

DURANT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

Durant School District, I-72, Bryan County, Oklahoma

Central Administration Office Conference Room

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

12:00 PM

I. Call to Order

President

II. Roll Call

Clerk of the Board

Attendance Taken at 12:00 PM.

Paul Buntz: Present
Jason Manous: Present
Joyce Northcutt: Present
Chaz Polk: Present
Janie Umsted: Absent

III. Approval of the Consent Calendar**

Motion to approve Item III.A. through III.H. This motion, made by Joyce Northcutt and seconded by Jason Manous, Passed.

Paul Buntz: Yea
Jason Manous: Yea
Joyce Northcutt: Yea
Chaz Polk: Yea
Janie Umsted: Absent

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

III.A. Agenda

III.B. Minutes:

III.B.1. July 14, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

III.C. Treasurer's Report

III.D. Activity Accounts Report

III.E. Financial Reports

III.F. Encumbrances

III.F.1. Fiscal '26 General Fund Numbers 260365-260490 in the Amount of \$285,670.78

III.F.2. Fiscal '26 Building Fund Numbers 260386-260471 in the Amount of \$8,576.28

III.F.3. Fiscal '26 Child Nutrition Fund Numbers 260443-260476 in the Amount of \$18,448.51

III.F.4. Fiscal '26 Bond Fund Numbers 260374-260456 in the Amount of \$58,990.49

III.G. Child Nutrition Claim for Reimbursement

III.H. Transfer Capacity

IV. Reports:

Mr. Moring showed the Board a slideshow of the 31 new teachers that have joined the District this year. Our enrollment numbers for this year are currently 3,795 and when we add in the 2 pre-K classes that we are at about 3,835. He believes this is down by about 10-15 students in comparison to our previous enrollment. The current freshman class at Durant High School is the largest group at 302.

He also reported that the greenhouse needed a few more items and it would be completed. Once it is all complete, we will have an open house for the Ag Building and greenhouse.

V. Comments from the Public (Pursuant to District Policy 2240, a copy of which is available upon request, Comments can be made only by District Patrons concerning items listed on the Agenda)

Ms. Melanie Knight completed a request immediately prior to the meeting to address the Board regarding Agenda Item IX.C, D, F, H, L, and M along with Item XII.E.19.

VI. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Approve or Not Approve Sanctioning of the Athletic, Band, Choir and FFA Booster Clubs for the 2025-2026 School Year

Approval is recommended of sanctioning the Athletic, Band, Choir and FFA Booster Clubs for the 2025-2026 School Year. Motion to approve. This motion, made by Jason Manous and seconded by Joyce Northcutt, Passed.

Paul Buntz: Yea
Jason Manous: Yea
Joyce Northcutt: Yea
Chaz Polk: Yea
Janie Umsted: Absent

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

VII. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Approve or Not Approve a Memorandum of Understanding of an Interagency Agreement Between The Chickasaw Nation Early Childhood Program and Durant Public Schools

Approval is recommended of a Memorandum of Understanding of an Interagency Agreement between The Chickasaw Nation Early Childhood Program and Durant Public Schools. Motion to approve. This motion, made by Joyce Northcutt and seconded by Chaz Polk, Passed.

Paul Buntz: Yea
Jason Manous: Yea
Joyce Northcutt: Yea

Chaz Polk: Yea
Janie Umsted: Absent
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

VIII. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Approve or Not Approve the Following Contracts for the 2025-2026 School Year

Approval is recommended of the contracts listed below. Motion to approve Item VIII.A. through VIII.B. This motion, made by Jason Manous and seconded by Joyce Northcutt, Passed.

Paul Buntz: Yea
Jason Manous: Yea
Joyce Northcutt: Yea
Chaz Polk: Yea
Janie Umsted: Absent
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

VIII.A. Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education

VIII.B. Linda McGowen, School Psychometrist Agreement for the Durant Independent School District

IX. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Approve or Not Approve the Superintendent's Recommendations for the Consideration and Adoption of the Following New and Revised Policies

Approval is recommended for the following policies listed below, required and recommended by the attorneys at Rosenstein, Fist & Ringold. Motion to approve Item IX.A. through IX.M. This motion, made by Jason Manous and seconded by Joyce Northcutt, Passed.

