

Notice of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Bastrop Independent School District

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Bastrop Independent School District will be held Tuesday, April 21, 2026, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Jerry Fay Wilhelm Center for the Performing Arts, 1401 Cedar Street, Bastrop, TX 78602.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order shown on this meeting notice.

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

1. Opening, Pledge, Prayer, Recognitions, Open Forum, and Mission Moment

A. Meeting Called to Order

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag

D. Opening Prayer

Presenter: Reverend Dr. Amy Moehnke, Bastrop Calvary Episcopal Church

E. Student Speaker on Character Education Trait for April - Self-Discipline

Presenter: Isabelle Rosales, 5th Grade Student, Lost Pines Elementary

F. Recognitions

1. CCHS State Powerlifting

2. BHS State Powerlifting

3. BHS Boys Soccer Regional Finals

Presenter: Eliot Allen, Director of Athletics

4. BHS SkillsUSA Aviation and Audio/Video State Competition

Presenter: Raina Ellis, Director of College, Career and Military Readiness

5. Global Seal of Biliteracy Recipients

Presenter: Cheryl Pinkston, Advanced Academics & LOTE Coordinator

G. Open Forum

H. Mission Moment - The Future of Virtual Education

Presenter: Jennifer Eberly, Chief Academic Officer

2. Superintendent's Report

A. Business Services Report

1. Delinquent Tax Report

Presenter: Noe Reyes, McCreary, Veselka, Bragg & Allen PC

2. Budget Update #3

Presenter: Mike White, Chief Financial Officer

B. Communications Report

C. Curriculum & Instruction Report

- D. Facilities & Support Services Report
 - 1. Spring 2026 Demographics Report

Presenter: Rocky Gardiner, Zonda Education
- E. Human Resources Report
- F. Police / Safety & Security Report

3. Consent Agenda

- A. Consider Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting on March 10, 2026 and Minutes of Special Called Meeting-Team Building on March 30, 2026
- B. Consider Approval of Bids
 - 1. Consider Approval of Program Support Goods & Services for Instructional, Extra-Curricular, and Administrative Needs RFP# BA07 - 2025
 - 2. Consider Approval of Special Education Instructional and Support Services RFP #BA06-2025
 - 3. Consider Approval of Yearbooks for BHS and CCHS RFP # BA06-2022
 - 4. Consider Approval of CCHS Baseball and Softball Field Project Bid # BID-2026-0002
- C. Consider Approval of Amendment to the 2025 - 2026 General Fund Budget
- D. Consider Approval of Tax Refunds
- E. Consider Approval of Designated Contract Renewal and Resignation Days
- F. Consider Approval of Instructional Materials Allotment & TEKS Certification Form

4. Action Items

- A. Consider Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between the Capital Area Council, Scouting America and Bastrop ISD
- Presenter:** Scot Bunch, Chief of Police

5. Information Items

- A. Board of Trustees Calendar of Events
 - B. Enrollment
 - C. CH (Local) Single Budgeted Purchases of \$50,000 or More
 - D. Report on Board Member Continuing Education Hours
- Presenter:** President Ashley Mutschink

6. Closed Session

- A. **Attorney Consultation (Government Code 551.071)**

Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section §551.071, to consult with the District's attorney, in person or by phone, on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the District under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Local Government Code.

 - 1. Discussion of participation in multi-district litigation involving youth social media usage and related litigation and entering into a contingency fee contract with

Eiland & Bonnin, PC and O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC to represent the District.

B. Personnel Matters (Government Code 551.074)

Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section §551.074 for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer, employee, or to hear complaints or charges against a public officer or employee, including the consideration of a termination of an identified probationary contract teacher.

1. Term and Probationary Contracts for Teachers


7. Action Resulting from Closed Session

- A. Consideration and Adoption of Resolution Approving Contingent Fee Legal Services Contract, including Findings Needed for Submission of Contingent Fee Legal Services Agreement and Request for Expedited Review by the Texas Attorney General
- B. Consideration and Adoption of Contingent Fee Legal Services Agreement with Eiland & Bonnin, PC and O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC
- C. Consider and Approve the Term and Probationary contracts for teachers as recommended by the Administration
- D. Consideration and possible action regarding the recommendation of the Superintendent, as presented, to send notice of the termination of the identified probationary contract teacher.

8. Adjournment

If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the Board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapters D and E or Texas Government Code section 418.184(f).. Before any closed meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in open meeting.

The notice for this meeting was posted in compliance with the Texas Open Meeting Act on April 15, 2026, at 5:00 p.m..



For the Board of Trustees

**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING &
NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES**

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Bastrop Independent School District, hereinafter “the District” be held on April 21, 2026, for the purpose of considering and taking action on all matters on the agenda for the meeting, including approval of an agreement with the law firms of Eiland & Bonnin, PC and O’Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC as special counsel to perform all legal services necessary to recover damages sustained by the District related to youth social media usage and any other action that may be necessary to pursue the best interests of the District in related litigation on a contingent fee basis.

The purpose of the agreement is to pursue any and all available causes of action in Multi District Litigation 3047 or JCCP 5255 seeking to recover damages due to youth social media usage and addiction sustained by the District. By way of this agreement, the District seeks to recover damages, court costs, penalties, and other relief under applicable law.

