

Agenda of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Abilene Independent School District

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Abilene Independent School District will be held Monday, October 6, 2025, beginning at 5:00 PM in the Boardroom, One AISD Center 241 Pine Street, Abilene, Texas 79601.

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. Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Closed Session: A Closed Session may be held under the provisions of Texas Government Code, Chapter 551 including but not limited to Section 551.071, Section 551.072, Section 551.074, Section 551.076, and Section 551.082, and Section 551.0821.
 - A. The Board may deliberate matters of Personnel, i.e. appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee. (Section 551.074)
 - I. Professional Employment Contracts
 - B. The Board may consult with Legal Counsel regarding Pending or Contemplated Litigation and/ or Privileged Legal Advice. (Section 551.071)
 - C. The Board may discuss matters of Safety and Security. (Section 551.076)
 - I. Intruder Detection Audit Findings
 - D. The Board may discuss matters pertaining to Students necessarily involving personally identifiable information, e.g. Student Discipline. (Sections 551.082, 551.0821)
 - E. The Board may discuss the Value, Exchange and/or Disposition of Real Property. (Section 551.072)
- III. Reconvene from Closed Session (Approximately 6:30 p.m.)
 - A. Invocation
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flags of the United States of America and the State of Texas
 - C. Board/Superintendent Announcements
 - I. Teaching Minute
- IV. Recognitions
 - A. Texas Education Human Resources Day
- V. Oral Communications from the Public
- VI. Consent Agenda

- A. The Board will consider approval of the Minutes of the September 4, 2025, Workshop Meeting and the September 8, 2025, Regular Meeting.
 - B. The Board will consider approval of the Investment Report for Quarter Ending August 31, 2025.
- VII. Public Hearing on District of Innovation for Abilene Independent School District.
Mrs. Alison Sims, Associate Superintendent for the Development of Human Resources
- A. Open Public Hearing.
 - B. Receive Public Comment.
 - C. Close Public Hearing.
- VIII. Reports
- A. Taylor County Appraisal District
 - B. Academic Performance Report
 - C. Bilingual/ESL
 - D. Intruder Detection Audit Findings
- IX. Business Items Requiring Board Action
- A. The Board will discuss and consider School Library Advisory Council (SLAC) Membership.
Mrs. Lyndsey Williamson, Executive Director for Secondary Education
 - B. The Board will consider the adoption of a Resolution for District of Innovation for Abilene Independent School District.
Mrs. Alison Sims, Associate Superintendent for the Development of Human Resources
 - C. The Board will consider approval to Appoint a District of Innovation Planning Committee to Develop a Local Innovation Plan for Abilene Independent School District.
Mrs. Alison Sims, Associate Superintendent for the Development of Human Resources
 - D. The Board will consider nominations to the Board of Directors of the Jones County Appraisal District.
Mrs. Jennifer Hinds, Chief Financial Officer
 - E. The Board will consider, discuss, and take possible action on agreement/contract with Gymnastics Sport Center and related Board Resolution.
Dr. John Kuhn, Superintendent
- X. The Board may take action relevant to Items Covered During Closed Session.
- A. The Board will consider approval of Personnel Recommendations, if any.
 - I. Professional Employment Contracts
 - B. Matters pertaining to Real Property, if any
 - C. Matters pertaining to Safety and Security, if any
 - D. Matters pertaining to Litigation, if any
 - E. Matters pertaining to Students, if any
- XI. Adjournment

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item VI.A

Meeting Date: October 6, 2025

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting

Item Type: Consent

Future Action Required: No

If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: September 2025 Minutes

Background Information:

Attached Supporting Documents:

- September 4, 2025 – Workshop Meeting Minutes
- September 8, 2025 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Fiscal Implications:

Administrative Recommendation:

Approve minutes as presented.

Contact Person:

Robin Jones, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees



Minutes of the September 4, 2025,
Workshop Meeting of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees of the Abilene Independent School District met in a Workshop Meeting at 5:00 p.m., September 4, 2025, in the Valley View Room at One AISD Center 241 Pine Street, Abilene, Texas 79601. Mrs. Angie Wiley, President of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., observed that a quorum was present, and stated that notice of the meeting had been duly posted in the time and manner prescribed by law.

Trustees present for all or part of the meeting: Mrs. Angie Wiley, President; Mr. Rodney Goodman, Vice President; Mrs. Cindy Earles, Secretary; Mr. Bill Enriquez, Assistant Secretary, Dr. Danny Wheat, and Dr. Taylor Tidmore. Members absent: Mr. Blair Schroeder.

Administrators present for all or part of the meeting: Dr. John Kuhn, Superintendent; Dr. Gustavo Villanueva, Associate Superintendent for Student Services; Mrs. Patti Blue, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Mrs. Alison Sims, Associate Superintendent for the Development of Human Resources; Mrs. Jennifer Hinds, Chief Financial Officer; Dr. Jordan Ziemer, Executive Director of Communications; and Mrs. Robin Jones, Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees.

I. Call to Order

A. Oral Communication from the Public

Mrs. Angie Wiley asked if anyone wishing to address the Board had completed a public comment card. There were two:

- Tammy Fogle – SHAC, Library Books
- Kristi Brokaw - SHAC

B. Board/Superintendent Announcements/Information

Dr. John Kuhn made the following announcements:

- Rollout of Yondr bags and ID badges has gone very well.
- On August 26, 2025, we were honored to host U.S. Senator John Cornyn at the LIFT regarding the importance of Career Technology Education.
- September 5, 2025 – AHS vs CHS Crosstown Showdown
- September 6, 2025 – West Texas Fair and Rodeo Parade
- September 8, 2025 – Regular Board Meeting at 5:00 p.m.
- Many VATRE presentations have been done and are scheduled.

II. Board Workshop Items

A. 2026-2027 AISD Academic Calendar

Mrs. Alison Sims shared an overview and timeline of the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar development process. The goal is to present a recommended calendar at the December 8, Regular Board Meeting.

B. Head Start Governance and ERSEA Training

Mrs. Julie Wilson, Director of Early Childhood, shared a presentation and documents that serve as the yearly Shared Governance and ERSEA (Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, Attendance) training. Shared governance consists of the Board of Trustees, Parent Policy Council, and Head Start/Early Head Start Management Staff. Mrs. Wilson presented specific responsibilities, program basics, systems, eligibility and ERSEA policies and procedures.

C. School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) Annual Report

Mrs. Angela Valentine, Director of Health Services, shared the 2024-2025 SHAC Meeting Summary, SHAC recommendations, and the 2025-2026 SHAC Members recommendation.

D. Communications Department

Dr. Jordan Ziemer, presented an overview of the Communications Department, including the team, core responsibilities, and impact. Some of the highlights shared were as follows:

- Website Redesign
- Brand Development
- Building Brighter Futures
- Enrollment and Registration
- Budget Blueprint and VATRE
- Employee Awards
- Media Production
- AISD Live Internship Program

III. Agenda for Regular Meeting September 8, 2025

A. Consent Agenda Items

- I. Finance: July Financials
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Ratifying the Employment of the new Director of Accounting
- IV. Appointment of Members of the Local School Health Advisory Council
- V. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Resolution and Adjunct Agreement
 - a. Callahan County
 - b. Taylor County
- VI. Update Policy DC (LOCAL) - Employment Practices
- VII. Reauthorize Superintendent's Hiring Authority for Contractual Personnel
- VIII. 2025-2026 Professional Development Plan
- IX. TASB Policy Update 125
- X. 2025-2026 Staff Development Waiver

B. Reports

- I. Academic Performance Report
- II. Gift and Talented Program Update
- III. TCASE SPED Program Audit Summary
- IV. Efficiency Audit

IV. Business Items Requiring Board Action

- A. Adoption of Resolution for District of Innovation
- B. Replacement of a Sewer Line at Alcorta Elementary
- C. Policy CV (LOCAL) Update

V. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

APPROVED:

President

ATTEST:

Secretary

Minutes of the September 8, 2025,
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees of the Abilene Independent School District met in a Regular Meeting at 5:00 p.m., September 8, 2025, in the Boardroom at One AISD Center 241 Pine Street, Abilene, Texas 79601. Mrs. Angie Wiley, President of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order at 4:58 p.m., observed that a quorum was present, and stated that notice of the meeting had been duly posted in the time and manner prescribed by law.

Trustees present for all or part of the meeting: Mrs. Angie Wiley, President; Mr. Rodney Goodman, Vice President; Mrs. Cindy Earles, Secretary; Mr. Bill Enriquez, Assistant Secretary, Dr. Danny Wheat, Mr. Blair Schroeder, and Dr. Taylor Tidmore. Members absent: None.

Administrators present for all or part of the meeting: Dr. John Kuhn, Superintendent; Dr. Joseph Waldron, Deputy Superintendent; Dr. Gustavo Villanueva, Associate Superintendent for Student Services; Mrs. Patti Blue, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Mrs. Alison Sims, Associate Superintendent for the Development of Human Resources; Mrs. Jennifer Hinds, Chief Financial Officer; Dr. Jordan Ziemer, Executive Director of Communications; and Mrs. Robin Jones, Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Closed Session: A Closed Session may be held under the provisions of Texas Government Code, Chapter 551 including but not limited to Section 551.071, Section 551.072, Section 551.074, Section 551.076, and Section 551.082, and Section 551.0821.

Mrs. Angie Wiley announced that a Closed Session would be held under the provisions of Texas Code, Chapter 551. The Board convened in Closed Session at 5:00 p.m.

- A. The Board may deliberate matters of Personnel, i.e. appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee. (Section 551.074)
 - I. Professional Employment Contracts
- B. The Board may consult with Legal Counsel regarding Pending or Contemplated Litigation and/ or Privileged Legal Advice. (Section 551.071)
- C. The Board may discuss matters of Safety and Security. (Section 551.076)
 - I. Appointment of New School Marshals
 - II. Discuss Good Cause Exception
- D. The Board may discuss matters pertaining to Students necessarily involving personally identifiable information, e.g. Student Discipline. (Sections 551.082, 551.0821)
- E. The Board may discuss the Value, Exchange and/or Disposition of Real Property. (Section 551.072)
 - I. Fannin Elementary, located at 2726 N. 18th St., Abilene, TX 79603

- III. Reconvene from Closed Session (Approximately 6:30 p.m.)

The Board reconvened at 6:26 p.m.

- A. Invocation

Mrs. Angie Wiley called on Dr. Gustavo Villanueva, Associate Superintendent for Student Services, to give the invocation and lead the pledges.

- B. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flags of the United States of America and the State of Texas
- C. Board/Superintendent Announcements

Dr. John Kuhn made the following announcements:

- Abilene ISD was named a District of Distinction by the Texas Education Theatre Association.
- Staff climate survey went out last week with over 500 survey responses.
- Many VATRE presentations have been made and are scheduled.

Teaching Minute:

- Highlighted TEKS Readiness C.3.A being taught by Nicole Sutphen-Evans, Mann STEAM Academy Speech and Theatre Arts Teacher.

- IV. Recognitions
 - A. TEA Educator Review Committee Representatives

Mrs. Patti Blue presented the following educators that were invited by TEA to participate and provide support in the development of assessments: Sabrina Anderson (AHS), Sara Garza (AHS), Brianna Kaiser (AHS), Melanie Koen (AHS), Jordan Parker (Craig MS), Jana Walker (Stafford ES), April Brannan (Stafford ES), and Barbara Carneiro (Taylor ES).

V. Oral Communications from the Public

Mrs. Angie Wiley asked if anyone wishing to address the Board had completed a public comment card. There was none.

