



OCTOBER 2024

BIG RED LETTERS

BELTON ISD SUPERINTENDENT DR. MALINDA GOLDEN

Partnering for Success: The Importance of Parent Involvement

Hello Belton ISD,

As a school district, we are committed to providing a nurturing and supportive environment where students can thrive and we recognize that your support is equally crucial in helping your child reach their full potential. I would like to highlight a few of the district-wide parent engagement opportunities available to you:

- **ParentSquare:** With our new mass communication platform, parents receive information all in one place making it easier to stay up-to-date on school events, announcements, and assignment updates. (You most likely received this newsletter through ParentSquare!) Click [here](#) for more information about how to customize your account if you haven't already.
- **Parents As Partners:** This series of information sessions occurs throughout the year supporting both specialized and generalized topics. Some sessions are available online and others will be offered in person to build community for our families of students who are served through special programs. Below is the calendar for the year and you will receive invitations for these events through ParentSquare.
- **PTO's and PTA's:** We have incredible parent groups on each campus designed to provide opportunities for parents to volunteer and support our schools in a variety of ways. Please reach out to your campus to see how you can get connected with a group on your child's campus.
- **Anonymous Alerts:** It takes everyone being vigilant to maintain safe and secure campuses. Anonymous Alerts is a tool that anyone can use to report safety concerns. Every report is reviewed and investigated by district administrators. Report a concern through the district website and you will be directed [HERE](#).

Consistent communication is key to strong partnerships. Don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or principal with any questions. We value your partnership and commitment to your child's education.

Sincerely,

Malinda Golden, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Parents As Partners

2024 - 2025 SCHEDULE



DATE	TOPIC	PRESENTED BY
Sept. 10 @ noon VIRTUAL	Skyward & ParentSquare Audience: All Parents	Technology
Oct 15 @ noon VIRTUAL	Fentanyl and Opioid Awareness Audience: All Parents	Student Services
Oct. 15 @ 6:00 PM IN-PERSON	Essential Information & Resources for Special Education Students Audience: Special Education Families Ages 3 - 18+	T&L - Special Programs
Oct. 29 IN-PERSON	TBD Audience: Bilingual/ESL Families	T&L - Bilingual/ESL
Nov. 12 @ noon VIRTUAL	Online Safety for Your Child Audience: All Parents	Communications, Technology & Guests
Nov. 12 IN-PERSON	Dyslexia Night and Student Artwork Display Audience: Dyslexia Families	T&L - Special Programs
Nov. 21 @ 5:30 PM IN-PERSON	CTE Showcase Audience: Secondary Families	T&L - Career Readiness
Jan. 14 @ noon VIRTUAL	Course Selection for MS Audience: 5th Grade Parents	T&L, Sp. Programs, Communications, Technology & Guests
Jan. 14 @ 6:00 PM IN-PERSON	Understanding How to Support Your Student's Giftedness Presentation Audience: GT Families	T&L - GT
Feb. 11 @ 6:00 PM IN-PERSON	Job Opportunities for Students w/ Special Needs Audience: MS & HS Special Education Families	T&L - Special Programs
February 26 IN-PERSON	TBD Audience: Bilingual/ESL Families	T&L - Bilingual/ESL
March 25 @ noon VIRTUAL	What to Expect & How to Prepare My Child for STAAR Audience: Grades 3-10 Parents	T&L, Sp. Programs, Communications, Technology & Guests
April 8 IN-PERSON	Wellness Audience: All Parents	Student Services
April 16 IN-PERSON	TBD Audience: Bilingual/ESL Community	T&L - Bilingual/ESL

CELL PHONE SURVEY



>>>COMPLETE THE SURVEY HERE<<<



Four Belton ISD Schools Earn Purple Star Designation

Four Belton ISD schools—Lakewood Elementary, Southwest Elementary, Belton Middle, and Belton High—have earned the Purple Star designation for their exceptional support of military-connected students. The district proudly serves over 4,300 military-connected students, representing nearly 30% of the student population.



Belton High Seniors Named National Merit Semifinalists

Belton High seniors Steven Arantes and David Shelburne have been named semifinalists in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program, placing them among the nation's top academic achievers.



Arantes, originally from Brazil, is involved in cross country, jazz band, and National Honor Society and plans to study pre-med. Shelburne, active in sports and the National Honor Society, plans to study political science or history. Both are eligible for national merit scholarships, with final results in April 2025.

Kris Hobson Named TASSP Region 12 Outstanding Middle School Principal of the Year

Lake Belton Middle School Principal Kris Hobson, has been named TASSP Region 12 Outstanding Middle School Principal of the Year for his exceptional leadership.



Since becoming principal in 2014, Hobson has been recognized for improving academic performance and fostering a strong school culture. He credits the school's success to the entire community. Hobson will be honored by TASSP in June 2025.

Belton ISD Recognizes 184 AP Scholars and 69 Nationally Honored Students

Belton ISD Trustees honored 184 students as AP Scholars for their outstanding AP exam performance, along with 69 students who earned national academic recognition from the College Board. These achievements highlight their academic excellence and college readiness, reflecting the district's focus on critical skills like perseverance and critical thinking. Congratulations to all of these students!





SAVE THE DATE!



