



## **Agenda of Policy Committee Meeting**

### **The Board of Trustees Belton Independent School District**

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A Policy Committee Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Belton Independent School District will be held December 6, 2021, beginning at 5:00 PM in the Pittenger Fine Arts Center, 400 N. Wall Street, Belton, TX 76513. One or more trustees may participate via video conference.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on this meeting notice.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Public Comments**
- 3. Review and Discuss the Following Items:**
  - A. BED(LOCAL): Board Meetings - Public Participation - 1st Reading 2
  - B. District of Innovation Process and Policy Implications 7
- 4. Issues/Concerns for Future Agenda or Administrative Reports**
- 5. Adjourn**

**Limit on  
Participation**

Audience participation at a Board meeting is limited to the portion of the meeting designated to receive public comment in accordance with this policy. At all other times during a Board meeting, the audience shall not enter into discussion or debate on matters being considered by the Board, unless requested by the presiding officer.

**Public Comment**

Regular Meetings

At regular Board meetings, the Board shall permit public comment, regardless of whether the topic is an item on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting.

Special Meetings

At all other Board meetings, public comment shall be limited to items on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting.

Procedures

Individuals who wish to participate during the portion of the meeting designated for public comment shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins as specified in the Board's procedures on public comment and shall indicate the agenda item or topic on which they wish to address the Board.

Public comment on items on the agenda shall occur at the beginning of the meeting. At the presiding officer's discretion, public comment at regular meetings on nonagenda topics may be deferred to the end of the meeting.

Public Hearings

~~Except as permitted by this policy and the Board's procedures on public comment, a~~ An individual's comments to the Board shall not exceed three minutes per meeting, unless additional time is required for translation or as provided in Public Hearings below.

~~When the Board conducts a public hearing during a regular board meeting, individuals may have the opportunity to address the Board during both the public comment portion of the meeting and during the public hearing. However, c~~ Comments pertaining to the subject of the public hearing are to be reserved for the public hearing in lieu of being presented during the public comment portion of the meeting. Unless otherwise provided by law or if a speaker's time is adjusted by the presiding officer, an individual may address the Board for three minutes during a public hearing. Comments to the Board during a public hearing must be directly related to the agenda item for the hearing or the presiding officer will redirect the individual to the applicable topic of the public hearing. Speakers will be provided three minutes to address the Board during public hearings, provided they did not already address the topic during the public comment portion of the meeting. This policy does not prohibit a speaker from addressing the Board on one topic in the public comment portion of the meeting and also speaking on another topic that is the subject of a public hearing. However, no speaker will be permitted to speak twice on the same topic at a meeting.

**Meeting  
Management**

When necessary for effective meeting management or to accommodate large numbers of individuals wishing to address the Board, the presiding officer may make adjustments to public comment procedures, including adjusting when public comment will occur during the meeting, reordering agenda items, deferring public comment on nonagenda items, continuing agenda items to a later meeting, providing expanded opportunity for public comment, or establishing an overall time limit for public comment and adjusting the time allotted to each speaker. However, no individual shall be given less than one minute to make comments.

The Board does not allow the use of video, slide, or other electronic presentations during public comment. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer before speaking and will address the Board from the speaker's podium. Posters and signs are not allowed at the speaker's podium. No speaker will approach the dais. If citizens bring a written statement or support materials, they should provide enough copies for the seven Board Members and the Superintendent. Copies must be provided to the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent at the time the individual signs up to speak.

**Board's Response**

Specific factual information or recitation of existing policy may be furnished in response to inquiries, but the Board shall not deliberate or decide regarding any subject that is not included on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting.

**Complaints and  
Concerns**

The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether an individual addressing the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively through resolution channels established by policy. If not, the individual shall be referred to the appropriate policy to seek resolution:

- Employee complaints: DGBA
- Student or parent complaints: FNG
- Public complaints: GF

**Disruption**

The Board shall not tolerate disruption of the meeting by members of the audience. If, after at least one warning from the presiding officer, any individual continues to disrupt the meeting by his or her words or actions, the presiding officer may request assistance from law enforcement officials to have the individual removed from the meeting. Notwithstanding, a single outburst or incident may be so disruptive that the individual may be removed without an initial warning. All individuals attending meetings will be expected to

comply with applicable guidelines from the District regarding emergency procedures and/or in accordance with executive orders issued by duly authorized local, state, and/or federal authorities.

