

Belton ISD eNews

SEPTEMBER 7, 2023



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MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Parents,

As I shared with you last month, the new campus and district ratings from the Texas Education Agency's (TEA) still-changing accountability system are expected to be released at the end of this month. You will recall, this year the TEA changed both the test and the way letter grades are calculated for schools. The negative impact from TEA's planned changes will be seen statewide.

We believe Belton ISD will see an improvement in the passing rates on STAAR and End of Course assessments yet a decline in school ratings. While we will use the data from TEA to continuously improve, we also celebrate the fact that in Belton ISD, school is about far more than the STAAR test.



For that matter, we consider the idea of “being held accountable” to mean more than performance on one test, given on one day. In Belton ISD, we hold ourselves to a standard that goes beyond that one measure. The competencies outlined in the Belton ISD Journey of a Graduate are an example of that standard because it was developed with the voice of the community.

We are also accountable to our students, parents, staff and community stakeholders through our five goals developed by our Board of Trustees. These District Goals address parent and community engagement, student learning and growth, employee support, culture, and stewardship of resources. The goals set clear direction for our school district. Each goal is tied to a Key Progress Measure (KPM) which represents the administration’s most important work for the year as we pursue the goal. While the goals have remained constant year-to-year, the KPMs are updated annually. We publicly report on our progress toward goals throughout the year in our board meetings.

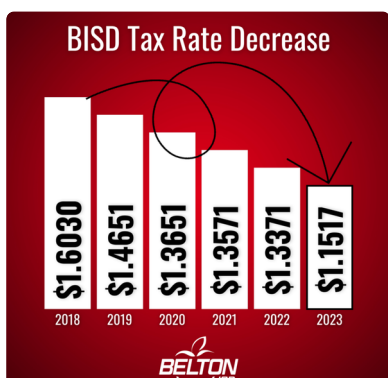
Belton ISD is dedicated to continuous improvement regardless of the ever-changing rules of TEA’s accountability system. The Journey of a Graduate and District Goals are at the forefront of our work to guarantee our focus. This is our continued commitment to our students, parents, and community that we will always strive to be the best we can be.

Have an outstanding day and thank you for your continued support of our students, staff, and Big Red Community!

Sincerely,

Matt Smith, Ed.D.
Superintendent

TOP STORIES



ICYMI: The BISD Tax Rate Decreased

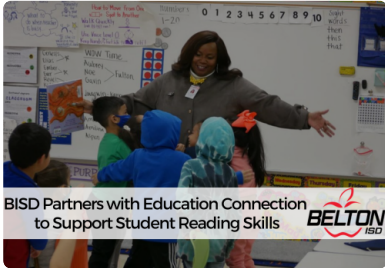
On August 21, the Belton ISD Board of Trustees approved a lower the tax rate. Read more about it [here](#).

We appreciate the Board for their tireless commitment to the BISD taxpayers! They are continually looking for efficiencies in the budget to manage taxpayer dollars responsibly.



BISD to Contract with Private Security Company

A Special Meeting of the Belton ISD Board of Trustees was held to discuss the proposed plan for [Texas House Bill 3](#). The Board took important action and passed a resolution citing a “good cause exception” to adopt an alternate standard for House Bill 3. This school security bill requires at least one armed security officer be present during regular school hours at each campus.



BISD Partners with Education Connection to Support Student Reading Skills

Belton ISD is partnering with [Education Connection](#) to offer community volunteer opportunities to help improve student reading skills. Literacy Partners, who are trained and approved volunteers, read with students at elementary campuses for 30 minutes each week for twelve weeks. The district is actively recruiting Literacy Partner volunteers for this impactful program. To volunteer please register [online](#). Background checks and training sessions are required for all Literacy Partners.

TRENDING TOPICS

Attendance Matters

We realize some absences are unavoidable due to medical obligations or other circumstances. But, we also know that when students miss too much school— regardless of the reason – it can cause them to fall behind academically. Absences can be submitted online [here](#).



Free and Reduced School Meal Application

Belton ISD families are invited to submit a Free and Reduced School Meal Application for the 2023-24 school year. Free and Reduced meal applications are for more than just meals! The application is available [online](#).



Meet BISD

Do you know a BISD World-Class Employee? Meet BISD is an opportunity to spotlight teachers, staff and administrators who are changing lives in the Big Red Community. Do you want to recommend someone who personifies our [world-class competencies](#)? Please email us at communications@bisd.net.



Did you miss the 8/21 Board Meeting? Here's a recap!

Board Brief - August 25, 2023



BELTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD BRIEF

August 21, 2023
Regular Board Meeting



GET INVOLVED

ENGAGE & EMPOWER WITH
VOLUNTEER AND PARTNERSHIP SYSTEM



Belton ISD believes the learning experiences of our students are enhanced through the engagement of our community. That's why we welcome your partnership! Whether you are a parent, guardian, community member or business leader, we are excited to have you join us.

If you would like to serve with us, sign up with our new [volunteer management system](#).



2023 Board of Trustees

UPCOMING EVENTS

Belton ISD Construction Celebrations

Construction Celebration
SOUTHWEST
ELEMENTARY

21ST THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 8 AM
611 SAUNDERS ST,
BELTON, TX 76513

Decorative elements include colorful paint splashes at the top and a row of diverse hands at the bottom.

LAKE BELTON
MIDDLE SCHOOL
CONSTRUCTION CELEBRATION

21ST
SEPTEMBER | 8:45 AM
8818 TARUER DR, TEMPLE, TX 76502

The poster features a central illustration of a red camera on a blue base, with yellow sunburst rays and rainbow stars on either side.

BELTON
HIGH SCHOOL
CONSTRUCTION CELEBRATION

THURSDAY | 9:30 AM
SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

600 LAKE RD BELTON, TX 76513

The poster has a white background with a red border and features three red stars at the top.

- September 18: [Board Meeting](#)
- September 21: [Southwest Elementary Construction Celebration](#)
- September 21: [Lake Belton Middle Construction Celebration](#)
- September 21: [Belton High Construction Celebration](#)
- October 9: [Student / Teacher Holiday](#)
- October 13: [United Way Spirit Chain Game](#)
- October 16: [Board Meeting](#)
- October 30: [Professional Learning / Student Holiday](#)
- October 31: [Parent Conferences / Student Holiday](#)

2023-2024 Academic Calendar

Take the Journey

Stay Connected

We're Hiring

About Us

Email: communications@bisd.net

Website: www.bisd.net

Location: 400 North Wall Street | PO Box 269 Belton, Texas 76513

Phone: [254-215-2000](tel:254-215-2000)

Facebook: facebook.com/BeltonISD

Instagram: [@BeltonISD](https://www.instagram.com/BeltonISD) Twitter: [@BeltonISD](https://twitter.com/BeltonISD)



Belton ISD Communications