VI. Consent Agenda

Mrs. Angie Wiley asked if there was a motion regarding the Consent Agenda. Dr. Danny Wheat made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as present. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rodney Goodman and passed 7-0.

Ayes: Enriquez, Tidmore, Wheat, Schroeder, Goodman, Earles, and Wiley

Nays: None

- A. The Board will consider accepting the July Financials.
- B. The Board will consider approval of the Minutes of the August 7, 2025, Workshop Meeting; August 11, 2025, Regular Meeting; and the August 14, 2025, Special Budget and Tax Rate Meeting.
- C. The Board will consider ratifying the employment of the new Director of Accounting.
- D. The Board will consider approval of the Appointment of Members of the Local School Health Advisory Council.
- E. The Board will consider approval of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Resolution and Adjunct Agreement.
 - I. Callahan County
 - II. Taylor County
- F. The Board will consider approval of update to Policy DC (LOCAL) - Employment Practices.
- G. The Board will consider approval to reauthorize the Superintendent's Hiring Authority for Contractual Personnel (Policy DC LOCAL - Employment Practices).
- H. The Board will consider approval of the 2025-2026 Professional Development Plan.
- I. The Board will consider approval of TASB Policy Update 125.
- J. The Board will consider a 2025-2026 Staff Development Waiver.

VII. Reports

A. Academic Performance Report

Mrs. Patti Blue presented the final 2024-2025 Accountability Ratings which included campus ratings, individual grade performance in Reading Language Arts and Math, high school end of course performances and 2024-2025 Federal Accountability.

B. Gifted and Talented Program Update

Mrs. Patti Blue, Mrs. Keri Thornburg, Executive Director for Elementary, and Mrs. Lyndsey Williamson, Executive Director for Secondary, provided an overview of the GT program. This update included the following:

- Program Goals
- Identification and Referral
- Advanced Academic Opportunities
- Elementary Program Spotlight – Supplemental Activities for GT Students at Taylor Elementary
- Middle School Program Spotlight – Addition of Robotics for grades 6-8
- High School Program Spotlight – AISD students are outperforming the State on AP exams in multiple areas.
- Teacher Requirements and Professional Learning
- Teacher Support
- GT Funding

C. TCASE SPED Program Audit Summary

Dr. Stevanie Jackson, Executive Director for Special Education, presented a summary of the SPED program and services comprehensive review provided by Texas Council of Administrators of Special Education (TCASE). This review included the following:

- District make up
- Things we are doing well
- Areas for growth
- Changes that have been accomplished
- Changes that are in process
- Short and long term goals

D. Efficiency Audit

Mr. Jeromy Stephens of Eide Bailly provided an overview of the Efficiency Audit conducted which serves as a critical tool for accountability and strategic decision-making. It is a comprehensive third party evaluation of the district's financial and operational practices.

VIII. Business Items Requiring Board Action

- A. The Board will consider delegating authority to the Superintendent and his designee to negotiate, finalize, and execute a contract for the replacement of a sewer line at Alcorta Elementary School in an amount not to exceed the statutory competitive procurement threshold.

Dr. Joseph Waldron shared that approximately 400 feet of failing sewer line at Alcorta Elementary needs to be replaced. Due to the length of the sewer line, a contractor will be used. The estimate for this project is currently at \$89,000.00. The new procurement threshold to bid a project of this nature is \$100,000.00

Mrs. Angie Wiley asked if there was a motion regarding the replacement of a sewer line at Alcorta Elementary School. Dr. Taylor Tidmore made a motion to approve delegating authority to the Superintendent and his designee to negotiate, finalize, and execute a contract for the replacement of a sewer line at Alcorta Elementary School in an amount not to exceed the statutory competitive procurement threshold. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blair Schroeder and passed 7-0.

Ayes: Goodman, Enriquez, Schroeder, Wheat, Earles, Wiley, and Tidmore

Nays: None

- B. The Board will consider approval of revised Policy CV (LOCAL).

Dr. Joseph Waldron presented an update to Policy CV (LOCAL) which would change the threshold for board approval of a construction project over \$50,000.00 to \$100,000.00.

Mrs. Angie Wiley asked if there was a motion regarding Policy CV (LOCAL). Mr. Rodney Goodman made a motion to approve revised Policy CV (LOCAL) as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Angie Wiley and passed 7-0.

Ayes: Tidmore, Earles, Wiley, Goodman, Enriquez, Wheat, and Schroeder

Nays: None

IX. The Board may take action relevant to Items Covered During Closed Session.

- A. The Board will consider approval of Personnel Recommendations, if any.

I. Professional Employment Contracts

- B. Matters pertaining to Real Property, if any

I. The Board will discuss and possibly take action regarding the rejection of all bids for the sale of Fannin Elementary.

Mrs. Angie Wiley asked if there was a motion regarding the sale of Fannin Elementary. Dr. Danny Wheat made a motion that the Board reject all bids received for the sale of Fannin Elementary. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blair Schroeder and passed 7-0.

Ayes: Wiley, Schroeder, Earles, Tidmore, Wheat, Goodman, and Enriquez

Nays: None

II. The Board will discuss and possibly take action regarding the donation of Fannin Elementary, located at 2726 N. 18th St., Abilene, TX 79603.

Mrs. Angie Wiley asked if there was a motion regarding the Donation of Fannin Elementary. Mrs. Cindy Earles made a motion to authorize the Superintendent to enter into negotiations and execute the proper documents with the nonprofit, Let Us Breathe Abilene, for donation of the property, and that the Board instructs the Superintendent is to ensure the inclusion of certain reasonable deed restrictions that will protect the interests of Abilene ISD in perpetuity after this donation is made. The motion was seconded by Dr. Taylor Tidmore and passed 7-0.

Ayes: Wheat, Wiley, Tidmore, Earles, Schroeder, Enriquez, and Goodman

Nays: None

- C. Matters pertaining to Safety and Security, if any

I. The Board will consider the Appointment of New School Marshals.

Mrs. Angie Wiley asked if there was a motion regarding the Appointment of New School Marshals. Dr. Taylor Tidmore made a motion to approve the Appointment of New School Marshals as presented in Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Danny Wheat and passed 7-0.

Ayes: Earles, Wheat, Enriquez, Wiley, Goodman, Schroeder, and Tidmore

Nays: None

II. The Board will consider renewal of Good Cause Exception.

Mrs. Angie Wiley asked if there was a motion regarding Good Cause Exception. Mrs. Angie Wiley made a motion to approve the authorization of the Good Cause Exception for the Abilene Independent School District in alignment with Board Policy CKE (LEGAL) and authorize the Superintendent to develop and maintain all applicable provisions of this exception. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cindy Earles and passed 7-0.

Ayes: Schroeder, Goodman, Earles, Enriquez, Wiley, Tidmore, and Wheat.

Nays: None

- D. Matters pertaining to Litigation, if any
- E. Matters pertaining to Students, if any
- X. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

APPROVED:

President

ATTEST:

Secretary

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item VI.B.

Meeting Date: October 6, 2025

Meeting Type: Regular

Item Type: Consent Agenda

Future Action Required: No

If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: Quarterly Investment Report as of August 31, 2025

Background Information: Per CDA(LLEGAL) - Quarterly investment reports must be submitted to the board and the superintendent for review within a reasonable time after the end of the period. This report provides the investment position of the district on the date of the report and demonstrates compliance with the district's investment policy and relevant provision of the Public Investment Act. In this report you will find beginning market value, ending market value, book value, and accrued interest for the period for each pooled fund as well as separately invested asset.

Attached Supporting Documents: Quarterly Investment Report for the Quarter Ended August 31, 2025

Fiscal Implications: None

Administrative Recommendation: None

Contact Person: Jennifer Hinds, Chief Financial Officer



**ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO SUMMARY
FOR THE QUARTER ENDED AUGUST 31, 2025**

FUND	5/31/2025 FAIR VALUE	ADDITIONS	DISTRIBUTIONS	8/31/2025 FAIR VALUE
GENERAL FUND	\$ 45,423,437.70	\$ 35,508,200.83	\$ 54,608,020.33	\$ 26,323,618.20
FOOD SERVICE	2,989,517.21	31,830.75	-	3,021,347.96
DEBT SERVICE	13,439,871.00	4,719,515.68	3,845,424.68	14,313,962.00
WORKERS COMPENSATION	2,249,794.34	23,954.58	-	2,273,748.92
TOTALS	\$ 64,102,620.25	\$ 40,283,501.84	\$ 58,453,445.01	\$ 45,932,677.08

INVESTMENT TYPE	%	8/31/2025 FAIR VALUE
INVESTMENT POOLS	47.77%	\$ 21,940,297.88
BANKS	52.23%	\$ 23,992,379.20
U. S. AGENCIES	0.00%	-
TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	100.00%	\$ 45,932,677.08

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

The investment portfolio presented in these reports conforms in all respects to the investment policies of Abilene Independent School District as approved by the Board of Trustees of Abilene Independent School District.



 Jennifer Hinds, Chief Financial Officer

9/29/25

 Date



 Jennifer Beall, Comptroller

9/29/25

 Date

ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMPLIANCE REPORT - FUND DETAILS
FOR THE QUARTER ENDED AUGUST 31, 2025

SECURITY	CALLED / MATURITY	BOOK VALUE		FAIR VALUE		Change in FMV	Quarterly Additions	Quarterly Distributions
		05/31/25	08/31/25	05/31/25	08/31/25			
GENERAL FUND								
TEXPOOL	OPEN	44,332,477.85	13,698,336.78	44,332,477.85	13,698,336.78	(30,634,141.07)	19,973,879.26	(50,608,020.33)
SUBTOTAL - INVESTMENT POOLS	52.04%	\$ 44,332,477.85	\$ 13,698,336.78	\$ 44,332,477.85	\$ 13,698,336.78	(30,634,141.07)	19,973,879.26	(50,608,020.33)
FIRST FINANCIAL								
TEXPOOL	OPEN	1,090,959.85	12,625,281.42	1,090,959.85	12,625,281.42	11,534,321.57	15,534,321.57	(4,000,000.00)
SUBTOTAL - BANKS	47.96%	\$ 1,090,959.85	\$ 12,625,281.42	\$ 1,090,959.85	\$ 12,625,281.42	11,534,321.57	15,534,321.57	(4,000,000.00)
Fed Exr 5.125% 3133EBBS9 FHMC 5.500% 3134GYQL1 FNMA 5.550% 3135GAS77 U. S. AGENCIES								
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	100.00%	\$ 45,423,437.70	\$ 26,323,618.20	\$ 45,423,437.70	\$ 26,323,618.20	\$ (19,099,819.50)	\$ 35,508,200.83	\$ (54,608,020.33)

Settlement Or Last Interest Pymnt Date	PAR Value	Days Accrued	Int. Rate
04/21/23	-	863	0.000%
07/05/23	-	788	0.000%
08/31/25	-	901	5.125%
03/14/23	-	837	5.500%
05/17/23	-	824	5.550%
05/30/23	-	-	-
08/31/25	-	-	-

Less: Beg Bal 381,446.85
End Bal (381,446.85)

YE - YE Accrued Interest Adjustment			
Acct String	Debit	Credit	
199-00-1250-00-000-00-000-2019-000	-	381,446.85	
199-00-5742-00-000-99-999-2019-999	381,446.85	-	

