

Belton ISD SLAC Meeting Agenda and Minutes

February 18, 2026

SLAC Meeting 2.18.26

The members of the School Library Advisory Council met on February 18, 2026 at 10:00am in the Belton ISD Administration Building.

Voting Members Present:

Jen Sutton

Dayspring Fowley

Laura Kelley

Amanda Puffer

Ellen Burnett

Ciara McDonald

Katherine Dickey

Other Members Present:

Julee Manley

Tammie Baggerly

Lori McLaughlin

Kari Eliason

Nikki Cottrell

1. Welcome and Purpose

The Belton ISD Library Services meeting was held to review a list of approximately 281 books proposed for board approval. A key goal of the session was to ensure these materials meet legislative requirements and the district's own collection development guidelines. Additionally, the district highlighted tools that allow parents to actively monitor and manage their children's library access.

2. How to Access Destiny: Video

A librarian intern, Noelle Sanderford, has created a video that will be posted on the BISD website that shows parents how to access Destiny for their child. This allows parents to view checkout history, explore the catalog, and block titles.

3. Innovation Specialist

The district is changing the instructional support model for libraries due to budget constraints. The role will now be Innovation Specialists who focus on literacy, STEM, and direct GT services for students.

4. Reminders: Collection Guidelines and Legislative Rules

All book purchases and donations must meet the standards set forth in the Collection Development guidelines and the law. While the SLAC has not had a formal challenge, there are ongoing informal inquiries into books that are handled by library staff or administration.

5. Book List for purchase and vote

Chairperson Ellen Burnett moved into the review process for books. The list consisted of 281 books. There was concern for the book, Broken Dolls, that was listed on both the elementary and middle school lists. One member questioned the appropriateness of the book for elementary since it is advertised as scary. Several members of the council expressed that they would have students interested in that book because they love that genre. The librarians explained that since the book was leveled 4th- 8th grade it was appropriate for both libraries. One member stated that if a parent did not find the book appropriate for their child, they could block the title.

The council voted 7-0 to approve the list for school board approval next month.

6. Questions and Answers

The council discussed the cadence for meetings. The large number of books at the September meeting was discussed because that is when the new school year budget opens. A member suggested approving September books in the spring to get ahead in the ordering process.

The council agreed to move their next meeting to the first week of April in order for the purchases to arrive before the library staff leave for the summer.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55am.