

DURANT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

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

Central Administration Office Conference Room

Monday, November 3, 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: Present

III. Approval of the Consent Calendar**

Motion to approve Item III.A. through III.H. 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: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

III.A. Agenda

III.B. Minutes:

III.B.1. October 06, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

III.B.2. October 21, 2025, Special 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 260666-260759 in the Amount of \$135,681.83

III.F.2. Fiscal '26 Bond Fund Numbers 260668-260758 in the Amount of \$1,092,880.28

III.G. Child Nutrition Claim for Reimbursement

III.H. Transfer Capacity

IV. Reports:

IV.A. Presentation of the Annual 2024-2025 Student Remediation Report, Durant High School Principal, Amber Bullard

Mrs. Bullard gave a remediation report based solely on information that she obtained from Southeastern Oklahoma State University. She stated that the school used to be able to retrieve remediation data from the State Regents website, but they no longer provide that information. She stated that SOSU reported that they had 208 full-time and 108 part-time Durant High School students currently enrolled. She was able to report that only 13 of these students' needed remediation.

IV.B. 2024-2025 Durant High School Dropout Report, Durant High School Principal, Amber Bullard

Mrs. Bullard gave a report that the dropout rate for this year is 3.48%. They have implemented programs, such as flex labs, to help students make up credits as they feel that lack of credits is the main cause of dropouts.

IV.C. 2024-2025 Durant Middle School Dropout Report, Durant Middle School Principal, Josh Perrin

Mr. Josh Perrin reported that the middle school had 3 dropouts. He stated that they are normally able to track down all students who leave, but these 3 students have moved out of the country and they have no way to contact them to confirm their status.

IV.D. Presentation of Test Scores, Director of Education, Beth Bean

Ms. Bean spoke about current testing data provided by last Spring's assessment tests. She stated that Oklahoma's state testing system has changed a lot over the past decade, with new tests, shifting cut scores, and efforts to make the results match national standards. This has made it hard to track student growth and compare scores from year to year, and all the changes have felt political and confusing for teachers and students. She said there was a lot of excitement when the state said it might switch to benchmark testing since it provides more detailed, real-time info teachers can use to help students right away, but switching over still needs approval at the state and federal level, so for now, things are in limbo.

Ms. Bean said the district is already using benchmark testing to better understand student strengths and weaknesses and quickly group students who need extra help. Teachers and parents get clearer reports with benchmark data than with state test results. She introduced our instructional coaches, Alicia Farley and Lisa Sager, who are working closely with teachers to make sure they know how to use the data to help students grow. She reported that the instructional coaches have had 240 in-person meetings in the last 2-1/2 months, which is having an incredible impact. The District is committed to using all available tools to track progress and improve instruction, even as we wait to see what the State decides to do.

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)

None.

VI. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Approve or Not Approve the Estimate of Needs and Remove All Temporary Appropriations from the Estimate of Needs

Approval is recommended for the Estimate of Needs and to remove all temporary appropriations from the Estimate of Needs. Motion to approve. This motion, made by Joyce Northcutt and seconded by Janie Umsted, Passed.

Paul Buntz: Yea

Jason Manous: Yea

Joyce Northcutt: Yea

Chaz Polk: Yea

Janie Umsted: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

VII. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Approve or Not Approve the Following Resolution Calling for an Election to be Submitted to the Voters of the District in Order to Elect a Board Member for Board Position No. 1, Five Year Term

Approval is recommended for the Annual Election Resolution submitted to the voters of the district in order to elect a board member for Board Position No. 1, Five Year Term. 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: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

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

Approval is recommended to approve the attached individuals' names to serve on the Calendar Committee for the 2025-2026 School Year. Motion to approve. This motion, made by Joyce Northcutt and seconded by Janie Umsted, Passed.