SECURITY	CALLED / MATURITY	BOOK VALUE		FAIR VALUE		Change in FMV	Quarterly Additions	Quarterly Distributions
		05/31/25	08/31/25	05/31/25	08/31/25			
FOOD SERVICE FUND								
TEXPOOL	OPEN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUBTOTAL - INVESTMENT POOLS	0.00%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-	-
FIRST FINANCIAL								
TEXPOOL	OPEN	2,989,517.21	3,021,347.96	2,989,517.21	3,021,347.96	31,830.75	31,830.75	-
SUBTOTAL - BANKS	100.00%	\$ 2,989,517.21	\$ 3,021,347.96	\$ 2,989,517.21	\$ 3,021,347.96	31,830.75	31,830.75	-
TOTAL FOOD SERVICE	100.00%	\$ 2,989,517.21	\$ 3,021,347.96	\$ 2,989,517.21	\$ 3,021,347.96	31,830.75	31,830.75	-

SECURITY	CALLED / MATURITY	BOOK VALUE		FAIR VALUE		Change in FMV	Quarterly Additions	Quarterly Distributions
		05/31/25	08/31/25	05/31/25	08/31/25			
DEBT SERVICE FUND								
TEXPOOL	OPEN	7,122,849.02	8,241,961.10	7,122,849.02	8,241,961.10	1,119,112.08	4,652,403.05	(3,533,290.97)
SUBTOTAL - INVESTMENT POOLS	57.58%	\$ 7,122,849.02	\$ 8,241,961.10	\$ 7,122,849.02	\$ 8,241,961.10	1,119,112.08	4,652,403.05	(3,533,290.97)
FIRST FINANCIAL								
TEXPOOL	OPEN	6,317,021.98	6,072,000.90	6,317,021.98	6,072,000.90	(245,021.08)	67,112.63	(312,133.71)
SUBTOTAL - BANKS	42.42%	\$ 6,317,021.98	\$ 6,072,000.90	\$ 6,317,021.98	\$ 6,072,000.90	(245,021.08)	67,112.63	(312,133.71)
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	100.00%	\$ 13,439,871.00	\$ 14,313,962.00	\$ 13,439,871.00	\$ 14,313,962.00	874,091.00	4,719,515.68	(3,845,424.68)

SECURITY	CALLED / MATURITY	BOOK VALUE		FAIR VALUE		Change in FMV	Quarterly Additions	Quarterly Distributions
		05/31/25	08/31/25	05/31/25	08/31/25			
WORKERS COMPENSATION FUND								
TEXPOOL	OPEN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUBTOTAL - INVESTMENT POOLS	0.00%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-	-
FIRST FINANCIAL								
TEXPOOL	OPEN	2,249,794.34	2,273,748.92	2,249,794.34	2,273,748.92	23,954.58	23,954.58	-
SUBTOTAL - BANKS	100.00%	\$ 2,249,794.34	\$ 2,273,748.92	\$ 2,249,794.34	\$ 2,273,748.92	23,954.58	23,954.58	-
TOTAL WORKERS COMPENSATION	100.00%	\$ 2,249,794.34	\$ 2,273,748.92	\$ 2,249,794.34	\$ 2,273,748.92	23,954.58	23,954.58	-
TOTAL - ALL FUNDS		\$ 64,102,620.25	\$ 45,932,677.08	\$ 64,102,620.25	\$ 45,932,677.08	(18,169,943.17)		

Average Portfolio Yield by Investment Type
Texpool 4.30%
First Financial 5.16%

Weighted Average Maturity
General Fund 1.00 days
Food Service 1.00 day
Debt Service 1.00 day
Workers Compensation 1.00 day
Grand Total 1.00 days

Ratio of FV to Cost 100.00%
(Any ratio in excess of 99.50% is considered acceptable.)

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item IX.B

Meeting Date: October 6, 2025

Meeting Type: Regular Board Meeting

Item Type: Action Item

Future Action Required: Yes

If Yes, Month: January

Subject: District of Innovation Renewal Process

Background Information: In accordance with the Texas Education Code Chapter 12A, the Board may consider revision of their District of Innovation (DOI) Plan by Board Resolution. The intent of entering the DOI process is to acquire feedback and possible recommendations for adding additional exceptions to our current DOI plan. There are also changes to the plan that are required due to the state legislature's adoption of House Bill 2. The consideration of the attached Resolution will begin a process outlined by the Texas Education Code and will involve multiple steps and considerable feedback. Renewing the plan at this time allows the district of innovation committee to review our current plan carefully and look at other areas in which we could enhance our plan.

If the Board adopts the resolution for the DOI Plan, the Board will promptly hold a public hearing to consider whether the district should develop revisions to the local innovation plan.

Additional steps in the DOI revision process will be followed in accordance with Chapter 12A of the Texas Education Code.

Nominations for the District of Innovation (DOI) plan committee members have been finalized and are attached. It is our plan to hold three meetings where we review possible language for the DOI plan and then vote on a final draft to present to the board.

Attached Supporting Documents:

- District of Innovation Presentation
- District of Innovation Timeline
- District of Innovation Resolution
- District of Innovation Recommended Committee Members
- Current District of Innovation Plan

Fiscal Implications:

None

Administrative Recommendation:

Approval of DOI Resolution

Contact Person: Alison Sims

District of Innovation

Timeline of Events

	DATE	ACTIVITY
BOARD CONSIDERATION	October 6, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board information - The Abilene ISD Board of Trustees will be provided an overview of TEC Chapter 12A District of Innovation provisions. • Resolution adoption – Abilene ISD Trustees will be asked to approve a resolution to initiate the process of renewing our District of Innovation plan. • Public Hearing – Abilene ISD Trustees will hold a public hearing to solicit input on the District of Innovation renewal opportunity. • Committee Appointment – Abilene ISD Trustees will appoint a local innovation committee to renew and further develop a local innovation plan.
PLAN DEVELOPMENT	October 7, 2025	<p>Texas Education Agency Notification</p> <p>The Abilene ISD will notify the Texas Education Agency of its Board of Trustees intention to amend and develop an Abilene ISD Innovation Plan.</p>
	3 meetings (October 14, November 6, November 18, 2025)	<p>Plan Development</p> <p>The Abilene ISD Innovation Committee will develop the Abilene ISD Innovation Plan.</p>
PUBLIC INPUT/FEEDBACK	December 2, 2025	<p>District Wide Consultation Committee Approval</p> <p>The Abilene ISD District Wide Consultation Committee will be asked to approve the proposed Abilene ISD Innovation Plan.</p>
	December 3, 2025	<p>District Innovation Plan Posted</p> <p>The proposed Abilene ISD Innovation Plan will be posted online for at least 30 days.</p>

APPROVAL	January 12, 2025	Board of Trustees Approval The Abilene ISD Board of Trustees will be asked to approve the proposed Abilene ISD Innovation Plan.
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**ABILENE
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Local Innovation Plan
2022-2026**

To be considered by the AISD Board of Trustees

May 9, 2022

Amended August 28, 2023

PLACED ON WEBSITE March 30, 2022



Board of Trustees

Daryl Zeller, President
Cindy Earles, Vice President
Angie Wiley, Secretary
Bill Enriquez, Assistant Secretary
Rodney Goodman, Member
Derek Hood, Member
Dr. Danny Wheat, Member

District Administration

Dr. David Young, Superintendent
Dr. Gustavo Villanueva, Associate Superintendent for Leadership & Student Services
Alison Sims, Associate Superintendent for Human Resources
Scott McLean, Associate Superintendent for Operations
Dr. Ketta Garduno, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Dr. Joseph Waldron, Chief Financial Officer

Timeline of Events

	DATE	ACTIVITY
BOARD CONSIDERATION	January 6, 2022	Board Information The Abilene ISD Board of Trustees will be provided an overview of TEC Chapter 12A District of Innovation provisions.
	February 7, 2022	Resolution Adoption Abilene ISD Trustees will be asked to approve a resolution to initiate the process of amending our District of Innovation plan,
	February 7, 2022	Public Hearing Abilene ISD Trustees will hold a public hearing to solicit input on the District of Innovation amendment opportunity.
	February 7, 2022	Committee Appointment Abilene ISD Trustees will appoint a Local Innovation Committee to amend and develop a Local Innovation Plan.
PLAN DEVELOPMENT	February 8, 2022	Texas Education Agency Notification The Abilene ISD will notify the Texas Education Agency of its Board of Trustees intention to amend and develop an Abilene ISD Innovation Plan.
	3 meetings	Plan Development The Abilene ISD Innovation Committee will amend and develop the Abilene ISD Innovation Plan
PUBLIC INPUT/FEEDBACK	March 23, 2022	District Wide Consultation Committee Approval The Abilene ISD District Wide Consultation Committee will be asked to approve the proposed Abilene ISD Innovation Plan.
	March 24, 2022	District Innovation Plan Posted The proposed Abilene ISD Innovation Plan will be posted online for at least 30 days.
APPROVAL	May 9, 2022	Board of Trustees Approval The Abilene ISD Board of Trustees will be asked to approve the proposed Abilene ISD Innovation Plan.

INNOVATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

The LIFT	Zach Hageman	CTE Teacher
Abilene High	Lori Wallace	Foreign Language Teacher
Cooper High	Michael Goodman	Math Teacher
Holland	Holley Davila	Science Teacher
DAEP	Todd Nix	History Teacher
Clack	Amanda Hamilton	Math Teacher
Craig	Krystal Villarreal	English Teacher
Madison	Nicholas Edwards	CTE Teacher
Mann	Cheryl Macke	History Teacher
Alcorta	Kallie Pringle	3 rd grade Teacher
Austin	Kari McQueen	1 st grade Teacher
Bassetti	Summer Morgan	3 rd grade Teacher
Bonham	Kevin Wright	2 nd grade Teacher
Bowie	Bethany Connell	Art Teacher
Dyess	Alan Jones	Music Teacher
Martinez	Monica Hutchison	Music Teacher
Ortiz	Ivana Bailey	Bilingual Teacher
Purcell	Teresa Adkins	3 rd grade Teacher
Stafford	Mary Cathryn Timpner	5 th grade Teacher
Taylor	Teresa Graham	Music Teacher
Thomas	Kim Rowlands	Special Education Teacher
Ward	Amanda Rosser	1 st grade Teacher
Long	Danielle King	Head Start Teacher
Woodson	Jini Lee Wallace	Teacher

ABILENE ISD INNOVATION PLAN

INTRODUCTION

House Bill (HB) 1842, passed during the 84th Legislative Session, permits Texas public school districts to become Districts of Innovation and to obtain exemption from certain provisions of the Texas Education Code.

Potential benefits of becoming a District of Innovation include:

- **Flexibility:** Districts will have the flexibility to implement practices similar to charter schools, including exemptions from certain mandates including the uniform school start date and required minutes of instruction.
- **Local control:** Districts decide which flexibilities best suit their local needs.
- **Autonomy:** Districts must submit a district of innovation plan to the commissioner of education, but approval is not required.

On November 6, 2017, the Abilene Independent School District's Board of Trustees ("Board") considered a Resolution to explore the development of a District of Innovation Plan to increase local control over District operations and to support innovation and local initiatives. The adoption of this plan seeks to increase the District's flexibility in order to improve educational outcomes for the benefit of students and the community. On December 11, 2017, the Board held a public hearing, approved a Resolution and appointed a 35-member Innovation Planning Committee ("Committee"). The committee was comprised of diverse leaders representing a cross-section of the District's stakeholders, including teachers, principals, parents, community members, and administrators. The Committee met on December 14, 2017, January 11, 2018, January 25, 2018, February 8, 2018 and February 15, 2018 to discuss and draft the Local Innovation Plan ("Plan"). The Committee met with the Districtwide Consultation Committee on February 28, 2018. The DWCC conducted a public forum and accepted input on the proposed District of Innovation Plan. At the conclusion of the public forum, the DWCC approved the plan. The Abilene ISD Board of Trustees adopted the Plan at its meeting on April 9, 2018.