Paul Buntz: Yea
Jason Manous: Yea
Joyce Northcutt: Yea
Chaz Polk: Yea
Janie Umsted: Absent
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

IX.A. Policy 6280 - Abuse, Neglect, Exploitation and Trafficking- Revision

IX.B. Policy 4130- Criminal Records Searches - Revision

IX.C. Policy 4120 - Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation - Revision

IX.D. New - Including Students with Disabilities in Assessments

IX.E. Policy 5120 - Length of the School Year - Revision

IX.F. Policy 5480 - Open Records - Revision

IX.G. New - Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

IX.H. Policy 2210 - School Board Meetings - Revision

IX.I. Policy 5460 - Strong Readers Act - Revision

IX.J. Policy 6470 - Student Behavior - Revision

IX.K. Policy 6170 - Student Transfers - Revision

IX.L. Policy 4560 - Suspension, Dismissal and Non-reemployment of Teachers - Revision

IX.M. New - Whistleblower Protection for Teachers and Support Employees

X. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Approve or Not Approve the Changes in the Negotiated Agreement, Pending Ratification of the Durant Education Association for the 2025-2026 School Year

Approval is recommended of the changes in the Negotiated Agreement, pending ratification of the Durant Education Association for the 2025-2026 school year. Motion to approve. This motion, made by Joyce Northcutt and seconded by Jason Manous, Passed.

Paul Buntz: Yea

Jason Manous: Yea

Joyce Northcutt: Yea

Chaz Polk: Yea

Janie Umsted: Absent

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

XI. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Approve or Not Approve an Overnight Out-of-State Trip for the Durant High School Band to Travel to Liberty, Kansas to Participate in the 2025 Newallah Marching Band Festival on October 24-26, 2025

Approval is recommended for 150 band students and 20 sponsors to travel to Liberty, Kansas to participate in the Newallah Marching Band Festival on October 24-26, 2025. Motion to approve. This motion, made by Joyce Northcutt and seconded by Jason Manous, Passed.

Paul Buntz: Yea

Jason Manous: Yea

Joyce Northcutt: Yea

Chaz Polk: Yea

Janie Umsted: Absent

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

XII. Consideration and Vote on Personnel Recommendations

Other recommendations and resignations are pending, and if available, may be brought to the meeting

Motion to approve Item XI.A. through Item XII.F. This motion, made by Joyce Northcutt and seconded by Chaz Polk, Passed.

Paul Buntz: Yea
Jason Manous: Yea
Joyce Northcutt: Yea
Chaz Polk: Yea
Janie Umsted: Absent
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

XII.A. Resignations Received Since the Last Meeting of the Board of Education

Certified – Ambera Mack, Durant Middle School
Certified – Kayla Springer, Washington Irving Elementary
Support – Kalyn Stephens, Administration Office
Support – Kay Allen, Washington Irving Elementary
Support – Jessica Franklin, Washington Irving Elementary
Support – Jacy Springer, REL-Early Childhood Center

XII.B. Employment of a Licensed Professional Counselor, School Based Mental Health Grant (Temporary Grant Contract) for the 2025-2026 School Year – Debbie Crites

XII.C. Designation of Adjunct Faculty for the 2025-2026 School Year

See attachment 1A.

XII.D. Employment of Certified Personnel for the 2025-2026 School Year

XII.D.1. Elementary Special Education Teacher for Durant School District, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Emma Rodgers

XII.D.2. History Instructor at Durant High School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Siera Beal

XII.D.3. Special Education Instructor at Durant High School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Judy Gordon

XII.D.4. Aviation Instructor at Durant Middle School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Jordan Nichols

XII.D.5. Math Teacher at Durant Middle School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Jenilee Hitchcock

XII.D.6. Social Studies Teacher at Durant Middle School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Dau’Quawn Montgomery

XII.D.7. Special Education Teacher at Washington Irving Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Bailey Jones

XII.D.8. Kindergarten Teacher at Washington Irving Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Karissa Nabors

XII.E. Employment of Support Personnel for the 2025-2026 School Year

- XII.E.1.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at Durant High School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Mattie Tonnubee
- XII.E.2.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at Durant High School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Kendra Dunagan
- XII.E.3.** Graduate Assistant at Durant High School (Cheerleading), One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Addi Couch
- XII.E.4.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at Durant Middle School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Catie Pfaff
- XII.E.5.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at Durant Middle School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Hollis Harris
- XII.E.6.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at Durant Intermediate School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Kimberly Bush
- XII.E.7.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at George Washington Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – John Woods
- XII.E.8.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at George Washington Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Amber Holt
- XII.E.9.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at George Washington Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Libbie Bush
- XII.E.10.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at George Washington Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Teena Johnson
- XII.E.11.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at Washington Irving Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Katie Atwood
- XII.E.12.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at Washington Irving Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Brandy Gould
- XII.E.13.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at Washington Irving Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Alisa Baker
- XII.E.14.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at Washington Irving Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Nora Wagner
- XII.E.15.** Special Education Teacher Assistant at Washington Irving Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Valorie Atkins
- XII.E.16.** Pre-Kindergarten Teacher Assistant at Robert E. Lee ECC, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Kayla Hutson
- XII.E.17.** Pre-Kindergarten Teacher Assistant at Robert E. Lee ECC, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Angela Hill

XII.E.18. Transportation Employee, Bus Driver, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (6-Hour Position) – Charlotte Davis

XII.E.19. Transportation Employee, Bus Driver, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (8-Hour Position) – Don Newport

XII.E.20. Transportation Employee, Bus Monitor, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (6-Hour Position) – Bobby Davis

XII.E.21. Speech Language Pathologist Assistant for Durant Public Schools, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Mandi Gage

XII.F. Additions to the Lists of Substitutes for the 2025-2026 School Year

Melodi Raygadas	Christy Bennett	Haleigh Todd
Carlie Freeman	Karsyn Nye	Laura Vander Veur
Brittney Wood	MaRisa Dingler	Kaitlyn Ervin

XIII. Discussion, Consideration and Vote on Items of New Business

None.

