librarianship.

Rebecca Fay, Killeen, Texas,
Stan Golaboff, Harker Heights, Texas,
Arla Clark, Belton, Texas
Rayann Polm, Copperas Cove, Texas,
Gerrika Bailey, Killeen, Texas

Dr. Davis provided the superintendent's report with assistance from Deputy Superintendents Dr. Terri Osborne and Scott Hequembourg. Dr. Osborne shared highlights of how Learning and Student Support Services are supporting students, families, and staff across the district. Mr. Hequembourg provided an update on Facilities and Operations, noting the completion of the Chaparral sidewalk project to improve safety and community access. This item was for information.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL REVIEW

The consent agenda was considered. Ms. Adams moved to approve the consent agenda, items A through J, as presented. Mr. Mintz seconded the motion, which carried 5-0, with Ms. Capito and Mr. Gilchrist absent and not voting.

CONSENT AGENDA

As part of the consent agenda, the board approved the minutes for the August 5, 2025 board workshop, as written.

MINUTES FOR 8/5/2025 BOARD WORKSHOP

As part of the consent agenda, the board approved the minutes for the August 5, 2025 special meeting, as written.

MINUTES FOR 8/5/2025 SPECIAL MEETING

As part of the consent agenda, the board approved the minutes for the August 5, 2025 special called meeting, as written.

MINUTES FOR 8/5/2025 CALLED MEETING

As part of the consent agenda, the board approved the resolution to recognize September 16, 2025 as Information Technology Professionals Day in Killeen ISD, as presented.

RESOLUTION FOR IT PROFESSIONALS

As part of the consent agenda, the board approved the resolution to recognize September 2025 as Attendance Awareness Month in Killeen ISD, as presented.

RESOLUTION FOR ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH

As part of the consent agenda, the board approved the Texas Education Agency application for Optional Flexible School Day Program, and Graduation Alliance, Inc., Student Re-Engagement Program Agreement, as presented.

TEA APPLICATION FOR OFSD PROGRAM AND GRADUATION ALLIANCE AGREEMENT

As part of the consent agenda, the board approved the memorandum of understanding with Tarleton State University regarding Distinguished High School Partnership Program, as presented.

MOU WITH TARLETON
STATE UNIVERSITY FOR
DISTINGUISHED HIGH
SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

As part of the consent agenda, the board approved the existing KISD administration building renovation project architect contract, as presented.

EXISTING KISD ADMIN
BUILDING RENOVATION
ARCHITECT CONTRACT

As part of the consent agenda, the board approved the Alice W. Douse Elementary School Data Center Relocation Project Architect Contract, as presented.

DOUSE ES DATA CENTER
RELOCATION PROJECT
ARCHITECT CONTRACT

As part of the consent agenda, the board approved the Franklin & Emily Pratt Learning and Leadership Center Renovation Project Architect Contract, as presented.

PRATT CENTER
RENOVATION PROJECT
ARCHITECT CONTRACT

Mr. Williams moved ahead on the agenda to item #6-B, Proposed Revisions to Board Policy EFB (Local): Instructional Resources – Library Materials, and Possible Resolution Establishing a Local School Library Advisory Council. This item was previously discussed at the August 19, 2025 board meeting. The board discussed parental control over one's own children versus other district students, existing resources for transparency and parental control, potentially controversial books currently in school libraries, and administrative level of overall decisions on inventory of library books.

LOCAL BOARD POLICY
EFB AND POSSIBLE
RESOLUTION FOR LOCAL
SCHOOL LIBRARY
ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mike Harper, School Attorney, and Dr. Jo-Lynette Crayton, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, answered questions of the board. Mr. Rainwater moved to approve the proposed revisions to Board Policy EFB (Local), Option #1, as recommended by TASB Policy Services. Ms. Adams seconded the motion, which carried 3-2, with Ms. Jones and Mr. Mintz opposed, and Ms. Capito and Mr. Gilchrist absent and not voting.

Dr. Terri Osborne, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, presented the 2024-2025 Accountability Ratings, based on the three domains of student achievement, school progress, and closing the gaps. She explained the rating process and reported the district's overall score of 74, resulting in a C rating. Out of 50 schools rated, 4 earned an A, 13 earned a B, 24 earned a C, 6 earned a D, and 3 earned an F. Repeated unacceptable ratings include Manor, Eastern Hills, and Palo Alto middle schools, which puts the district at future risk of a state required turnaround plan with external control or decisions. However, the district is acting urgently with a focus on improving instruction, supporting teachers, and ensuring student success at all schools. This item was for information.

DISTRICT AND CAMPUS
ACCOUNTABILITY
RATINGS FOR 2025

Dr. Susan Buckley, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, introduced Olin Parker and Justin Tyack, of Civic Solutions Group, who presented various scenarios for optimizing district resources to improve educational outcomes and the district's financial state. The district faces significant budget reductions and declining enrollment trends that may impact future planning. Potential optimization scenarios across the district include school closures, consolidations, and restructuring to improve academic performance, resource allocation, and expanded access to programs. The financial impact of each scenario is assessed based on operational savings, facility investment savings, and potential property sales.

DISTRICT OPTIMIZATION SCENARIOS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Potential intervention strategies approved by the Texas Education Agency are the Accelerating Campus Excellence (ACE) and 1882 Partnership models, for underperforming schools designated with unacceptable ratings. Next steps in the process of optimization include engaging stakeholders through an optimization website, surveys, and town hall meetings. Based on feedback gathered, a revised draft of scenarios will be presented to the board for consideration of recommendations. This item was for information.