TERM

The term of the Plan is for four years, beginning May 9, 2022 and ending April 30, 2026, unless terminated or amended earlier by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the law. If, within the term of this Plan, other areas of operations are to be considered for flexibility as part of HB 1842, the Board will appoint a new committee to consider and propose additional exemptions in the form of an amendment to the Plan. Any amendment adopted by the Board will not extend the term of this Plan. The District may not implement two separate plans at any one time.

The innovation planning committee that worked to develop this plan was appreciative of the transparent and inclusive nature of the innovation planning process utilized. The members felt that the composition of the committee, which included a staff member from every campus in the district, honored the insight and input of the district's teachers. The committee strongly recommends that the membership of any innovation planning committee convened in future years will respect this commitment to teachers as instructional leaders and a vital stakeholder group in our district.

AREAS OF INNOVATION

With regard to each area of innovation, the District declares exemption from the listed statutory provisions, as well as any implementing rules or regulations promulgated pursuant to those statutory provisions by any state agency or entity, including but not limited to the Commissioner of Education, Texas Education Agency, State Board for Educator Certification, and State Board of Education.

1. T.E.C. Section §25.0811 First Day of Instruction (Uniform School Start Date)

Section §25.0811 FIRST DAY OF INSTRUCTION (a) Except as provided by this section, a school district may not begin instruction for students for a school year before the fourth Monday in August.

Current Status:

Texas Education Code Section §25.0811 restricts Abilene ISD's ability to annually establish an instructional calendar that best meets the instructional needs of students and the priorities of the community by prohibiting the District from beginning instruction before the fourth Monday in August. Restricting the school start date to the fourth Monday in August operationally challenges Abilene ISD because the required 75,600 instructional minutes must be scheduled between the fourth Monday in August and early June. The flexibility of the start date allows the district to determine locally, on an annual basis, what best meets the need of the students, the schools, and the community.

Benefit of Exemption:

Having the flexibility to establish a school start date prior to the fourth Monday in August will enable the District to:

- provide the District Wide Consultation Committee (DWCC) the flexibility to determine locally, on an annual basis, what start and end dates best meet the needs of students, schools, and the community. For example, the district may start with a shortened week at the beginning of school to ease transition for students, families and staff
- better balance the amount of instructional time available in each semester, providing classroom teachers the opportunity to deliver more equitable learning experiences for students in the fall and spring semesters, and to complete the first semester prior to the winter break
- provide more instructional time prior to the administration of spring state assessments and minimize lost instructional time after the conclusion of state assessments
- provide additional time at the conclusion of the school calendar for provision of remedial instruction prior to summer administration of state assessments required for grade level promotion or graduation
- utilize flexibility to schedule student breaks/holidays, professional development or other options during the school year
- complete the school year prior to the end of May to allow for increased flexibility in scheduling graduation and allow students to enroll in college courses that begin in early June, thereby increasing college and career readiness

Local Innovation Procedures:

The Abilene ISD District Wide Consultation Committee (DWCC), comprised of teachers, administrators, support personnel, parents, and business and community leaders, serves as the District's calendar committee. The DWCC will develop instructional calendar options and recommend a preferred option for Board consideration. In developing calendar options, the DWCC will utilize the flexibility of having

more local control on the school start date, not to exceed more than one week before the Uniform School Start Date.

Exemption from the Texas Education Code Section §25.0811 may require revisions in the District policies at EB (LEGAL) and (LOCAL).

2. T.E.C. Section §21.003 (a); T.E.C. Section §21.053 (a)-(b); Certification Required

Section §21.003 CERTIFICATION REQUIRED (a) A person may not be employed as a teacher, teacher intern or teacher trainee, librarian, educational aide, administrator, educational diagnostician, or school counselor by a school district unless the person holds an appropriate certificate or permit issued as provided by Subchapter B.

*Sec. 21.053. PRESENTATION AND RECORDING OF CERTIFICATES. (a) A person who desires to teach in a public school shall present the person's certificate for filing with the employing district before the person's contract with the board of trustees of the district is binding.
(b) An educator who does not hold a valid certificate may not be paid for teaching or work done before the effective date of issuance of a valid certificate.*

Current Status:

T.E.C. Section §21.003 requiring appropriate state certification for all teaching positions, and T.E.C. Section §21.053 requiring a teacher to present his or her certificate to the district before their employment contract will be binding, and prohibiting the district from paying an educator if the educator does not hold a valid certificate at the time of hire, inhibit the District's ability to fill certain teaching positions having very limited certified candidate pools. In addition, these sections do not allow flexibility of placement for certified teachers within grade levels in elementary schools, or for the district to hire a teacher fully certified in another state until Texas certification or a T.E.A. approved waiver is obtained.

In the event a district cannot locate an appropriately certified teacher for a hard-to-fill position, the district must request emergency certification from the Texas Education Agency and/or State Board of Educator Certification, and the Commissioner may subsequently deny such requests. This system is burdensome and does not take into account the unique financial and/or instructional needs of the district. These sections make it difficult for the district to recruit, employ and retain persons who have appropriate expertise, experience and/or industry certifications that make them well qualified to fill such positions. In some cases, these statutory requirements have resulted in the termination of certain courses of study due to the inability to hire certified teaching candidates, and the transfer of certified teachers to other campuses.

Benefit of Exemption:

Abilene ISD prides itself in hiring the highest quality teaching staff for the benefit of all learners. Occasionally, teachers are needed for positions that are extremely difficult to fill due to the lack of a certified teacher candidate pool. To supply the high quality teachers needed for all programs, this flexibility would allow the district to expand the pool of qualified candidates and employ highly qualified educators that might not ordinarily meet the requirements under the traditional teacher certification pathways. An exemption from these requirements will allow Abilene ISD to issue a local school district teaching permit to individuals who do not hold a Texas teaching certificate, but whom the district deems highly qualified to teach in a particular subject area as specified in the local guidelines. This flexibility in certification requirements will also allow more flexibility in elementary teaching and Disciplinary Alternative Education Program/Juvenile Detention Center assignments, and provide more options for

secondary students in course scheduling, dual credit classes, and course offerings leading to industry-recognized certifications.

Local Innovation Procedures:

Abilene ISD will maintain its current expectation for teacher certification, and continue to seek highly effective certified educators for all teaching positions. The district will make every attempt to hire individuals with appropriate certification for the position(s) in question at the time of hire. However, where that is not reasonably possible, the district will have the flexibility to issue a local teaching permit and hire individuals who are knowledgeable in the area and are fully equipped to effectively perform the duties of the position in question based on local certification criteria without requesting a waiver from T.E.A.

A. A campus principal may submit to the Superintendent and/or the Superintendent's Designee a request to issue a local school district teaching permit to a highly qualified candidate who does not hold a Texas teaching certificate. To adequately supply programs with qualified candidates, the district requires the flexibility to hire community college and university professors, community professionals, and college graduates with Bachelor's Degrees, as well as current staff members who would qualify for placement in assignments outside of their traditional certification areas and to retain them. The district will establish local qualification and training requirements for professionals and experts to teach such courses in lieu of state requirements. These exemptions are of particular importance for hard-to-fill and high-demand courses.

Qualification for a local school district teaching permit could include, but not be limited to: demonstrated subject expertise, professional work experience, formal training/education in the content area, active/relevant professional industry certification, or a combination of work experience, advanced training and education, and/or demonstration of successful experience working with students. Applicants without a Bachelor's degree will only be considered for Career and Technology Education positions.

When positions are posted and candidates are interviewed, certified teachers in their fields will be considered first. However, the candidate who is considered to be of highest quality may be selected regardless of certification. After the required posting period and candidate interviews, if the principal desires to hire a candidate with other qualifications, the principal must specify in writing the reason for the request and document what specific credentials (i.e. experience, expertise, and/or industry certifications) the prospective teacher possesses that would qualify the individual to teach that subject(s). The Superintendent must approve the selection and report the action to the Board at the first board meeting following the assignment. The individuals hired under this exemption will be provided with district identified training and resources, and the support of a mentor to ensure their success. The candidate's need to obtain SBEC certification will be determined by the Associate Superintendent for Human Resources. **Certification is required for core subjects. Teachers hired under this exemption must complete the Texas teacher certification process and present documentation of valid Texas certification to the Personnel Department within three years of hire.** Candidates with advanced degrees teaching in grades 7th-12th may be exempt from the certification requirement after review of credentials by the Associate Superintendent for Human Resources. Parents will be notified in writing if students are being taught by a teacher hired under this exemption.

Commented [1]: Remove "Certification is required for core subjects" Start the sentence with "Teachers hired under this exemption..."

Commented [2]: Remove "in grades 7-12."

B. A campus principal may submit to the Superintendent and/or the Superintendent's Designee a request to issue a local school district teaching permit to a highly qualified candidate who holds valid teacher certification in another state, but does not currently hold Texas SBEC certification.

After the required posting period and candidate interviews, the principal must specify in writing the reason for the request and document what specific credentials (i.e. certification in another state) the prospective teacher possesses that qualify the individual to teach that subject(s). The Superintendent must approve the selection and report the action to the Board at the first board meeting following the assignment. Individuals hired under this exemption will be provided with district identified training and resources, and the support of a mentor to ensure their success. Teachers hired under this exemption must complete the Texas teacher certification process and present documentation of valid Texas certification to the Personnel Department within two years of hire. Parents will be notified in writing if students are being taught by a teacher hired under this exemption.

C. ~~For grades K-5, a campus principal may submit to the Superintendent and/or the Superintendent's Designee a request to issue a local school district teaching permit to an SBEC certified teacher currently employed by the district to teach an elementary grade level for which he/she is well qualified but not currently certified. For example, a teacher that holds certification for grades 4-8 might be assigned to 3rd grade, or a teacher with EC-4 certification might be assigned to 5th grade. In addition, A~~ campus principal for a Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) and/or the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) may also submit a request to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's Designee for issuance of a local school district teaching permit for an SBEC certified teacher to teach a grade level/subject for which he/she is well qualified but not currently certified. DAEP/JDC teacher certification exemptions may be utilized as needed to teach the full range of students served in these temporary placements. The District will only utilize exemptions outlined in this section when the out of grade-level assignment within the District is mutually agreeable to both the principal and teacher in question. Elementary teachers assigned under this exemption must complete the Texas teacher certification process for the grade level to be taught and present documentation of their certification to the Personnel Department within two years of assignment. Parents will be notified in writing if students are being taught by a teacher assigned under this exemption.

D. Teacher certification waiver requests, state permit applications or other paperwork will not be submitted to the Texas Education Agency for any of these proposed exemptions.

~~E. All other teachers and staff not specifically exempted by these guidelines will not be exempt from TEC Sections §21.003 or §21.053. Notwithstanding the foregoing, all certification requirements will remain in place for special education and primary ESL (bilingual) teachers.~~

Exemption from the Texas Education Code Sections §21.003 and § 21.053 may require revisions in the District policies at DBA (LEGAL) and DBA (LOCAL); DK (Legal), DK (Local), and DK (Exhibit).

3. T.E.C. Section 37.006 ; T.E.C. Section 37.008; Student Discipline

Effective September 1, 2023, TEC §37.006 mandates the following:

(b) Subject to the requirements of Section 37.009(a), a student shall be removed from class and placed in a disciplinary alternative education program as provided by Section 37.008 if the student:

(2) commits the following on or within 300 feet of school property, as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off of school property:

(C) sells, gives, or delivers to another person or possesses or uses or is under the influence of:

(C-1) possesses, uses, or is under the influence of, or sells, gives, or delivers to another person marihuana, as defined by Section 481.002, Health and Safety Code, or tetrahydrocannabinol, as defined by rule adopted under Section 481.003 of that code;

(C-2) possesses, uses, sells, gives, or delivers to another person an e-cigarette, as defined by Section 161.081, Health and Safety Code;

Current Status:

The above language allows no flexibility, other than the mandatory mitigating factors provided in TEC §37.001. Previously, districts could handle student misconduct regarding e-cigarettes and/or vape pens pursuant to their respective Codes of Conduct or Student Handbook. The statute essentially creates a zero-tolerance, automatic DAEP placement for students.