XIV. Comments from the Superintendent

Mr. Moring told the Board that the District had a great speaker welcoming the Staff back at the District wide meeting on Tuesday morning. The speaker discussed having a ripple effect on your students and Mr. Moring is very encouraged about the upcoming year and focusing on students. He also reported that the District is having an updated demographic study to assist in our projected enrollment and needs. He hopes to have that information to the Board as soon as the report is complete.

Mr. Moring stated that the District had to adjust our Bachelors pay schedule due to the State Department of Education increasing the 26+ years of experience at the State level. Previously, the State salary schedule incremental raises stopped at year 25. We have aligned our pay scale to reflect the new raise increments for 26 years of experience and above. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Durant Education Association regarding this pay schedule change.

Mr. Moring showed the Board the new "Roar" app that the District will be using for calendars and events across the District. He said that while Infinite Campus and Remind will still be our two approved messaging systems, this new platform will be very helpful at keeping everyone informed of items on the calendar.

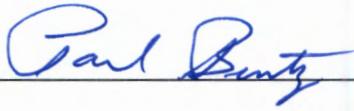
XV. Comments from the Board

Board President Paul Buntz stated that in regard to growth within the District, he saw a recent report that Durant is the only non-urban city on the Oklahoma growth list and that we are ranked number 4. All the Board members agreed that there continues to be housing growth in our area. Board Member Jason Manous said he is happy to hear about the step raises on the Bachelor's pay scale.

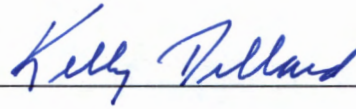
XVI. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Adjourn

Recommend adjournment of the meeting; motion to adjourn at 12:35 PM. This motion, made by Jason Manous and seconded by Joyce Northcutt, Passed.

Paul Buntz: Yea
Jason Manous: Yea
Joyce Northcutt: Yea
Chaz Polk: Yea
Janie Umsted: Absent
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1



Paul Buntz, President



Kelly Dillard, Clerk of the Board

Attachment 1A.

Site	Employee Name	Certificate Number	Area	Class
DIS	Melissa Allen	422751	1600	Elementary Education
DIS	Hailey Belvin	462150	1600	Elementary Education
DIS	Courtney Monroe		1600	Elementary Education
DIS	Micah Tennison	448704	1600	Elementary Education
DMS	Robert Bokies	056423	2019	Physical Education
DMS	James Patterson	226481	2019	Physical Education
DMS	Chance Williams	A02566	6560	Mid Level Social Studies
DMS	Ronnie Rodgers	231040	2019	Physical Education
DMS	Christopher Taylor	458625	2019	Physical Education
DMS	Elizabeth Callicoat	438117	1600	Elementary Education
DMS	Jenilee Hitchcock	230161	5552	Math
DHS	Ryan Cook	448702	6554	Psychology
DHS	Elisabet Garcia	431274	4101	Journalism
DHS	John Bruce Hill	121647	6550	OK History
			6552	Geography
			2027	Choctaw
DHS	Levi Knight	462024	6550	Geography
DHS	LouAnn Lively	208666	2019	Physical Education
DHS	Abbigail Mitchell	451157	4050	English
DHS	Jonathan Rodriguez	418222	6013	Physical Science
DHS	Travis Smith	441614	2019	Physical Education
DHS	Todd Vargas	191191	2019	Physical Education
DHS	Jimmie Wyrick	225040	6006	Chemistry

REGULAR MEETING

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)

COUNTY OF BRYAN)

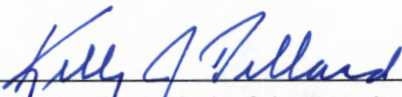
I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Education of Durant School District No. 1-72 of Bryan County, Oklahoma, do hereby certify that prior to December 15th of the last calendar year the date, time and place of this regular meeting was filed in the office of the County Clerk of Bryan County, Oklahoma.

I also certify that at least 24 hours prior to the meeting, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, notice of the date, time, place, and agenda of this meeting was posted in prominent public view at the location of the meeting.

Witness my hand and seal of this school district this 13th day of August 2025.

School Seal:





Kelly J. Dillard, Clerk of the Board