

DURANT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

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

Central Administration Office Conference Room

Monday, January 12, 2026

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: Absent

Janie Umsted: Present

III. Approval of the Consent Calendar**

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

Paul Buntz: Yea

Jason Manous: Yea

Joyce Northcutt: Yea

Chaz Polk: Absent

Janie Umsted: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

III.A. Agenda

III.B. Minutes:

III.B.1. December 8, 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 260815 - 260893 in the Amount of \$122,499.49

III.F.2. Fiscal '26 Building Fund Numbers 260834-260882 in the Amount of \$2,631.22

III.F.3. Fiscal '26 Bond Fund Numbers 260842 in the Amount of \$7,500.00

III.F.4. Fiscal '26 Child Nutrition Fund Numbers 260846-260869 in the Amount of \$1,094.00

III.G. Child Nutrition Claim for Reimbursement

III.H. Transfer Capacity

IV. 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.

V. Reports:

V.A. Mr. Moring to recognize Washington Irving's Fourth Grade Teachers and their test scores.

Mr. Moring introduced the ROAR Award (Recognizing Outstanding Academic Results) to recognize academic achievement and growth across the district. Washington Irving Elementary was recognized as the monthly ROAR Award recipient, with representation by Toni Marable and Jennifer Roberts from the 4th grade teaching team. The recognition was based on Academic Growth results from the Oklahoma School Report Card. It was noted that the improvement reflects a collaborative Pre-K through 4th grade effort.

District Curriculum Director Beth Bean reported that Washington Irving had improved from "Not Making Adequate Progress" (2023-2024) to "Making Satisfactory Progress" (2024-2025). They also achieved a 38.7% year-over-year increase in academic growth. Ms. Bean and Site Principal Maegan Morgan attributed the growth to vertically aligned essential skills by grade level, daily 30-minute intervention periods in ELA and math, and regular data analysis through PLC meetings and targeted professional development. Ms. Marable and Ms. Roberts received certificates for their classroom and Ms. Morgan announced that they would be having a celebration luncheon during their Professional Development Day on Monday, January 19th. The Board expressed their great appreciation for the efforts of the entire Washington Irving Staff.

V.B. Presentation of the 2025 Fiscal Year Audit, Representative of Bledsoe, Hewett & Gullekson Certified Public Accountants, PLLP

The district auditor, Shane Murphy with Bledsoe, Hewett & Gullekson Certified Public Accountants, PLLP presented the FY 2024-2025 audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, reviewing required audit reports, financial statements, and audit results. The auditor issued an independent auditor's report, noting an adverse opinion due to the district's use of a state-required accounting format that is not generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). An additional qualification related to fixed assets, which was noted as common among Oklahoma school districts. He reported no findings related to internal controls and no

findings related to compliance with Oklahoma statutes or school laws. The Federal Single Audit report (required due to expenditures exceeding \$750,000) identified no findings related to federal program compliance and no findings related to internal controls. A summary of audit results confirmed no audit findings and an increase in all district fund balances.

The auditor reported several immaterial management recommendations, including improved documentation for activity fund travel expenditures, a minor reimbursement coding variance in a federal project, missing non-kickback affidavits for certain purchase orders, and a recommendation for clearer documentation of board-approved stipends. No material weaknesses were identified. Mr. Murphy thanked district staff for their cooperation and professionalism. The board expressed appreciation for district staff and the audit presentation.

VI. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Approve or Not Approve the 2025 Fiscal Year Audit
Approval is recommended of the 2025 Fiscal Year Audit. 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: Absent
Janie Umsted: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

VII. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Approve or Not Approve an Agreement By and Between Newcastle Public Schools and Durant Public Schools for use of the THRIVE Learning Collaborative Educational Program

Approval is recommended of an agreement by and between Newcastle Public Schools and Durant Public Schools for use of the THRIVE Learning Collaborative Educational Program. 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: Absent
Janie Umsted: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

VIII. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Approve or Not Approve the Renaming of the Durant High School Gymnasium to the Robinson Family Gymnasium.

Approval is recommended of the renaming of the Durant High School Gymnasium to the Robinson Family Gymnasium. Motion to approve. This motion, made by Jason Manous and seconded by Janie Umsted, Passed.

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

IX. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Approve or Not Approve an Overnight Out-of-State Trip for the Durant High School Key Club to Travel to Wichita Falls, TX to Attend the Texas-Oklahoma Key Club Leadership and Education Conference on April 16-19, 2026

Approval is recommended for the Key Club, seventeen students and three sponsors to travel to Wichita Falls, Texas to participate in the Texas-Oklahoma Key Club Leadership and Education Conference. 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: Absent
Janie Umsted: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

X. Consideration and Vote to Convene in Executive Session, 25 O.S. 307 B(1) for the Purpose of Discussing the Following Item

Motion to approve convene in Executive Session at 12:40 PM. This motion, made by Joyce Northcutt and seconded by Janie Umsted, Passed.

