



SEPTEMBER 2024

BIG RED LETTERS

BELTON ISD SUPERINTENDENT DR. MALINDA GOLDEN

A Message from Dr. Malinda Golden

Hello Belton ISD,

The beginning of the school year is filled with “firsts”: first time on a new campus, first laptop, first time changing classrooms, first time to ride the bus or drive, first impressions, and the list is endless... Anticipation and excitement are naturally associated with many of these “firsts,” but there are also lessons unfolding simultaneously on a deeper level, as I was reminded by our Pre-K students.

I had the opportunity to eat lunch at BECS on the first day of school with these Pre-K students who were beginning their journey with us. For many of these students, it was their first time away from home all day, their first time in a cafeteria line, their first teacher, their first friend... As I sat with them, I marveled as I watched their adaptability and perseverance unfold. One student attempted multiple times to open his milk carton until he prevailed with a little assistance. Another student reluctantly took a bite of something off her tray and then smiled in delight after being prompted to try it. These are just an example of the moments that are often overlooked as our students are encouraged and supported to embrace new challenges with our staff by their sides.

Our vision in Belton ISD is to empower each and every learner to pursue their dreams and enrich their communities, and it is exciting to watch this reality unfold. Whether starting the first day of their educational journey in PreK or Kindergarten or the last first day of school with us as seniors this year, we want to empower each and every learner to pursue their dreams and enrich their communities. It is an honor to start this year’s journey with the Belton ISD family in my new role. We all play a part in supporting our students on their journey to success. This is just the beginning of the journey, and together we can inspire dreams and empower futures for each and every learner.

Sincerely,

Malinda Golden, Ph.D.
Superintendent



2024-2025 Budget and Tax Rate Approved

The Board of Trustees approved a reduced tax rate for the sixth consecutive year. The new rate of \$1.1494 per \$100 of assessed value includes \$0.7552 for maintenance and operations and \$0.3942 for debt service, marking a \$0.0023 decrease from last year's rate. Detailed information on the proposed budget and tax rate can be found on the Belton ISD Financial Transparency [webpage](#).



Brewing Confidence: LBHS Buckles and Beans Run by Students with Special Needs

Lake Belton High School is proud to continue the success of **Buckles and Beans**, a student-run coffee shop now entering its fourth year. Operated by students with special needs as part of the work-based learning program, this initiative helps them develop essential job skills, opening doors to better opportunities after graduation. Each year, approximately 15 to 20 students participate in the program.



UMHB Students Pack 21,000 Meals for BISD's Project Heartbeat

Around 400 UMHB students kicked off their school year by packing 21,000 meals for Belton ISD's Project Heartbeat, in partnership with [One More Child](#) and H-E-B. This marks the fifth year of their collaboration.



BISD Families Encouraged to Apply for Free and Reduced Meals

Belton ISD families are invited to submit a Free and Reduced School Meal Application for the 2024-25 school year. These applications offer benefits beyond just meals! Apply online at www.schoollunchapp.com.





Tammie Baggerly Named Delta Program Principal

Tammie Baggerly has begun the new school year as the principal of the BISD Delta Program. With 16 years of educational experience, including 15 years with Belton ISD, Baggerly has strong ties to the BISD community. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Texas at Austin and a Master of Educational Administration from Texas A&M University—Central Texas.



Kitty Corsi Appointed Director of Special Programs for BISD

Kathleen “Kitty” Corsi has been named the new Director of Special Programs for Belton ISD. With nearly 30 years as a school psychologist, Corsi has served as the district's Special Programs Coordinator since 2020. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Virginia Tech and a Master of Arts in Clinical and Counseling Psychology from Southern Methodist University.



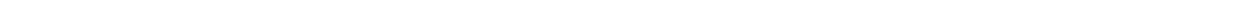
Christine Parks Named as New Chief Communications Officer

Christine Parks joins BISD as our new Chief Communications Officer. With over 24 years of experience in public education, Parks brings extensive knowledge and expertise to our district. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Education from Baylor University and a Master of Educational Administration from Tarleton State University.



Dr. Cassandra Spearman Appointed Assistant Superintendent of Operations

With over 26 years in education, Dr. Cassandra Spearman has been appointed Assistant Superintendent of Operations. Previously the Executive Director of Student Services since 2021, she holds masters degrees in Early Childhood Education, Administrative Leadership, Curriculum and Instruction, and a Doctorate in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.







September 10: Virtual Lunch and Learn: Digital Essentials

September 16: Regular Board Meeting

October 1: Hubbard Branch Elementary School Dedication Ceremony

October 8: Parents as Partners Event TBD

October 14: Student Holiday

October 21: Regular Board Meeting

October 31: Parent Conferences and Student Holiday

November 1: Student Holiday

November 11: District Closure

November 12: Parents as Partners Event TBD

November 18: Regular Board Meeting

November 25-29: District Closure

PARENTS AS PARTNERS DEL TOY

**Virtual Lunch & Learn:
Digital essentials for parents**

Date: September 10, 2024
Time: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Location: Virtual (Join from anywhere!)

Topics Covered:

Skyward: Learn how to access your child's grades, attendance, and more.

ParentSquare: Stay connected with your child's school through messaging, announcements, and events.

Why Attend?

- Get the tools you need to support your child's education.
- Learn tips and tricks to navigate these essential platforms.
- Ask questions and get answers in real-time.

How to Join:
Type bit.ly/bisdpp1 in browser to Join the Virtual Meeting

Bonus: No need to RSVP, just Grab your lunch, type in the link and join us for a productive and informative session!

PADRES COMO COMPANEROS DEL TOY

Almuerzo virtual de aprendizaje: elementos digitales esenciales para padres

Fecha: 10 de septiembre de 2024
Hora: 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Ubicación: Virtual (¡Únase desde cualquier lugar!)

Temas cubiertos:

Skyward: Aprenda cómo acceder a las calificaciones, la asistencia y más de su hijo.

ParentSquare: Manténgase conectado con la escuela de su hijo a través de mensajes, anuncios y eventos.

¿Por qué asistir?

- Obtenga las herramientas que necesita para apoyar la educación de su hijo.
- Aprenda consejos y trucos para navegar por estas plataformas esenciales.
- Haga preguntas y obtenga respuestas en tiempo real.

Cómo unirse:
Escriba la dirección bit.ly/bisdpp1 para unirse a la reunión virtual

Bonificación: no es necesario confirmar su asistencia, simplemente tome su almuerzo, escriba el enlace y únase a nosotros para una sesión productiva e informativa.

2024-2025 Academic Calendar

Take the Journey

Stay Connected

We are Hiring

Belton Independent School District

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