Benefit of Exemption:

- Relief from the statute will enable the District to create its own discipline matrix and provide students a "second chance" if found with e-cigarettes, vape pens, or other related paraphernalia.
- Relief from the statute will enable the District to offer students a lesser consequence for violating the above statute, such as detention, in-school suspension, or another appropriate consequence.

Local Innovation Procedures:

The Abilene ISD will develop its own discipline matrix as it relates to the above instances of misconduct.



Board of Trustees Meeting

October 6, 2025



Agenda Item

Alison Sims



District of Innovation

Alison Sims



What is a District of Innovation?

- A designation that provides Texas public school districts flexibility similar to charter schools
- Allows exemptions from certain Texas Education Code requirements
- Enables local control to better serve students and communities

What is the District of Innovation Process?

Board adopts Resolution, holds a public hearing, appoints District of Innovation Committee

October 6

District of Innovation Committee meets to develop and modify plan

**October 14,
November 6,
November 18**

Plan developed by committee is posted on Abilene ISD website for at least 30 days

**November
19 - January
12**

District-wide Consultation Committee votes on plan approval

December 2

Board votes on plan approval

January 12



Examples of Exemptions

- Uniform school start date
- Teacher certification for teachers of elective courses
- Class size waiver submission
- Instructional minutes flexibility for teacher professional development
- Expanding excused absences for junior/senior college visits
- Probationary contract extension
- Teacher appraisal - locally developed
- Bank depository term/bids/awards



Key Prohibitions and Requirements



- Public transparency
- Academic standards
- Financial integrity



- State testing and accountability
- Student and teacher safety requirements
- Special education and bilingual education
- Graduation requirements
- Financial accountability



Plan Implementation Requirements

- Plan must be posted on the Abilene ISD district website
- TEA must be notified within 15 days of plan adoption
- District leadership must regularly review and monitor exemptions
- Abilene ISD must maintain continuous compliance with non-exempted requirements



Questions?

Resolution

Public Hearing

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item VIII.A.

Meeting Date: October 6, 2025

Meeting Type: Regular

Item Type: Report

Future Action Required: No

If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: Taylor County Appraisal District – Mr. Gary Earnest

Background Information: Gary Earnest, Chief Appraiser at the Taylor County Appraisal District, will be presenting the State of the Appraisal District to the Board. Gary will cover topics relating the operation of the CAD, the election process for the board of directors, and the latest updated on valuation.

Attached Supporting Documents: Presentation

Fiscal Implications: None

Administrative Recommendation: None

Contact Person: Jennifer Hinds, Chief Financial Officer

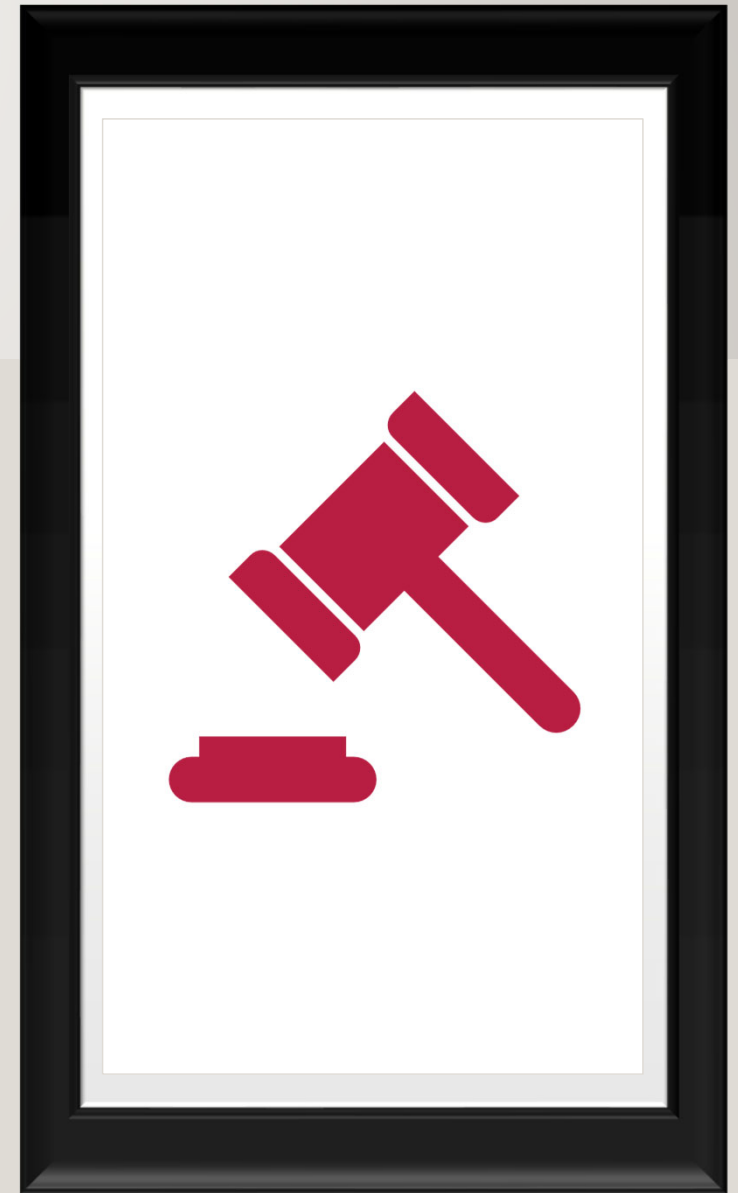


ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

STATE OF THE APPRAISAL

CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT OF TAYLOR COUNTY

The Central Appraisal District of Taylor County is a political subdivision of the State of Texas created January 1, 1980. The provisions of the Texas Property Tax Code govern the legal, statutory, and administrative requirements of the appraisal district.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2027

AI SD will hold one seat on the Appraisal District Board of Directors:

Current AI SD representative willing to serve:

- **John Stearns**
 - Past AI SD Board President
 - Owner – Quail Well Service, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS	LENGTH OF TERM	BEGIN TERM	END TERM	# OF DIRECTORS
APPOINTED DIRECTORS				
APPOINTED BY DECEMBER 15, 2023	1 YEAR	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	5
APPOINTED BY DECEMBER 31, 2024	1 YEAR	1/1/2025	12/31/2025	2
APPOINTED BY DECEMBER 31, 2024	3 YEAR	1/1/2025	12/31/2027	3
APPOINTED BY DECEMBER 31, 2025	4 YEAR	1/1/2026	12/31/2029	2
APPOINTED BY DECEMBER 31, 2027	4 YEAR	1/1/2028	12/31/2031	3

ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

The Board of Directors, based on votes, are appointed by the taxing units within the boundaries of the Taylor County.

- AISD represents 22.43% of Levy
- 1,116 Votes



2025 ABILENE ISD CERTIFIED VALUES

Abilene ISD 221-901

2025 Taylor / Jones Certified Totals (\$100,000)

County	Net Taxable	Freeze Ceiling Actual Tax	Freeze Ceiling Taxable	Freeze Adj Taxable	New Value Taxable
Taylor	\$ 7,050,409,299	\$ 1,906,027	\$ 592,783,479	\$ 6,454,219,498	\$ 559,024,940
Jones	\$ 101,987,660	\$ 28,512	\$ 10,830,160	\$ 91,162,130	\$ 1,014,170
	\$ 7,152,396,959	\$ 1,934,539	\$ 603,613,639	\$ 6,545,381,628	\$ 560,039,110
	New Value Market	First Time Partial Exempt	First Time Absolute Exempt	Appraised Value	2024 Certified Net Taxable
Taylor	\$ 605,062,345	\$ 30,595,667	\$ 4,383,885	\$ 12,902,733,585	\$ 6,196,713,672
Jones	\$ 1,229,140	\$ 228,690	\$ 45,440	\$ 134,718,434	\$ 88,633,650
	\$ 606,291,485	\$ 30,824,357	\$ 4,429,325	\$ 13,037,452,019	\$ 6,285,347,322

2025 ABILENE ISD CERTIFIED VALUES

(\$612,701,111)

Abilene ISD 221-901						
2025 Taylor / Jones Certified Totals (\$140,000)						
County	Net Taxable	Freeze Ceiling Actual Tax	Freeze Ceiling Taxable	Freeze Adj Taxable	New Value Taxable	
Taylor	\$ 6,447,346,898	\$ 1,393,466	\$ 242,881,899	\$ 6,202,957,611	\$ 554,037,011	
Jones	\$ 92,348,950	\$ 23,447	\$ 5,072,510	\$ 87,276,440	\$ 856,320	
	\$ 6,539,695,848	\$ 1,416,913	\$ 247,954,409	\$ 6,290,234,051	\$ 554,893,331	
	New Value Market	First Time Partial Exempt	First Time Absolute Exempt	Appraised Value	2024 Certified Net Taxable	
Taylor	\$ 605,062,345	\$ 45,285,107	\$ 4,383,885	\$ 12,902,733,585	\$ 6,196,713,672	
Jones	\$ 1,229,140	\$ 10,041,550	\$ 45,440	\$ 134,718,434	\$ 88,633,650	
	\$ 606,291,485	\$ 55,326,657	\$ 4,429,325	\$ 13,037,452,019	\$ 6,285,347,322	

LUDICROUS BLDG 2

617 FM 2404

ABILENE, TX 79601



OWNER

TRUCKSHEET & STORE, INC.
101 CA RIFORD STREET SUITE 400
DENVER CO, 80202

PROJECT MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGY ENGINEER

ALPINE COMPUTER, 8014 BLYE
101 ROBERT ROAD SUITE 101
SAN JOSE, CA 95131

MECHANICAL & PLUMBING ENGINEER

MECHANICAL
101 RIFORD STREET SUITE 400
DENVER CO, 80202

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

ELABOR, P.C. INC.
124 HANCOCK CANTONMENT DRIVE SUITE 100
LOS ANGELES CA 90047

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

SPRUELL, INC.
1175 EAST FORT WALKER SUITE 201
MCKINNEY TX 75069

ARCHITECT

HKS, INC.
5000 WEST FALLOUT BLVD
DALLAS TX 75236

CIVIL

TRUCKSHEET & STORE, INC.
101 RIFORD STREET SUITE 101, P.O. BOX 100
SAN JOSE, CA 95131

LANDSCAPE

TRUCKSHEET & STORE, INC.
101 RIFORD STREET SUITE 101, P.O. BOX 100
SAN JOSE, CA 95131

ISSUE FOR PERMIT

08/30/2024



PROJECT NO. 26473.020
DATE: 08/30/2024



PROJECT BACKGROUND

- Property: DTC Liquid-Cooled Data Center
- Owner: Lancium Technologies
 - Infrastructure Company: Crusoe Energy Systems LLC (“Crusoe”)
 - Infrastructure Lessee: Oracle Corporation
- AI workloads at scale across 1.2 GW of power capacity
- 1.2 GW could power approximately 1,051,200 households for one year