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

X.A. Evaluation and Discussion on Contract of the Superintendent- 25 O.S. 307 B(1)

XI. Return to Open Session

Return to open session at 2:19 PM.

XII. Statement of Executive Session Minutes

A statement of Executive Session Minutes was read by Board President Paul Buntz regarding the Evaluation and Discussion on Contract of the Superintendent as per Item X.A.

XIII. 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 XIII.A. through XIII.F. This motion, made by Joyce Northcutt and seconded by Jason Manous, Passed.

Paul Buntz: Yea

Jason Manous: Yea

Joyce Northcutt: Yea

Chaz Polk: Absent

Janie Umsted: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

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

Certified – Stuart Pearson, Washington Irving Elementary

Support – Kelly Dillard, Business Office

Support – Kendra Dunagan, Durant High School

Support – Janell Buford, Durant Middle School

Support – Lindsay Dills, Washington Irving Elementary

Support – Ashlee Richie, Washington Irving Elementary

Support – Irma Raygadas, Washington Irving Elementary

Support – Joyshinee Burns, Northwest Heights Elementary

XIII.B. Employment of a Reading Interventionist at George Washington Elementary, Part-Time Temporary Position for the Remainder of the 2026 School Year (four days per week - time sheet position) - Melissa Phelps

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

XIII.C.1. Elementary Teacher at Washington Irving Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year – Teena Johnson

XIII.C.2. Principal for Choctaw Nation POSSE Summer School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2026 Summer School Session – Beth Bean

XIII.C.3. Assistant Principal for the Choctaw Nation POSSE Summer School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2026 Summer School Session – Maegan Morgan

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

XIII.D.1. Special Education Teacher Assistant at Durant Middle School, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Jaiveon Gardner

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

XIII.D.3. Special Education Teacher Assistant at Northwest Heights Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Kaitlyn Ervin

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

XIII.D.5. Special Education Teacher Assistant at Washington Irving Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Brittany Meads

XIII.D.6. Special Education Teacher Assistant at Washington Irving Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Jackson Manford-Roach

XIII.D.7. Special Education Teacher Assistant at Washington Irving Elementary, One-Year Temporary Position for the 2025-2026 School Year (Duration of Need) – Megan Richardson

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

Lydia Bullard - Alyssa Reyes - Cade Cross

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

Rylea Gilliam Janessa Percell Madison Simon Hollie Cox
Fischer Standridge Kaidyn Johnston Ava Chiles

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

None.

XV. Comments from the Superintendent

Mr. Moring reported that the State Career Tech Director is going to come toward the end of January to tour our Career Tech Program. He also thanked our District Administrators for putting together the Board Appreciation salad lunch that was provided today as part of Board Appreciation Month.

XVI. Comments from the Board

Board Member Jason Manous expressed appreciation for "Board Member Appreciation Month" meal along with banners and signs created by the sites. He said it was all very special. All the Board Members agreed that they feel very appreciated.

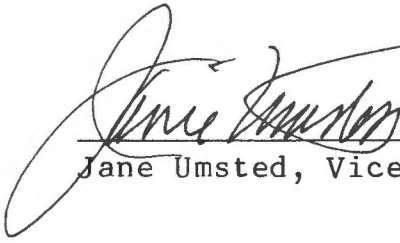
Member Joyce Northcutt stated that she wanted to thank Mr. Moring for a great one and one-half years as our District Superintendent!

XVII. Discussion, Consideration and Vote to Adjourn

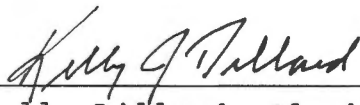
Recommend adjournment of the meeting; motion to adjourn at 2:27 PM. This motion, made by Jason Manous and seconded by Joyce Northcutt, Passed.

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

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1



Jane Umsted, Vice President



Kelly Dillard, Clerk of the Board

REGULAR MEETING

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)

COUNTY OF BRYAN)

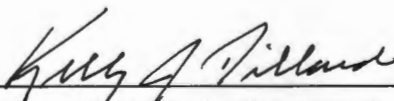
I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Education of Durant School District No. I-72 of Bryan County, Oklahoma, do hereby certify that prior to December 15th of the last calendar year the date, time and place of this regular meeting was filed in the office of the County Clerk of Bryan County, Oklahoma.

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 12th day of January 2026.

School Seal:





Kelly J. Dillard, Clerk of the Board