



JUNE 2026

BIG RED LETTERS

BELTON ISD SUPERINTENDENT DR. MALINDA GOLDEN

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Hello Belton ISD,

Welcome to June! As we officially close out another incredible school year, my heart is filled with immense pride and gratitude for our entire Big Red Community. Together, we have navigated challenges, celebrated triumphs, and stayed true to our shared purpose: empowering each and every learner to pursue their dreams and enrich their communities.

There is no greater reflection of our mission than watching our students walk across the graduation stage. We celebrated over 1000 graduates equipped with the knowledge, skills, and competencies needed to take their next step into college, the workforce or military service. I also want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our parents, guardians, teachers, and staff. Graduation is a collective achievement. Your unwavering support, late-night study sessions, and daily encouragement are what made this milestone possible.

While our hallways may be quieter during the summer months, the essential work of our district continues at a rapid pace. June and July are vital months for looking forward and setting the stage for future success. Over the coming weeks, our leadership team will be deeply engaged in strategic planning. We are carefully reviewing academic data, evaluating district programs, and assessing our resources to ensure we are consistently meeting the high expectations of our community. This

planning process will refine our roadmaps for the upcoming school year, ensuring that every decision we make aligns with our long-term vision of excellence and innovation.

Our commitment to continuous growth doesn't stop with our students. In Belton ISD, we firmly believe that our educators are lifelong learners. This summer, hundreds of our dedicated teachers and staff members will participate in a robust lineup of professional development opportunities. Through specialized workshops, collaborative curriculum alignment sessions, and advanced training in innovative teaching strategies, our staff will be sharpening their skills. These summer learning opportunities ensure that when our school doors reopen in August, our teams are fully energized and equipped with the best tools to inspire, challenge, and support every child.

To our students, families and staff, I hope this summer brings you ample time to rest, recharge, and make wonderful memories with loved ones. To our operations, maintenance, and administrative staff continuing to work through the heat to prepare our facilities for the fall, thank you for your dedication behind the scenes.

Thank you all for your continued partnership and for making Belton ISD such a remarkable place to learn, grow, and lead.

Sincerely,

Malinda Golden, Ph.D.





Belton ISD



BREAKING NEWS

Free Summer Meals Return to Belton ISD

Belton ISD continues its support for students and families through the 2026 Summer Feeding Program, offering free breakfast and lunch meals at multiple campuses and community locations throughout the summer. In partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the program helps provide nutritious meals to children and eligible students while school is out, with no registration or ID required.

For locations, times and menus, visit [here](#).



Belton ISD Seniors Take the Stage at Graduation 2026

On May 21, Belton ISD celebrated the Class of 2026 during graduation ceremonies at the Cadence Bank Center, honoring 985 graduates from Lake Belton High School, Belton High School and Belton New Tech @Waskow. The ceremonies highlighted student achievements, while also recognizing valedictorians, salutatorians and longtime graduation traditions across the district.



Belton ISD Celebrates Record Number of Early College Graduates


On May 5, Belton ISD celebrated a record-breaking milestone as 29 students earned associate degrees from Temple College before graduating from high school, marking the largest cohort of early college graduates in district history through the Texas Bioscience Institute partnership program. Students from Belton High School, Lake Belton High School and Belton New Tech @Waskow were recognized for balancing rigorous college coursework alongside their high school studies while preparing for future academic and career success.



Belton ISD Launches Virtual Learning Academy for High School Students

Belton ISD announced the launch of its Virtual Learning Academy, a new pilot program for students in grades 9-12 beginning in the 2026-27 school year. Created under new Texas legislation, the program expanded flexible learning opportunities through hybrid and fully virtual pathways designed to support a variety of student needs and learning styles. District leaders said the academy reflected Belton ISD's commitment to innovative, student-centered education while maintaining high-quality instruction and support services.

Additional information, including eligibility criteria, curriculum details, FAQs and the application form can be found [here](#).



BELTON ISD

VIRTUAL LEARNING ACADEMY

PILOT PROGRAM 2026-2027

Belton ISD Announces Valedictorians and Salutatorians for the Class of 2026

Belton ISD recognized the valedictorians and salutatorians of the Class of 2026 from Belton High School, Lake Belton High School and Belton New Tech @Waskow, celebrating their academic achievement, leadership and involvement throughout high school. The district honored Taylor Rogers and Dhruv Bhat of Lake Belton High School, Emma Flory and Abby Idoux of Belton High School, and Samantha McKenzie and Leland Moore of Belton New Tech @Waskow for their dedication, perseverance and future aspirations as they prepared for graduation ceremonies at the Cadence Bank Center.



VALEDICTORIAN

**EMMA
FLORY**



SALUTATORIAN

**ABBY
IDOUX**



VALEDICTORIAN

**TAYLOR
ROGERS**



SALUTATORIAN

**DHRUV
BHAT**



VALEDICTORIAN

**SAMANTHA
MCKENZIE**



SALUTATORIAN

**LELAND
MOORE**

Belton High School Senior Takes Center Stage on the Road to Broadway

On May 6, Belton High School senior Malachi Santana earned the Heller Award for Best Lead Performer Male for his role in *Seussical* during the 13th Annual Heller Awards for Young Artists at Bass Concert Hall. The achievement marked a milestone for Belton High School in its first year participating in the regional musical theatre program and highlighted the strength of the school's theatre and choir programs. Santana's win also qualified him for consideration to compete at the national Jimmy Awards in New York City.



BELTON
150

GOLDEN *moments*



[JUNE 2026 | GOLDEN MOMENTS]

S A V E T H E D A T E !



- June 5: District Closure
- June 12: District Closure
- June 15: Regular Board Meeting
- June 19: District Closure
- June 29-July 3: District Closure (4th of July)

July 10: District Closure
July 17: District Closure
July 20: Regular Board Meeting

August 10: Convocation
August 13: First Day of School
August 17: Regular Board Meeting

2026-2027 Student Calendar

Take the Journey

Stay Connected

Digital Backpack

We are Hiring

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