LANCIUM CLEAN CAMPUS DATA CENTER - 2025 VALUE

Real Property Value	959214 sqft	
Marshall & Swift Indicated Value		450,830,580
Blended % Complete		41%
Building Value		184,840,538
Land Value		366,014
Turbine at 20.66% Complete		11,221,488
Real Property Assessment =		196,428,040
MEP RENDERED VALUE (CRUSOE) ASAP		
MEP at January 1 per AIA (costs incurred)		241,582,863
Apply 10-year Depreciation - 1st Year		(19,326,629)
MEP Value Assessment =		222,256,234
TOTAL ASSESSMENT =		418,684,274

ABILENE ISD FIVE-YEAR COLLECTIONS REPORT

ABILENE ISD							
	ADJUSTED	TAX			** TOTAL	COLLECTION	EXCESS
YEAR	LEVY	COLLECTION	PENALTY	INTEREST	COLLECTED	PERCENTAGE	OF LEVY
2019	62,754,290.71	62,680,183.45	300,368.84	196,418.30	63,289,060.16	100.85%	534,769.45
2020	63,939,033.28	63,845,222.32	277,540.48	174,763.07	64,449,165.85	100.80%	510,132.57
2021	67,522,622.45	67,386,542.70	318,588.76	192,021.31	68,161,424.43	100.95%	638,801.98
2022	69,491,743.88	69,278,061.54	337,941.89	196,561.57	69,991,869.83	100.72%	500,125.95
2023	56,929,578.76	56,411,709.79	274,090.76	131,302.45	56,989,120.47	100.10%	59,541.71
					TOTAL EXCESS OF LEVY = \$ 2,243,371.66		

** TOTAL COLLECTED LEVY IS INCLUSIVE OF PENALTY, INTEREST, OVERPAYMENT, BPP PENALTY AND EXCESS FUNDS

**DISTRICT
TRANSPARENCY**

- Annual Agreed Upon Procedures Audit – October
- Annual Financial Audit – February
- Comptroller Property Value Study – Odd year
- Comptroller Methods and Procedure Study – Even year
- Request a three-year PVS Audit adjustment to TEA
- Annual Report of Appraisal – December
- Mass Appraisal Report – June
- Annual Publication – Exemption, Appeal, Budget

MORE THAN A TAX OFFICE



**Source of Education
and General
Information**



**Support the Entities
that we serve**



**Inform the
Community**



**Serve as a Data
Warehouse**



**Provide excellent
Customer Service**



QUESTIONS?

GARY EARNEST, RPA, RTA, CTA, CCA

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

(325) 676-9381 EXT 124

EARNEST@CADTX.ORG

WWW.TAYLOR-CAD.ORG



Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item

Meeting Date: October 6, 2025

Meeting Type: Regular

Item Type: Report

Future Action Required: No

If Yes, Month:

Subject: Goal Progress Measures - Beginning of Year Assessments

Background Information:

As required by HB3, Abilene ISD has an Early Childhood Literacy Board Outcome Goal and an Early Childhood Math Board Outcome Goal. These goals are based on 3rd grade students achieving Meets or higher on the 3rd grade Reading and Math STAAR assessments. Throughout the school year, students in grades K-3 are assessed in different ways to track their progress and plan for instruction and intervention.

Attached Supporting Documents:

Presentation slidedeck: [Board Meeting 10/2025 - Goal Progress Measures](#)

Fiscal Implications:

Cost for assessments and platform use

Administrative Recommendation:

Informational only

Contact Person:

Keri Thornburg, Executive Director for Elementary Curriculum and Instruction

Mandi Joiner, Elementary Reading Language Arts Coordinator

Kelli Grigsby, Elementary Math Coordinator

Patti Blue, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction



Board of Trustees Meeting

October 6, 2025



Goal Progress Measures - Beginning of Year Assessments

Keri Thornburg - Executive Director for Elementary Education
Mandi Joiner - Elementary Reading Language Arts Coordinator
Kelli Grigsby - Elementary Math Coordinator



Board Goals - Reading and Math

Early Childhood Literacy Board Outcome Goal: The percentage of 3rd grade students who score Meets Grade Level or above on STAAR Reading will increase from 40% in August 2022 to 53% by August 2027.

- Spring 2025 3rd Grade Reading STAAR Assessment = 43% Meets or Above

Early Childhood Math Board Outcome Goal: The percentage of 3rd grade students who score Meets Grade Level or above on STAAR Math will increase from 44% in August 2022 to 66% by August 2027.

- Spring 2025 3rd Grade Math STAAR Assessment = 34% Meets or Above

MAP Growth Assessment - Beginning of Year






Reading - Beginning of Year

District Profile

Achievement Overview

Abilene Independent School District | Reading

Grade	Achievement Fall 2025-2026 Median and Distribution	Number of Students
All Grades		9121

Percentiles Key  1st - 20th  21st - 40th  41st - 60th  61st - 80th  >80th

MAP Growth Assessment - Beginning of Year

Average RIT Scores by Grade Level

Grade	Reading RIT
K	138-152
1	155-168
2	170-182
3	185-194

Reading - Beginning of Year

			Avg. RIT	Students
K	48th	18% 24% 27% 15% 16%	137	949
Grade 1	44th	26% 20% 22% 16% 16%	153	1020
Grade 2	44th	23% 24% 22% 16% 15%	168	1030
Grade 3	51st	19% 21% 22% 22% 16%	184	1099

MAP Growth Assessment - Beginning of Year


Grade	Reading RIT
4	196-202
5	204-208
6	209-212
7	212-215
8	216-218

Reading - Beginning of Year

		Avg. RIT	Students
Grade 4	<p>48th</p> <p>19% 21% 23% 22% 15%</p>	195	1060
Grade 5	<p>53rd</p> <p>24% 16% 19% 25% 16%</p>	202	1099
Grade 6	<p>48th</p> <p>22% 18% 24% 23% 13%</p>	206	935
Grade 7	<p>40th</p> <p>29% 23% 18% 19% 11%</p>	207	979
Grade 8	<p>42nd</p> <p>30% 20% 22% 18% 10%</p>	210	950

MAP Growth Assessment - Beginning of Year

Math - Beginning of Year

District Profile														
Achievement Overview														
Abilene Independent School District Math K-12														
Grade	Achievement Fall 2025-2026 Median and Distribution	Number of Students												
All Grades	 <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Percentile Range</th><th>Percentage</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>1st - 20th</td><td>21%</td></tr><tr><td>21st - 40th</td><td>21%</td></tr><tr><td>41st - 60th</td><td>23%</td></tr><tr><td>61st - 80th</td><td>20%</td></tr><tr><td>>80th</td><td>15%</td></tr></tbody></table>	Percentile Range	Percentage	1st - 20th	21%	21st - 40th	21%	41st - 60th	23%	61st - 80th	20%	>80th	15%	9210
Percentile Range	Percentage													
1st - 20th	21%													
21st - 40th	21%													
41st - 60th	23%													
61st - 80th	20%													
>80th	15%													

Percentiles Key ● 1st - 20th ● 21st - 40th ● 41st - 60th ● 61st - 80th ● >80th

MAP Growth Assessment - Beginning of Year

Average RIT Scores by Grade Level

Grade	Math RIT
K	141-158
1	159-175
2	173-187
3	184-199

Math - Beginning of Year

			Avg. RIT	Students
K	48th	23% 18% 22% 23% 14%	140	985
Grade 1	48th	19% 19% 29% 19% 14%	158	1066
Grade 2	41st	24% 24% 22% 18% 12%	169	1047
Grade 3	56th	18% 16% 19% 25% 22%	185	1132

MAP Growth Assessment - Beginning of Year

Grade	Math RIT
4	197-210
5	206-216
6	210-220
7	217-224
8	222-229

Math - Beginning of Year

		Avg. RIT	Students
Grade 4		196	1110
Grade 5		205	1099
Grade 6		209	937
Grade 7		212	976
Grade 8		214	858

MAP Growth Assessment - Beginning of Year

Next Steps:

- Teachers will use information to plan instruction and targeted small group differentiation strategies.
- Teachers will share information from the Family Report with parents during parent conferences at elementary and will send home the report at middle school.



mCLASS Reading - Beginning of Year Assessment

Early Childhood Data Collection Requirements

Students in Grades K-2 participate in the mCLASS assessment in the fall, winter, and spring. Some students complete the test in grades 3rd-5th if they are in RTI (MTSS).

Foundational Reading Skills Assessed

Letter naming, phonemic awareness, letter sounds, decoding, reading accuracy and fluency, basic comprehension

Progress Monitoring

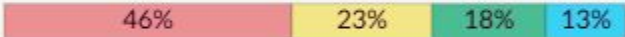
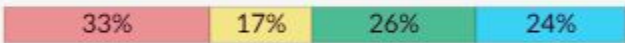
Teachers can use mCLASS to test their students on a particular skill every two weeks. This will provide data to show adequate growth or a need to adjust instruction.

Family Communication

Parents/guardians are given a “Home Connect” report which includes an explanation of each skills, data for their child, and ways to support their child.

mCLASS Reading - Beginning of Year Assessment

Grade K	Composite Score	25-26 BOY		996
		24-25 EOY		1060

Grade 1	Composite Score	25-26 BOY		1072
		24-25 EOY		1038

Grade 2	Composite Score	25-26 BOY		1048
		24-25 EOY		1092

mCLASS Reading - Beginning of Year Assessment

Beginning of Year		Middle of Year	End of Year	Summary				Grade 1
		Composite	Phonemic Awareness PSF	Letter Sounds NWF-CLS	Decoding NWF-WRC	Word Reading WRF	Reading Fluency ORF	
Class Summary	Well Below Benchmark	35% 7 Students	35% 7 Students	50% 10 Students	20% 4 Students	40% 8 Students	50% 10 Students	
20/20 Students Assessed	Below Benchmark	25% 5 Students	30% 6 Students	15% 3 Students	15% 3 Students	15% 3 Students	15% 3 Students	
0 Not Assessed	At Benchmark	20% 4 Students	35% 7 Students	20% 4 Students	50% 10 Students	15% 3 Students	10% 2 Students	
0 In Progress	Above Benchmark	20% 4 Students	0% 0 Students	15% 3 Students	15% 3 Students	30% 6 Students	25% 5 Students	

mCLASS Reading - Beginning of Year Assessment

	Letter Names	Phonemic Awareness	Letter Sounds	Decoding	Word Reading	Reading Accuracy	Reading Fluency	Vocabulary	Spelling	Phonological Processing
Composite Goal 330	LNF Goal 42	PSF Goal 31	NWF-CLS Goal 30	NWF-WRC Goal 5	WRF Goal 12	ORF-Accu Goal 67%	ORF Goal 10	VOCAB Goal 18	SPELL Goal 29	RAN Goal 62
316 Well Below	37 Below	14 Well Below	17 Well Below	5 Benchmark	3 Well Below	0% Well Below	0 Well Below	-	-	-
339 Benchmark	49 Benchmark	45 Benchmark	31 Benchmark	8 Benchmark	17 Benchmark	81% Benchmark	21 Benchmark	-	-	-
352 Benchmark	43 Benchmark	36 Benchmark	42 Benchmark	13 Benchmark	25 Above	95% Benchmark	38 Above	-	-	-
395 Above	62 Benchmark	36 Benchmark	84 Above	28 Above	42 Above	100% Benchmark	73 Above	-	-	-
330 Benchmark	50 Benchmark	30 Below	29 Below	9 Benchmark	14 Benchmark	55% Below	6 Below	-	-	-
321 Below	39 Below	6 Well Below	14 Well Below	4 Below	12 Benchmark	60% Below	9 Below	-	-	-

mCLASS Reading - Beginning of Year Assessment

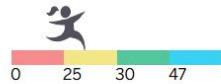
Grade 1 BOY
Assessment Date - 08/29/2025



[How to understand assessment res](#)

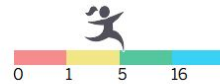
Assessment: **Nonsense Word Fluency (NWF)**

Correct Letter Sounds (CLS)



Score: **27 Letter Sounds/Minute**

Words Recoded Correctly (WRC)



Score: **6 Words/Minute**

tib CLS: 3/3 WRC: 1/1 /t/ /i/ /b/ _____ _____	rep CLS: 2/3 WRC: 0/1 /r/ /e/ /p/ _____ _____	hab CLS: 2/3 WRC: 0/1 /h/ /a/ /b/ _____ _____
com CLS: 3/3 WRC: 1/1 /k/ /o/ /m/ _____ _____	tep CLS: 3/3 WRC: 1/1 /t/ /e/ /p/ _____ _____	tut CLS: 2/3 WRC: 0/1 /t/ /u/ /t/ _____ _____



mCLASS Math - Beginning of Year Assessment

- **Launched by Amplify in August 2025- Brand New Assessment Platform.**
- **Standardized Test**
- **Year one- piloting in grades K-2 at all elementary campuses**
- **mClass Math given: BOY, MOY, EOY**
- **Progress monitoring consistent across the district**



mCLASS Math - Beginning of Year Assessment

Foundational Math Skills Assessed

Algebraic thinking, counting and cardinality, geometry, measurement and data.