O’Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC regularly serves school districts across the state of Texas in a general counsel capacity and maintains a principal office in Austin, Texas and also offices in Pharr, San Antonio and Fort Worth. The firm has litigated statewide high profile public education related cases such as the No Pass No Play, the A-F litigation and multiple Edgewood decisions related to the school finance system. After serving as General Counsel for the Texas Education Agency and litigating various high-profile issues for the public education system for the Attorney General of Texas, Kevin O’Hanlon founded the firm in 1992 to serve the needs of Public Entity clients. Justin Demerath operates a contingent fee litigation practice within the firm that regularly represents public entities on a contingent fee basis, often in the scope of property insurance disputes. Additionally, his practice has recovered millions of dollars in recovery in high-profile multi-district litigations, including Syngenta GMO Corn, General Motors ignition switch recall, Trans-vaginal mesh, and NFL concussion litigation, as well as serving in leadership of cases that garnered national attention like the Sutherland Springs Mass Shooting. O’Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo has represented the District for over 5 years. O’Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo discussed the social media litigation with the District in early 2026. O’Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo introduced Eiland & Bonnin to the District to consider the social media litigation in early 2026.

Eiland & Bonnin, PC engages in complex contingent fee litigation which has required the investment of hundreds of thousands to millions of dollars of litigation expenses. Lawyers in the firm have served in past MDL leadership committees. The firm has worked in many high-profile litigations like the MGM Grand Las Vegas Mass Shooting, Syngenta GMO Corn, and BP Texas City Refinery Explosion. After 20 years of service as a member of the Texas House of Representatives for Districts 23 & 24, Craig Eiland has a unique understanding of what elected

officials and public entities are confronted with when navigating complex litigation. Mr. Eiland regularly advises multiple Texas school districts in litigation. O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo has represented the District for over 5 years. The inception of the relationship between Eiland & Bonnin and the District began when O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo introduced Eiland & Bonnin to the District to consider the social media litigation in early 2026.

O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC has served as legal counsel to the District for over 5 years. O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC has not previously represented the District on a contingency fee arrangement. Eiland & Bonnin has not previously represented the District on a contingency fee arrangement. Eiland & Bonnin has not previously represented the District in any capacity. O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC and Eiland & Bonnin, PC have, and continue to represent, claimants with competence and professionalism.

The specialized legal services, advancement of significant expenses, and compensation on a contingent fee basis required by this agreement cannot be performed by the attorneys and supporting personnel of the District because the District does not currently employ attorneys who have specialized knowledge and experience regarding Multi-District Litigation and analysis and legal remedies under both Texas and federal law on a contingent fee basis. In addition, the District has not budgeted the financial resources necessary to advance the significant litigation expenses required by this type of litigation nor to compensate competent and experienced attorneys and staff regarding Multi-District Litigation as District employees or to reasonably compensate a firm in private practice with the necessary experience under a contract providing for payment on an hourly basis without contingency.

Due to the complexity of the matter and expected difficulties in performing the legal work for this matter, the risk of no recovery, the expected expenses, including expert witness fees and other litigation costs, a reasonable hourly fee for a firm in private practice to prosecute this matter would exceed the amount for which the District would be able to adequately budget and expend financial resources. The District also does not have the financial resources required to pay the additional, significant costs of implementing appropriate infrastructure and technology necessary to fully and properly perform the needed legal services. The District also does not have the financial resources required to properly pursue its claims and causes of action, including to retain independent experts as testifying witnesses and to finance all costs of litigation through final resolution of the matter. Additionally, many law firms that handle large, complex matters strictly on an hourly basis have institutional clients, including social media corporations, insurance companies, and social media corporations; and it would be difficult to find a firm with experience in this area that does not have a conflict of interest that would hinder the firm's ability to effectively represent the District. The proposed law firms have certified that they have no such conflict of interest in representing the District.

The legal services cannot be reasonably obtained from attorneys in private practice charging hourly fees without contingency because a contract to pay attorneys on an hourly basis without contingency would represent an additional and significant cost to the District. Furthermore, the District would be responsible for payment of all costs and expenses of the litigation through appeals, including to retain independent experts as testifying witnesses and to finance all discovery expenses and other costs of litigation through final resolution of the matter. The District does not have the financial resources necessary to pay for these additional and significant expenses necessitated by this social media multi-district litigation.

Eiland & Bonnin, PC and O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC will be compensated on a contingent fee basis. Entering into the proposed agreement is in the best interests of the residents of the County/Counties in Texas served by the District. The District has sustained significant damages due to youth social media usage and addiction and for which there exists a potential recovery from the perpetrating social media corporations. Eiland & Bonnin and O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC possess the specialized skills, knowledge, experience, financial, and technological resources needed to competently and fully pursue maximum potential recovery of the District's damages. Furthermore, the proposed agreement enables the District to pursue its legal remedies without diverting essential monies and resources from the ongoing needs and operations of its students, staff, and community at large. In addition, the proposed agreement shifts the financial risk and burden of litigation costs and expenses to Eiland & Bonnin, PC and O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC with the District owing no such monies to the law firms unless and until it recovers monies. Moreover, Texas statutory and common law provide for penalty damages and for recovery of court costs, and for recovery of attorneys' fees for certain of the District's claims, including for breaches of contract.

Additionally, time is of the essence in the provision of these legal services. Potentially impending legal deadlines require urgent action by counsel.

Posted this the 15th day of April, 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristi Lee", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Kristi Lee, Superintendent