Based on discussion of District Optimization drafts scenarios, the board considered three town hall meetings to solicit feedback from parents, staff, and community members, which will be used in forming final recommendations to the board. Proposed meetings included September 4 at Killeen High School, September 8 at Harker Heights High School, and September 11 at Ellison High School. Ms. Adams moved to approve the proposed scheduling of Town Hall Meetings related to District Optimization draft scenarios, as presented. Mr. Rainwater seconded the motion, which carried 5-0, with Ms. Capito and Mr. Gilchrist absent and not voting.

SCHEDULING OF TOWN HALL MEETINGS FOR DISTRICT OPTIMIZATION

William Baker, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, presented an agreement with Region 18 Education Service Center for access to their expertise and infrastructure to support the district's expansion and long-term stability of the Teacher Incentive Allotment program. Ms. Adams moved to approve the interlocal agreement with Region 18 Education Service Center for Teacher Incentive Allotment Services, as presented. Mr. Rainwater seconded the motion, which carried 5-0, with Ms. Capito and Mr. Gilchrist absent and not voting.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH REGION 18 ESC FOR TEACHER INCENTIVE ALLOTMENT SERVICES

Kallen Vaden, Chief Financial Officer, explained that the final budget amendment is an effort to more closely align the estimated budget with the actual outcome of revenues and expenditures at year end without going over in any functional category. Budget amendment #1 was approved by the Board on March 25, 2025.

FINAL AMENDMENT TO FY 2025 ADOPTED BUDGET

Mr. Mintz moved to approve the final budget amendment to the fiscal year 2025 adopted budget, as presented. Mr. Rainwater seconded the motion, which carried, 5-0, with Ms. Capito and Mr. Gilchrist absent and not voting.

Kallen Vaden, Chief Financial Officer, presented a review of the proposed budget and tax rate for fiscal year 2026 that was officially proposed by the board on August 12, 2025, and published in the *Killeen Daily Herald*, on August 15, 2025, to notify the public of an opportunity to comment on this agenda item, in accordance with the *Truth-in-Taxation* guidelines. After the presentation, Mr. Williams opened the floor to the public hearing for anyone who had submitted a form to speak.

Stan Golaboff, Harker Heights, Texas, spoke against the proposed debt service tax rate of \$0.2096, and asked the board to instead approve a rate equal to last year's rate of \$0.2076.

Kallen Vaden, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed that state compensatory education funds cannot be used for any other purpose until the district has funded additional accelerated instruction for high school students who did not meet end-of-course requirements. Ms. Adams moved to approve budgeting \$100,000 in compensatory education funds as a budgeted line item within the fiscal year 2026 General Fund budget to provide accelerated instruction for high school students who did not meet end-of-course requirements. Ms. Jones seconded the motion, which carried 5-0, with Ms. Capito and Mr. Gilchrist absent and not voting.

Kallen Vaden, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the proposed budgets for the general fund, school nutrition fund, and the debt service fund for fiscal year 2026, which are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applicable to governments. The budgets were summarized on the district website and published in the *Killeen Daily Herald* in compliance with the *Truth-in-Taxation* guidelines, derived using a total tax rate of \$0.8778 consisting of \$0.6682 for maintenance and operations and \$0.2096 for debt service. Mr. Rainwater moved to approve the adoption of the fiscal year 2026 general fund, school nutrition fund, and debt service fund budgets, as presented. Mr. Mintz seconded the motion, which carried 5-0, with Ms. Capito and Mr. Gilchrist absent and not voting.

Kallen Vaden, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed that annually, the board must approve a budget and tax rate, which is applied to the certified property values to raise local district funds that are combined with state and federal funds for school operations cost. The district's proposed tax rate of \$0.8778 is higher than the no-new-revenue tax rate of \$0.7839.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR BUDGET AND TAX RATE FOR FY 2026

FY 2026 ACCELERATED INSTRUCTION BUDGET

FY 2026 DISTRICT BUDGETS

- (1) GENERAL
- (2) SCHOOL NUTRITION
- (3) DEBT SERVICE

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT M&O TAX RATE OF \$0.6682 AND DEBT SERVICE TAX RATE OF \$0.2096 FOR TOTAL TAX RATE OF \$0.8778 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026

Based on property values, TEA calculated the district's Tier 1 Maintenance & Operations tax rate at \$0.6182, which the district adds to its Tier 2 enrichment pennies of \$0.05 for a total of \$0.6682. The board proposed the tax rate on August 12, 2025. The Notice of Public Meeting was published in the *Killeen Daily Herald* on August 15, 2025. By law, the board may adopt a rate lower than the rate published in the notice but cannot adopt a higher rate. The tax rates are used to prepare the fiscal year 2026 budget. Mr. Rainwater moved to approve that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.8778, which is effectively an 11.98 percent increase in the tax rate, and to adopt the related resolution, as presented. Ms. Adams seconded the motion, which carried 5-0, with Ms. Capito and Mr. Gilchrist absent and not voting.

Dr. Davis reviewed the draft agenda for the September 9, 2025, Board Workshop. Members of the board remarked on the importance of district optimization and community engagement. Ms. Jones commented on the board's efforts to condense the meeting agenda for more efficiency. This item was for information.

At 9:54 p.m., the board convened in closed session for agenda item #8-A, Discussion of Personnel Matters, as allowed by Texas Government Code 551.074, and agenda item #8-B, Deliberation regarding the Purchase, Exchange, Lease, or Value of Real Property, as allowed by Texas Government Code 551.072. At 10:59 p.m., the board reconvened in the open meeting. No action or voting took place in closed session. No action was needed.

There being no further business or discussion, Ms. Adams moved to adjourn. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, and by consensus the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

FUTURE BOARD
MEETING AGENDAS AND
TRUSTEE REMARKS

(CLOSED SESSION)
PERSONNEL MATTERS
(551.074)

(CLOSED SESSION)
REAL PROPERTY
(551.072)

ADJOURN

President

Secretary