Progress Monitoring

Teachers can use mCLASS to test their students on a particular skill every two weeks. This will provide data to show adequate growth or a need to adjust instruction.

Family Communication

A “Home Connect” report which includes an explanation of each skills, data for their child, and ways to support their child is available to send home.

mCLASS Math - Beginning of Year Assessment

Grade K Composite Score BOY  802

Grade 1 Composite Score BOY  893

Grade 2 Composite Score BOY  904

Grade 4 Composite Score BOY  61

mCLASS Math - Beginning of Year Assessment

Benchmark Performance

Student Thinking

Classroom Results

By domain

By item

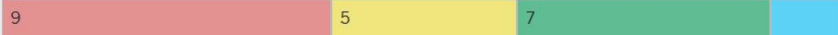
Legend ⓘ

Domain

Standards

Results (Number of Students)

Composite Score



Algebraic Thinking

K.3.B 1.3.B 1.5.E 1.3.D



Counting & Cardinality

K.2.B

See Item View for more details

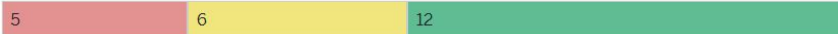
Geometry

1.6.C 1.6.F

See Item View for more details

Measurement & Data

1.7.D 1.8.C



Numbers & Operations

1.2.C 1.2.D 2.4.B 1.5.C 1.3.D



mCLASS Math - Beginning of Year Assessment

	Composite Score	Algebraic Thinking	Geometry	Measurement & Data	Numbers & Operations
Goal 349	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇
Above		Interpretation			
360 Benchmark	Below	No Interpretation	Benchmark	Benchmark	
384 Above	Benchmark	No Interpretation	Benchmark	Benchmark	
413 Above	Benchmark	No Interpretation	Benchmark	Benchmark	
319 Well Below	Below	No Interpretation	Well Below	Well Below	
384 Above	Benchmark	No Interpretation	Below	Benchmark	
288	Well Below	No Interpretation	Well Below	Below	

Overall Score	Item 1	Item 2	Item 3	Item 4	Item 5	Item 6	Item 7	Item 8	Item 9	Item 10	Item 11	Item 12	Item 13	Item 14	Item 15	Item 16
⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇	⬇
11/20	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
15/20	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
16/20	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
7/20	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
6/20	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗

mCLASS Math - Beginning of Year Assessment

Overall Score	Item 1	Item 2	Item 3	Item 4	Item 5	Item 6	Item 7	Item 8	Item 9	Item 10	Item 11	Item 12	Item 13	Item 14	Item 15	Item 16
◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
11/20	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
15/20	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
16/20	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
7/20	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
6/20	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗

?

mCLASS Math - Beginning of Year Assessment

Key insight for this assessment

Determine the quantity of a group of objects

Related item(s): Item 5

Student response analysis

The categories below group students with similar ways of thinking about determining the quantity of a group of objects.

i Students demonstrate an understanding of cardinality by accurately counting to determine how many objects are in a collection.

58% Correct
14 students

i Other ways of thinking or left blank.

42%
10 students

Instructional recommendations

Recommendation



Counting With Math Tools

This recommendation resource can be used when addressing numbers 1-10

[View Mini Lesson](#)

15 min

?



Questions?



mCLASS Math - Beginning of Year Assessment

Abilene Independent School District Board Document – VIII.C

Meeting Date: October 6, 2025

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting

Item Type: Report

Future Action Required: None

If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: Bilingual/ESL Report

Background Information:

The Bilingual and English as a Second Language (ESL) Program is designed to meet the linguistic, academic, and cultural needs of English learners (ELs) by providing high-quality instruction that supports both English language acquisition and grade-level academic success. The program ensures compliance with state and federal requirements, while also addressing the unique educational needs of a diverse student population.

Both Bilingual and ESL Programs emphasize the development of critical thinking, cultural awareness, and academic achievement. Through collaboration with teachers, administrators, and families, the programs seek to create equitable learning opportunities that prepare English learners to become successful, productive, and engaged members of society.

Attached Supporting Documents:

[ESL/Bilingual Presentation](#)



Fiscal Implications:

Cost for Summit K-12

Administrative Recommendation:

Information Only

Contact Person:

Shannon L Marshall, Director of Federal Programs and ESL Bilingual



Bilingual/ESL Program

Shannon Marshall
Director of Federal Programs & ESL/Bilingual



PURPOSE:

To target English language development, including listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through academic content instruction that is linguistically and culturally responsive.



Meet the Staff

Erika Soto, Bilingual Education Program Officer

Sonia Castillo, Bilingual Specialist

Charlotte Faircloth, Elementary ESL IC

Trish Pacheco, Secondary ESL IC

Amanda Seymour-Wharton, Secretary

Albert Kabura, Interpreter

Bibiane Malongo, Interpreter

Divine Kaneza, Interpreter

Douglas Gahungu, Interpreter

Kabongo Nyogi, Interpreter

Marie-Gorette Ngirimana, Interpreter

Nsengiyumva Leopold (Leo), Interpreter

Nicolaus Praise, Interpreter

31 Languages Represented

Afrikaans
Cambodian
Chaochow
German
Italian
Kirundi
Mandarin
Filipino
Sango
Swahili
Vietnamese

Amharic
Cantonese
Ewe
Gujarati
Japanese
Korean
Nepali
Portuguese
Shona
Turkish

Arabic
Cebuano
French
Haitian-Creole
Kinyarwanda
Lingala
Pashto
Russian
Spanish
Ukrainian



Enrollment

School Year	Enrollment
2019-2020	920
2020-2021	843
2021-2022	830
2022-2023	931
2023-2024	1039
2024-2025	1258
2025-2026	1328



Emergent Bilinguals (EB) on AISD Campuses

CAMPUS	2024-25	2025-26
AHS	206	212
CHS	115	124
ATEMS	4	4
WECC	3	4
DAEP	7	6

CAMPUS	2024-25	2025-26
Clack	75	80
Craig	118	108
Madison	18	24
Mann	70	72
JJAEP	2	2



CAMPUS	2024-25	2025-26
Austin	17	28
Alcorta	15	15
Bassetti	27	30
Bonham	14	34
Bowie	12	26
Dyess	12	16

CAMPUS	2024-25	2025-26
Long	39	82
Martinez	22	289
Purcell	27	54
Stafford	16	46
Taylor	28	46
Ward	21	28

Relocated 379 EB Students to other campuses in the district.

Programs in Abilene ISD



Dual Language Program (One Way): Students from one language group learn in two languages. (Spanish)

- Long ECC - Pre-Kindergarten
- Martinez Elementary - Kindergarten through 5th
- Instruction alternating between Spanish and English
- Summit K-12 participation at least twice a week



Newcomer Program:

This program serves our first and second year EB students.

- Elementary - students are served on home campus
- Secondary programs - students served Clack, Craig, Abilene High and Cooper
- Students are assigned to general education classrooms
- Students receive instruction and support in the newcomer classroom approximately 2 hours a day
- Summit K-12 is used as part of the curriculum



ESL Program: This program serves our EBs at all levels who are not involved in the Dual Language or Newcomer Programs.

- All AISD campuses
- Students are taught by certified ESL teachers if available
- Students participate in Summit K-12 instruction at least 2 times per week



ESL/Bilingual Certification

The district is required to ensure that our English Language Learners are taught by an English Language Arts teacher that has an ESL or Bilingual certification. If not, a waiver/exception must be requested from TEA.

Waiver/Exception Requested	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
ESL Waivers	111	19	25	15	11	38	37	31
Bilingual Exceptions	0	0	1	0	2	4	7	7

Academic Progress



Reclassification (Exit) from Bilingual/ESL Program

- Passing score on STAAR Reading/English EOC
- No language supports on state assessment
- TELPAS-must score Advanced High in each domain (Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing)
- Subjective teacher evaluation
- Parent approval for exit



Academic Progress:

Graduation of EB Students			
	AHS	CHS	ATEMS
2021-2022	18	6	0
2022-2023	28	9	0
2023-2024	27	11	0
2024-2025	27	14	0

Reclassification	
2021-2022	3
2022-2023	38
2023-2024	38
2024-2025	65



Academic Progress:

YEAR	# STUDENTS	TELPAS COMPOSITE RATING			
		BEGINNING	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED	ADVANCED HIGH
2025	1249	325 - 25%	485 - 38%	334 - 28%	96 - 8%
2024	1088	295 - 27%	402 - 37%	307 - 28%	76 - 7%
2023	904	203 - 22%	325 - 36%	292 - 32%	84 - 9%
2022	795	155 - 20%	300 - 38%	274 - 34%	59 - 7%

Future Plans



- Develop a stronger plan to increase the number of Bilingual and ESL certified teachers in the district.
- Professional Development for all staff
- Continual Growth in Dual Language Program
- Build family engagement across the district
- Continue to provide resources and supports to Administrators and Teachers

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item VIII.D.

Meeting Date: October 6, 2025 Meeting Type: Regular

Item Type: Report Future Action Required: No If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: Intruder Detection Audit Findings

Background Information: This presentation to the Board serves to meet the corrective action plan for a finding of the 2025-2026 Intruder Detection Audit Program.

Intruder Detection Auditors employed by our Region 14 Education Service Center recently conducted Intruder Detection Audits at one or more district campuses in compliance with the Texas Education Code 37.1083. The audit process tests whether our campuses are accessible to an unauthorized individual. The audit seeks to help districts identify how campuses can improve safety for students and staff by ensuring exterior doors remain locked. Campus records documenting weekly exterior door sweeps are also reviewed as part of the Intruder Detection Audit process. The audits and any related findings provide the district an opportunity to create a safer learning environment for both students and staff.

The Intruder Detection Audits conducted in September 2025 resulted in finding(s) at one or more Abilene ISD campuses and is being properly addressed through the execution of a corrective action plan. Specific details regarding the Intruder Detection Audit finding will be presented to the district's School Safety & Security Committee at their next meeting. We have worked with the campus Administration and their School Safety & Security Committee to ensure all staff receive the required relevant training and district staff continue securing doors for the protection of everyone at our campuses.

Attached Supporting Documents: Presentation, Report, (2)

Fiscal Implications: None.

