



Agenda of Policy Committee Meeting

The Board of Trustees Belton Independent School District

A Policy Committee Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Belton Independent School District will be held February 6, 2023, beginning at 5:00 PM in the Bronco Room, 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 the meeting notice.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Public Comments**
- 3. Review and Discuss the Following Items:**
 - A. TASB Policy Review Local Policies to Address - 1st Reading
 1. BBD(LOCAL): Board Members - Training and Orientation 3
 2. CCGB(LOCAL): Ad Valorem Taxes - Economic Development 4
 3. GBBA(LOCAL): Information Access - Requests for Information 9
 4. GE(LOCAL): Relations with Parent Organizations 10
 5. GNC(LOCAL): Relations with Educational Entities - Colleges and Universities 13
 6. GNE(LOCAL): Relations with Educational Entities - Education Accreditation Agencies 14

4. Issues/Concerns for Future Agenda or Administrative Reports

5. Adjourn

PROPOSED REVISIONS

**Public Information
Coordinator**

The Superintendent-~~or designee~~ shall fulfill the responsibilities of the public information coordinator and shall receive, on behalf of Board members, the training specified by Government Code 552.012. [See GBAA]

**Reporting
Continuing
Education Credit**

The Board President shall announce the status of each Board member's continuing education credit. The announcement shall be made annually at the last regular Board meeting before the District's uniform election date, whether or not an election is held. The announcement shall be reflected in the meeting minutes and, when necessary, posted on the District's website in accordance with law.

ADD POLICY

**Texas Economic
Development Act**

Purpose

These provisions outline the District’s procedures for accepting, reviewing, and considering applications and amendments to applications, and, when necessary, enforcing agreements under the Texas Economic Development Act (the Act), as set forth in Tax Code Chapter 313. [See CCGB(LEGAL)]

Definitions

In addition to the definitions set out in CCGB(LEGAL), the following definitions apply in this policy:

“Application review period” means the period during which the Board will consider and act on an application. The application review period begins on the application review start date and ends on the 151st day thereafter, unless the application review period is extended by Board action prior to the expiration date.

“Appraisal district” means each county appraisal district that appraises property that is the subject of an application.

“Large project application” means an application for which the qualified investment exceeds \$300,000.

Filing an Application

In the form and formats required by the comptroller, an applicant shall file with the Superintendent the original and copies of the completed application along with a searchable electronic copy certified to contain information identical to the original hard copy. [See CCGB(LEGAL) at Required Contents and Format]

The Superintendent shall hold any incomplete applications or applications submitted without the full application fee until the application is properly completed and the application fee is paid. The Superintendent’s determination of whether an application is complete shall be final.

Confidentiality of
Applicant
Information

If the Board decides to consider an application, information provided in connection with an application will not be considered confidential except as allowed by law. [See CCGB(LEGAL) at Confidential Business Information]

Amending an
Application

An applicant may seek to amend an application at any time prior to final Board action on the application. If an amended application is filed within 60 days of the end of the application review period, the application review period shall be extended automatically to the 61st day after the date on which the last amended application is filed, unless the Board takes action to extend the application review period otherwise.

The Superintendent shall review and forward to the comptroller any amended application or supplemental information on receipt.

Standard
Application Fee

An applicant shall pay a standard application fee of \$50,000 to the District to cover the District's costs in processing and considering the application. This fee is nonrefundable except as set forth in this policy:

1. For large project fees after the initial fee submission; or
2. If the application is rejected after an initial Board review.

The standard application fee does not include any amount charged by the comptroller to the applicant for the comptroller's economic impact evaluation.

*Large Project
Application Fee*

For a large project application, the Board may set an application fee higher than the standard application fee if the analysis or evaluation of the application warrants a higher fee. In this case, the applicant shall initially submit the standard application fee. If the Board sets a higher fee, the applicant may withdraw its application and any fee submitted if the applicant disagrees with the higher fee.

**Processing an
Application**

Upon receipt of an application and application fee, the Superintendent shall:

Before Initial Board
Review

1. Send the applicant written confirmation of receipt of the application and application fee.
2. Review the application and, as necessary, require the applicant to submit additional and/or supplementary information, including all required schedules.
3. Within seven days of receipt of a completed application, submit the application to the comptroller, together with any economic analysis of the proposed project submitted by the applicant.
4. Obtain necessary conflict of interest disclosures. [See BBFA(LEGAL)]

Initial Board Review

As soon as practical after an application is filed, the Board shall conduct an initial review of the application during which the Board may consider the Superintendent's recommendation and written or oral presentations concerning the application.

If, after the initial review, the Board determines that the application is not in the best interests of the District, the Board shall reject the application and return to the applicant the application fee, less any necessary and reasonable costs of the initial review.