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**Updating Credentials** All employees who have earned certificates, endorsements, or degrees of higher rank since the previous school year shall file with the District:

1. An official college transcript showing the highest degree earned and date conferred.
2. Proof of the certificate or endorsement.

**Contract Personnel** The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that contract personnel possess valid credentials before issuing contracts.

**Social Security Number** The District shall not use an employee's social security number as an employee identifier, except for tax purposes [see DC]. In accordance with law, the District shall keep an employee's social security number confidential.

**School Calendar**

The Superintendent shall be authorized to approve variations from the Board-adopted school calendar, as necessary.

**School Closure**

The Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to close schools for reasons of public health and safety.

This policy shall apply to a student who has not been in attendance for 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

**Consideration of All Absences**

All absences shall be considered in determining whether a student has attended the required percentage of days under this policy.

**Attendance Committees**

The Board shall establish an attendance committee or as many committees as necessary for efficient implementation of Education Code 25.092.

The Superintendent or designee shall make the specific appointments in accordance with legal requirements.

**Parental Notice Of Excessive Absences**

A student and the student's parent or guardian shall be given written notice prior to and at such time when a student's attendance in any class drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

**Methods for Regaining Credit or Awarding a Final Grade**

When a student's attendance drops below 90 percent but remains at least at 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student may earn credit for the class or a final grade by completing a plan approved by the principal. This plan must provide for the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class as determined by the principal.

If the student fails to successfully complete the plan, or when a student's attendance drops below 75 percent of the days the class is offered, the student, parent, or representative may request award of credit or a final grade by submitting a written petition to the appropriate attendance committee.

Petitions for credit or a final grade may be filed at any time the student receives notice but, in any event, no later than 30 days after the last day of classes.

The attendance committee shall review the student's entire attendance record and the reasons for absences and shall determine whether to award credit or a final grade. The attendance committee may also, whether a petition is filed or not, review the records of all students whose attendance drops below 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

Students who have lost credit or have not received a final grade because of excessive absences may regain credit or be awarded a final grade by fulfilling the requirements established by the attendance committee.

**Personal Illness**

When a student's absence for personal illness exceeds five consecutive days, the principal or attendance committee may require that the student present a statement from a physician or health clinic verifying the illness or condition that caused the student's ex-

tended absence from school as a condition of classifying the absence as one for which there are extenuating circumstances.

If a student has established a questionable pattern of absences, the principal or attendance committee may require that a student present a physician's or clinic's statement of illness after a single day's absence as a condition of classifying the absence as one for which there are extenuating circumstances.

**Guidelines on  
Extenuating  
Circumstances**

The attendance committee shall adhere to the following guidelines to determine attendance for award of credit or a final grade:

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Days of Attendance                 | 1. If makeup work is completed satisfactorily, excused absences that are allowed under compulsory attendance requirements shall be considered days of attendance for award of credit or final grade. [See FEA(LEGAL) at EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE DETERMINATIONS.]     |
| Transfers / Migrant Students       | 2. A transfer or migrant student incurs absences only after his or her enrollment in the District.  |
| Documentation                      | 3. The committee shall consider the acceptability and authenticity of documented reasons for the student's absences.  |
| Consideration of Control           | 4. The committee shall consider whether the absences were for reasons out of the student's or parent's control.   |
| Student's Academic Record          | 5. The committee shall consider whether or not the student has completed assignments, mastered the essential knowledge and skills, and maintained passing grades in the course or subject.  |
| Information from Student or Parent | 6. The student or parent shall be given an opportunity to present any information to the committee about the absences and to discuss ways to earn or regain credit or be awarded a final grade.   |
| Best Interest Standard             | In reaching consensus regarding a student's absences, the committee shall attempt to ensure that its decision is in the best interest of the student. The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations addressing the committee's documentation of the decision. |

**Imposing Conditions  
for Awarding Credit  
or a Final Grade**

The committee may impose any of the following conditions for students with excessive absences to regain credit or be awarded a final grade:

1. Completing additional assignments, as specified by the committee or teacher.

2. Attending tutorial sessions as scheduled, which may include Saturday classes or before- and after-school programs.
3. Maintaining the attendance standards for the rest of the semester.
4. Taking an examination to earn credit. [See EHDB]
5. Attending a flexible school day program.
6. Attending summer school.

In all cases, the student must also earn a passing grade in order to receive credit.

**Appeal Process**

A parent or student may appeal the decision of the attendance committee in accordance with FNG(LOCAL).