Administrative Recommendation: None

Contact Person: Dr. Joe Waldron

Public Meeting Requirement

Intruder Detection Auditors employed by our Region 14 Education Service Center recently conducted Intruder Detection Audits at one or more district campuses in compliance with the Texas Education Code 37.1083. The audit process tests whether our campuses are accessible to an unauthorized individual. The audit seeks to help districts identify how campuses can improve safety for students and staff by ensuring exterior doors remain locked. Campus records documenting weekly exterior door sweeps are also reviewed as part of the Intruder Detection Audit process. The audits and any related findings provide the district an opportunity to create a safer learning environment for both students and staff.

The Intruder Detection Audits conducted in September resulted in findings at a one or more campuses and are being properly addressed through the execution of a corrective action plan. Specific details regarding the Intruder Detection Audit findings will be presented to the district's next School Safety & Security Committee meeting. We have worked with the campus Administration and their School Safety & Security Committees to ensure all staff receive the required relevant training and district staff continue securing doors for the protection of everyone at our campuses.

It is reasonable to expect that parents and community members may be interested in reviewing details of the Intruder Detection Audit findings. However, the Texas Education Agency along with a recent Attorney General Opinion direct school districts to refrain from sharing specific audit findings beyond the School Safety & Security Committee and the Board during Closed Session as doing so could lead to compromising important campus security safeguards.

2025-2026 School Year

This school year every single one of the 795 exterior doors on 23 campuses will be checked through the Intruder Detection Audit process, along with thousands of interior doors. Abilene ISD, it's campus administration and support staff do a

stellar job implementing our five commitments to campus safety which were collaboratively developed in the summer of 2024.

- Push and Pull campaign
- Weekly or Bi-monthly safety reports to the campus
- Peer to Peer sharing of best practices among administrators
- Safety Culture building on campuses through student led activities
- All-Staff safety awareness campaign

The 2025-2026 Intruder Detection Audit results represent an opportunity to test our systems and potentially make improvement to those systems in the best interest of our students and staff.



Intruder Detection Audit Findings

Dr. Joe Waldron



Setting the Stage

- TEC. 37.1083
- Every Instructional Campus
- Every Year
- ESC 14 with TEA





Required Public Hearing

- Limited Explanation
- Findings
- Corrective Action



Findings

- Equipment failures
- Investigated same day
- Equipment replaced same day
- Communication plan and five standards





The Bottom Line

- Safety first
- Findings have been met with swift action



Intruder Detection Audit Findings

Dr. Joe Waldron

Abilene Independent School District Board Document

Meeting Date: October 6, 2025 Meeting Type: Regular Board Meeting

Item Type: Presentation/Approval Future Action Required: No If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: Local School Library Advisory Council (SLAC) Selection

Background Information:

In compliance with Senate Bill 13 and in alignment with the Board's decision to establish a Local School Library Advisory Council (LSLAC), each trustee is now asked to appoint one member to serve on the council, resulting in a total of seven voting members. The policy states that "the majority of the voting members must be parents of students currently enrolled in the district who are not employed by the district." From this information, 4 of the 7 voting members must be parents of enrolled students who are not employed by the district. Nonvoting members appointed to the council may be from the following categories: classroom teachers employed by the district, librarians employed by the district, certified school counselors employed by the district, school administrators employed by the district, members of the business community, and/or clergy. Each board member should appoint one member who meets the above criteria. One member will be named the chairperson of the SLAC.

Attached Supporting Documents:

Curriculum & Instruction: Presentation

Fiscal Implications: None

Administrative Recommendation:

Approval of board appointed SLAC voting members and nonvoting members recommended by the district.

Contact Person:

Lyndsey Williamson, Executive Director of Secondary Education

Patti Blue, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction



SB 13: School Library Advisory Council

*Lyndsey Williamson,
Executive Director of Secondary Education*

Responsibilities of the Local School Library Advisory Council (SLAC) Include:

- **Advise on library acquisition/removal policies** to reflect community values.
- **Review and recommend materials** before they are added or removed from catalogs.

Assist with challenge process:

- Review challenged materials.
- Recommend district action (retain, restrict, or remove).
- **Help define the district's reconsideration process.**
- **Advise on partnerships** (e.g., with public libraries), if feasible.

SLAC Members

- **Seven voting members**, all appointed by the board.
- The majority of the voting members must be parents of students currently enrolled in the district who are not employed by the district.
- One member will serve as **Chairperson**.

SLAC Members

Optional non-voting members may include teachers, librarians, administrators, counselors, local clergy and business leaders.

**Recommend approval of SLAC Members
(list provided as attachment)**

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item IX.B

Meeting Date: October 6, 2025

Meeting Type: Regular Board Meeting

Item Type: Action Item

Future Action Required: Yes

If Yes, Month: October

Subject: District of Innovation Resolution

Background Information: The District may re-open our District of Innovation plan by voting on a resolution. This allows the District to move forward in exploring allowable exemptions from certain Texas Education Codes.

Attached Supporting Documents:

- District of Innovation Resolution

Fiscal Implications:

None

Administrative Recommendation:

Approval of DOI Resolution

Contact Person: Alison Sims



Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item IX.C

Meeting Date: October 6, 2025

Meeting Type: Regular Board Meeting

Item Type: Action Item

Future Action Required: Yes

If Yes, Month: October

Subject: District of Innovation Renewal Process – District of Innovation Committee Appointment

Background Information:

Nominations for the District of Innovation (DOI) plan committee members have been finalized and are attached. This is the final step in the re-opening of the District of Innovation process.

Attached Supporting Documents:

- District of Innovation Recommended Committee Members

Fiscal Implications:

None

Administrative Recommendation:

Approval of DOI Committee

Contact Person: Alison Sims



Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item IX.D.

Meeting Date: October 6, 2025

Meeting Type: Regular

Item Type: Action

Future Action Required: No

If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: Nominations to the Jones County Central Appraisal District Board of Directors

Background Information: The AISD Board of Trustees may nominate up to six individuals to serve on the Board of Directors of the Central Appraisal District of Jones County. Current board members are Dale Spurgin, Tucker Teague, Jim Astin, Jim Bailey, Eugene Griffith, and Pete Klein. Once nominations are made and a ballot is prepared, the actual voting will take place at a future board meeting. Qualifications for serving on the Jones County CAD Board include living in Jones County for the past two years from the time he/she takes office. The individual may not be an employee of any of the taxing entities (although a member of the AISD Board of Trustees may serve). The term of office is for two years. The major responsibilities include employment of the Chief Appraiser, adopting the budget and naming the Appraisal Review Board.

Mr. Jim Bailey and his family are Jones County residents of AISD (Lake Fort Phantom area) and is willing to serve on the board again. Jim is retired Army and is now working for a local homebuilder as a project manager. He is familiar with valuation and the appraisal process. Jim has lived in AISD for 5 years upon his retirement from the military.

Attached Supporting Documents: Presentation, Nomination Form

Fiscal Implications: None

Administrative Recommendation: Consider the nomination of Jim Bailey to the Jones County Central Appraisal District Board of Directors.

Contact Person: Jennifer Hinds, Chief Financial Officer



Jones CAD Board of Directors Nomination

Jennifer Hinds
Chief Financial Officer

NOMINATIONS

Jones County Appraisal District

6 places to fill

2 year Term ending 12/31/2027

- ✓ Regular Action Item for the Board
- ✓ Nominee must satisfy eligibility requirements
 - Residency
 - Employment
 - Conflict of Interest
- ✓ Nominate a candidate by adoption of a resolution before October 17th, 2025

Recommendation

Mr. Jim Bailey has previously served for Abilene ISD and is willing to serve another term.

The Board approve the resolution with a nomination for the Jones County Appraisal District Board of Directors.

ACTION



Jones CAD Board of Directors Nomination

Jennifer Hinds
Chief Financial Officer



Jones County Appraisal District
P: (325) 823-2422
1137 E Court Plaza
PO Box 348
Anson, TX 79501

Board of Directors 2026-2027 Nominations, Jones County Appraisal District

Each voting taxing entity may nominate from 1 to 6 people to fill the 6 places on the board of directors. You may nominate anyone who meets the requirements to serve. If you have any questions, please contact this office at the number listed above.

Please make your nomination(s) at the bottom of this page and return to the Appraisal District by October 17, 2025. I will then mail a ballot by October 30, 2025 reflecting the candidates and the number of votes allotted to your taxing entity.

Thank You,

Tammy Smith, RPA, RTA, CCA, CTA
Chief Appraiser

The voting taxing entity, Abilene ISD, nominates the following:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

Signed

Title

Date

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item IX.E

Meeting Date: 10/6/2025

Meeting Type: Regular

Item Type: Action

Future Action Required: No

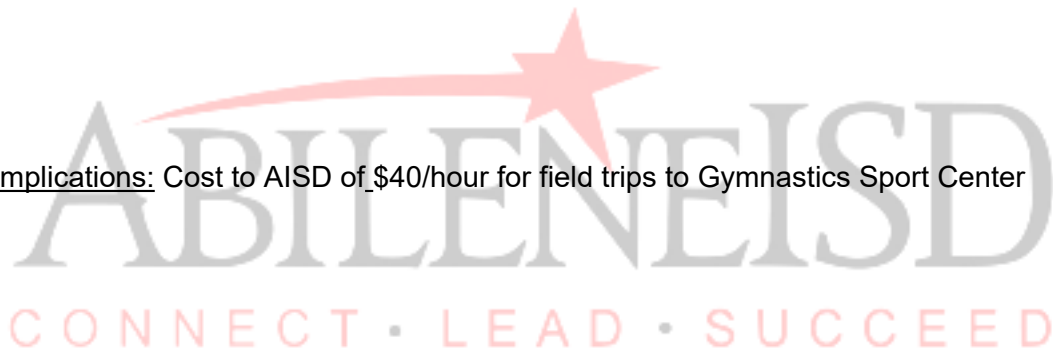
If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: Consider, discuss, and take possible action on agreement/contract with Gymnastics Sport Center and related board resolution

Background Information: House Bill 3372, passed in the most recent legislative session, requires a contract and a board resolution for any paid education-related duties performed by ISD administrators outside the scope of their employment contracts.

Attached Supporting Documents: Letter agreement from Dr. Stevanie Jackson and board resolution

Fiscal Implications: Cost to AISD of \$40/hour for field trips to Gymnastics Sport Center



Administrative Recommendation: The Superintendent recommends that the board approve the agreement/contract with Gymnastic Sport Center for hosting school field trips along with the related resolution.

Contact Person: John Kuhn

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ABILENE ISD:
APPROVAL OF AN ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACT PURSUANT TO
TEXAS EDUCATION CODE SECTION 11.006**

WHEREAS, Section 11.006 of the Texas Education Code prohibits administrators from receiving financial benefits for the performance of personal services for certain third parties; and

WHEREAS, Section 11.006 provides an exception to this prohibition in certain circumstances, subject to board approval of the administrator’s contract with the third parties; and

WHEREAS, the Abilene ISD Board of Trustees has reviewed the content of the contract to be used for the provision of personal services between Dr. Stevanie Jackson, an administrator of the District, and Abilene ISD, other school districts, open-enrollment charter schools, or regional education service centers; and

WHEREAS, the Abilene ISD Board of Trustees has determined that the contract will not harm the District; and

WHEREAS, the Abilene ISD Board of Trustees has determined that the arrangement does not present a conflict of interest; and

WHEREAS, the Abilene ISD Board of Trustees has determined that the services to be performed by the administrator will be performed entirely on the administrator’s personal time;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Abilene ISD approves the contract of Dr. Stevanie Jackson, pursuant to the requirements of Texas Education Code section 11.006(c).

Adopted this _____, 2025 by the Board of Trustees of Abilene ISD.

Angie Wiley, Board President

Cindy Earles, Board Secretary