If the Board accepts a large project application for further consideration, the Board may set an appropriate fee in accordance with this policy.

After Initial Board
Review

If the Board elects to consider the completed application, the Superintendent shall:

1. Deposit the application fee and provide required written notice to the applicant and comptroller, with a copy to the appraisal district, that the District has received and will consider the completed application;
2. Deliver to the comptroller a copy of the application and required material along with a request for an economic impact evaluation;
3. Accept on behalf of the Board any amendments or supplements submitted by the applicant, and transmit copies to the comptroller within seven days of receipt;
4. Direct appropriate District personnel to create a link from the District's website to the location on the comptroller's website where copies of applications are posted;
5. Within the time allowed by law, provide all required supplemental information necessary to assist the comptroller and the Texas Education Agency (TEA) with the required analyses;
6. On receipt, provide the applicant and District consultants with a copy of the economic impact evaluation and the school facilities impact analysis;
7. Work with the applicant and District consultants to provide the District and the comptroller with copies of the proposed agreement in a timely manner [see CCGB(LEGAL) at Continued Eligibility];
8. Take all action necessary or required to process the application;
9. Not later than 151 days after the application review start date, present to the Board an agreement for final approval or a request for extension of the application review period;
10. If an extension of the application review period is requested, report each such request to the comptroller within seven days of the decision to grant the extension; and
11. After Board action on the application, if any, transmit all necessary and required information to the comptroller, the applicant, and the appraisal district.

District Consultants	<p>On retention by the Board, District consultants, including legal counsel, shall review the application to ensure it includes all required information. District consultants shall also begin an analysis of the application, consider any legal implications of the application, draft and negotiate an appropriate revenue protection agreement, and evaluate the analyses from the comptroller and TEA on receipt.</p> <p>District consultants shall be paid for services from the application fee and shall complete their analyses in time to assist the Board, as appropriate, in its initial review or final determination on the application.</p>
Board Action on Application	<p>Completed applications may be considered for approval by the Board only after completion of the economic impact evaluation and the school facilities impact analysis and receipt of the comptroller's certification, as required by the Act.</p>
Public Hearing	<p>The Board's final determination on an application shall be made after a public hearing at which the Superintendent, District consultants, the applicant, and members of the public may provide input and information concerning the proposed application. The comptroller's certification shall be disclosed at the public hearing.</p> <p>The public hearing shall be held at a time that allows the Board to approve or disapprove an application before the expiration of the application review period, unless the deadline has been extended.</p>
Findings of Fact	<p>After the public hearing, the Board shall make specific written findings as required by law. [See CCGB(LEGAL) at Approval]</p>
Adoption of Agreement	<p>After considering the comptroller's certification, the economic impact evaluation, the school facilities impact analysis, information from District consultants, and any other relevant information, the Board may approve the application and enter into an agreement that complies with all legal requirements. [See CCGB(LEGAL) at Agreement] The Board shall also consider and adopt an agreement with the applicant to provide protection from or compensation for any financial risks undertaken by the District in accepting the application.</p>
Waiver of Jobs Requirement	<p>The Board may waive the new jobs creation requirement in accordance with the law. [See CCGB(LEGAL) at Waiver of New Jobs Creation Requirement] If an applicant makes a waiver request subsequent to the original application, the Board may charge the applicant a fee to cover the costs of any consultant required by the Board in making the requisite finding.</p>

**Superintendent
Responsibilities
After Agreement**

During the term of any agreement, the Superintendent shall ensure that all reporting requirements are met in a timely manner by the District and the applicant. The Superintendent is authorized to delegate this function to District consultants.

**Statements
Regarding Conflicts
of Interest**

Each Board member and any District employee who is a local government official under Local Government Code Chapter 176 shall submit a conflict of interest statement confirming or denying the existence of a conflict of interest or a substantial business interest in each project that is the subject of an application, agreement, or amendment to an agreement with the District. Within 60 days after each Board election or the appointment of a Board member, each new Board member shall complete a statement. The completed statements shall be retained by the District with each affected application or agreement. If a conflict or substantial interest exists, the appropriate disclosure forms shall be completed and filed as required by law. [See BBFA(LEGAL)]

DELETE POLICY

News Releases

News releases concerning political or controversial issues or the overall operation of District schools, or involving more than one campus, shall be made only by the Superintendent.

Other news releases concerning athletic events, programs, and activities at an individual campus shall be made by the campus principal.

**Communications
During a Crisis**

In any crisis situation affecting the District or an individual campus, the Superintendent shall be the official District spokesperson and shall be responsible for all communication with the news media.