October 14: Student Holiday

October 15: Parents as Partners Virtual Lunch and Learn: Fentanyl and Opioid Awareness

October 15: Parents as Partners Special Programs

October 21: Regular Board Meeting

October 29: Parents as Partners ESL/Bilingual Event TBD

October 31: Parent Conferences and Student Holiday

November 1: Student Holiday

November 11: District Closure

November 12: Parents as Partners Virtual Lunch and Learn: Online Safety for your Child

November 12: Parents as Partners Dyslexia Night and Student Artwork Display

November 15: Special Olympics Bowling

November 18: Regular Board Meeting

November 21: Parents as Partners CTE Showcase

November 25-29: District Closure

December 16: Regular Board Meeting

December 20: Two-Hour Early Release

December 23-January 3: District Closure

January 6-7: Student Holiday

Special Programs October 15th, 2024

PARENTS AS PARTNERS

5:45-6:00 Refreshments
6:00-6:30
6:30-7:00
7:00-7:30
30-minute repeated sessions

30 Minute Sessions
Each session will be repeated every 30 minutes

Belton ISD Administration Bldg.
400 N. Wall St. Belton, TX

An interpreter will be available

How to Understand My Child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
For parents of students ages 3 to 21

- Current academic and functional performance, goals and objectives and accommodations, and services
- How to participate and prepare for an ARD meeting

The Mastery of Communication by Redirecting Behavior with Words
For parents of students ages 3 to 21

- 5 steps for compliance
- Pace, Pitch, Modulation, and Volume

Essential Information for EVERY Parent of a Special Needs Child
For parents of students ages 3 to 21

- Specialized benefits for people with disabilities or special health care needs include long-term care services or support in the home or community.
- Laying the groundwork early to ensure enough time to plan for and receive effective service due to a 20+ year waitlist.
- Timeline and steps to help streamline these supports for your child.

Come ask questions about the following programs and get parent resources for the following:

Alternative and Augmentative Communication (AAC) is all the ways that we communicate without using verbal words
For parents of students ages 3 to 21


- We will discuss and explore various forms of alternative communication.
- If you have a student with a speech generating device or communication app, please feel free to bring your student's device and our Speech Team will be on hand to answer questions that you might have.

- **Special Olympics** - year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children with disabilities
- **Penguin Project** - offers children with special needs opportunities to develop creative skills and engage with peers through participation in community theater
- **Occupational Therapy** - fine motor activities and strategies
- **STARRY Professional Counseling Services** - available at no cost to families with children up to 17 years old

For questions email
donna.shriner@bisd.net or misty.norwood@bisd.net

CHILDCARE
Ages 3 and up
<https://forms.gle/g8H3qyRY93T6sAZb7>

Please RSVP



Programas Especiales 15 de Octubre de 2024

PARENTS AS PARTNERS

5:45-6:00 Refrigerios
6:00-6:30
6:30-7:00
7:00-7:30
Sesiones repetidas de 30 minutos

Sesiones de 30 minutos
Cada sesión se repetirá cada 30 minutos

Edificio de Administración de Belton ISD
400 N. Wall St. Belton, TX

Habrà una intérprete disponible

Cómo entender el Plan de Educación Individualizado (IEP) de mi hijo
Para los padres de estudiantes de 3 a 21 años

- Desempeño académico y funcional actual, metas, objetivos, adaptaciones y servicios.
- Cómo participar y prepararse para una reunión de Admisión, Revisión y Expulsión (ARD).

El dominio de la comunicación para redirigir el comportamiento con palabras
Para los padres de estudiantes de 3 a 21 años

- Cinco pasos para la obediencia.
- Ritmo, tono, modulación y volumen.

Información esencial para TODOS los padres de un niño con necesidades especiales
Para los padres de estudiantes de 3 a 21 años

- Los beneficios especializados para personas con discapacidades —o necesidades especiales de atención médica— incluyen servicios de cuidado a largo plazo o apoyo en el hogar o en la comunidad.
- Sentar las bases con anticipación para garantizar tiempo suficiente para planificar y recibir un servicio efectivo debido a una lista de espera de más de 20 años.
- Cronograma y pasos para ayudar a optimizar estos apoyos para su hijo.

Venga y haga preguntas sobre los siguientes programas y obtenga recursos para padres acerca de:

La comunicación alternativa y aumentativa (CAA) se refiere a todas las formas en las que nos comunicamos sin usar palabras oralmente
Para los padres de estudiantes de 3 a 21 años

- Discutiremos y exploraremos varias formas de comunicación alternativa.
- Si tiene un estudiante con una aplicación de comunicación o un dispositivo generador de voz, no dude en traerlo, pues nuestro equipo de terapeutas del habla estará disponible para responder las preguntas que tenga.


Olimpiadas Especiales: entrenamiento deportivo y competencias atléticas durante todo el año en una variedad de deportes de tipo olímpico para niños con discapacidades.

Penguin Project: ofrece a los niños con necesidades especiales la oportunidad para desarrollar habilidades creativas y relacionarse con sus compañeros a través de la participación en el teatro comunitario.

Terapia ocupacional: actividades y estrategias de motricidad fina.

Servicios de orientación profesional STARRY -disponibles de manera gratuita para las familias con hijos de hasta 17 años de edad.

Para preguntas electrónicas
donna.shriner@bisd.net o misty.norwood@bisd.net



2024-2025 Academic Calendar

Take the Journey

Stay Connected

We are Hiring

Belton Independent School District

**400 North Wall Street | www.bisd.net |
communications@bisd.net**