Paul Buntz: Yea

Jason Manous: Yea

Joyce Northcutt: Yea

Chaz Polk: Yea

Janie Umsted: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

IX. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Approve or Not Approve a Revision of Policy 6680, Wellness

Approval is recommended of a revision to Policy 6680, Wellness. 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: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

X. 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 X.A. through X.F. with the exception of Item X.C.1. Motion includes tabling X.C.1. 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: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

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

Certified – Julie Dollar, Washington Irving Elementary

Support – Catie Pfaff, Durant Middle School

Support – Tara Shuemaker, Northwest Heights Elementary

Support – Lesa White, Northwest Heights Elementary

Support – Summer Kane, Northwest Heights Elementary

Support – Alisa Baker, Washington Irving Elementary

X.B. Designation of Adjunct Faculty for the 2025-2026 School Year

List attached

Ryan Cook – Area Code 2019; Physical Education at Durant High School

Alys Parr - Area Code 2019; Physical Education at Durant High School

X.C. Employment of Certified Personnel for the 2025-2026 School Year

X.C.1. Special Education ELA and Math Teacher at Durant Intermediate School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – *Tabled at this meeting*

X.C.2. Second Grade Teacher at George Washington Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Kara Conner

X.D. Employment of Support Personnel for the 2025-2026 School Year

X.D.1. Licensed Professional Counselor for Durant Public Schools, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Marla Hill

X.D.2. Special Education Teacher Assistant at Durant Intermediate School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Janae Mejia

X.D.3. Special Education Teacher Assistant at George Washington Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Julie Henderson

X.D.4. Special Education Teacher Assistant at Washington Irving Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Lindsay Dills

X.D.5. Special Education Teacher Assistant at Washington Irving Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position, Part-Time, for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Ray Early

X.D.6. Transportation Employee, Bus Driver, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (6-Hour Position) – Ray Early

X.D.7. Transportation Employee, Bus Driver, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (6-Hour Position) – Jamie Jones

X.D.8. Transportation Employee, Bus Driver, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (8-Hour Position) – Justin William Stafford

X.E. Employment of DISD Students through the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services Transition Work Study Program for the 2025-2026 School Year

Hayden Henning

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

Lindsay Dills – Tamyra Rhynes – Lindsey Yearyean

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

None.

XII. Comments from the Superintendent

Mr. Moring thanked the Staff who put together the state testing data. He said that he is really excited about using benchmark tests because it gives teachers useful info they can actually use to help students right away, instead of waiting for state test results that come too late to make a difference. Benchmark data lets teachers spot students' strengths and weaknesses quickly, group them for extra help, and even gives parents more details than a regular report card. Mr. Moring hopes lawmakers will support more of this kind of testing. He is also happy about the possibility of working with the State Department by sharing our benchmark testing data.

XIII. Comments from the Board

Mr. Jason Manous asked for more information about how the approval for the benchmark style testing for Oklahoma would happen. Mr. Moring and Ms. Bean both shared with him that it would be a State level decision that will include parental and educational input prior to legislation being passed. Once the plan is approved in Oklahoma, they will submit to the Federal Department of Education for their approval which is done on a state-by-state basis.

XIV. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Adjourn

Recommend adjournment of the meeting; motion to adjourn at 12:42 PM. This motion, made by Joyce Northcutt and seconded by Janie Umsted, Passed.

Paul Buntz: Yea

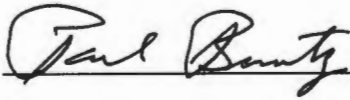
Jason Manous: Yea

Joyce Northcutt: Yea

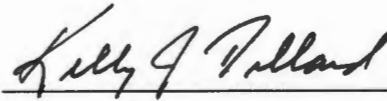
Chaz Polk: Yea

Janie Umsted: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0



Paul Buntz, President



Kelly Dillard, Clerk of the Board

REGULAR MEETING

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)

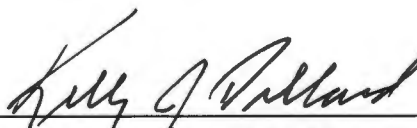
COUNTY OF BRYAN)

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Education of Durant School District No. I-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 3rd day of November 2025.





Kelly J. Dillard, Clerk of the Board