PROPOSED REVISIONS

District-affiliated school-support organizations and booster organizations, and other parent groups, shall organize, fundraise or solicit donations, and function in a way that is consistent with the District's philosophy and objectives, Board policies, District administrative regulations, applicable UIL or other governing association guidelines, and financial and audit regulations. [See also CDC and CFC]

Before engaging in fundraising or soliciting gifts, an organization or group shall notify the principal or other appropriate administrator identified in administrative regulations. [See CDC(LOCAL) for District acceptance of gifts and solicitations]

Booster Organizations

~~In order to operate on a campus as a booster organization, the booster organizations shall agree to abide by all District policies, procedures, and regulations governing booster organizations.~~

~~Booster organizations shall function under the following guidelines:~~

- ~~1. Booster organizations shall abide by the University Interscholastic League guidelines.~~
- ~~2. All meetings of District booster organizations shall be open to the public.~~
- ~~3. Election of officers shall be established and conducted in a manner that will allow any member the opportunity to be elected as an officer in the organization.~~
- ~~4. Should any organization disband, cease to operate, or choose to withdraw from association with the District, those funds or property designated for a specific project shall be dedicated toward the completion of that project.~~
- ~~5. Booster organizations shall comply with the legal requirements of Title IX.~~
- ~~6. Any organization operating under these policies that, in the opinion of the school administration, does not adhere to the policies and regulations established by the Board and school administration and does not operate for the benefit of the school and its students shall cease to be recognized as a legitimate booster organization.~~
- ~~7. The principal has final approval over any action of a booster organization.~~
- ~~8. The decision of the school administration to remove a booster organization from the campus may be appealed to the~~

~~director of student services. The Board shall have final authority in any appeal.~~

~~Booster organizations have no authority to direct any school employee in any of his or her duties. Booster organizations have no authority to guide, direct, or establish guidelines for any school or student activity.~~

Required Information

~~Each organization shall furnish the principal with the following information annually and shall update the information whenever there is a change:~~

- ~~1. Purpose(s) and operational guidelines of the organization. These may include a constitution, bylaws, and/or a simple list of purposes, goals, and guidelines.~~
- ~~2. List of officers.~~
- ~~3. A schedule of all fundraising projects for the year by October 1.~~
- ~~4. An annual operating budget.~~

Fundraising

~~All fundraising, promotional activities, and/or general solicitation for charitable contributions sponsored by booster organizations shall require prior approval of the principal.~~

~~The procedure to follow for approval of a fundraising project is as follows:~~

- ~~1. There must be a specific purpose for the project and the amount of money to be raised.~~
- ~~2. The type of fundraising project shall be determined.~~
- ~~3. The sponsoring organization shall submit a District fundraising application to the principal for approval.~~
- ~~4. When the principal has approved the project, a copy of the District fundraising application shall be returned to the sponsoring organization, and a copy shall be given to the assistant superintendent for student services and administration.~~

~~The booster organization shall be responsible for ensuring that the following regulations are observed:~~

- ~~1. Booster organizations shall comply with the *Financial Accountability System Resource Guide*, and proper accounting procedures shall be maintained to record all receipts and disbursements.~~

RELATIONS WITH PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

GE
(LOCAL)

- ~~2. Monies collected by the booster club shall be kept in an account separate from that of the school.~~
- ~~3. Accounting books for all booster organizations shall be audited annually by an audit committee selected by the organization. The report of that audit shall be submitted to the principal and the chief financial officer.~~
- ~~4. The project shall be monitored to ensure that the goals set forth in the District's fundraising application are carried out.~~
- ~~5. Project goals may be amended with the approval of the principal.~~

~~Recognized booster organizations shall have the right to use the school name, address, mascot, logo, and the like.~~

~~School support of fundraising projects shall be evident through advertisements on school campuses, access to school events, and participation of students and staff.~~

**Use of District
Facilities**

District-affiliated school-support or booster organizations may use District facilities with prior approval of the appropriate administrator. Other parent groups may use District facilities in accordance with policy GKD.

DELETE POLICY

Student Teachers

The following shall apply to the student teaching program:

1. The District shall cooperate with colleges in the area in providing experience for practice teachers. Each assignment of a practice teacher shall be approved by the assistant superintendent in charge of curriculum.
2. Student teachers will be subject to all policies, rules, and administrative regulations of the District and the individual school. Student teachers who fail to abide by these policies, rules, and administrative regulations may be dismissed by the Superintendent at any time during the course of the student teaching program.
3. The person in charge of the student teaching program shall coordinate this program with institutions of higher learning and shall be responsible, in a joint effort with such institutions, for inservice training programs for the student teachers. All contracts for such programs shall be signed by the Superintendent.

DELETE POLICY

The District shall maintain accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.