

September 8, 2026 Agenda

Board Questions and Responses

(Agenda item numbers are based on the [draft September 8 agenda](#).)

E.6 Turnitin, LLC

1. How or why was only BTW selected for this license? Is it a pilot program?

Thank you for your question. Booker T. Washington High School chose to purchase and utilize this service as a resource for their teachers using their site bond funds. BTW has purchased and used this program in previous years.

E.12 Stephanie Bauer

2. Can you provide a reminder summary of why our board is entering into a contract for a program at private schools? I know we have talked about it before, but could we understand the process better?

Since its passage in 1965, the ESEA legislation (known as ESSA under its most recent authorization) has stipulated that private school students residing within district attendance boundaries are eligible to receive services under Titles I, II, III and IV. Private school students are included in the census that determines the allocations for these federal programs and, therefore, are eligible for services. The law mandates that federal funds may never be paid directly to a private school and must flow through the local school district under what is referred to as equitable services.

Tulsa Public Schools currently works with 22 private schools that receive federally funded services under equitable services. The District's Assistant Director of Federal Programs consults with each of these schools to determine the needs of the students and to provide allowable services, which can range from tutoring to curriculum to professional development for teachers. Decisions regarding allowable uses of these funds are made in consultation with the Oklahoma State Department of Education private school ombudsman.

This request is to provide a stipend for a teacher to moderate an after-school newspaper enrichment program at Metro Christian Academy. The teacher is an employee of the private school who will moderate the program outside of her normal contracted hours.

The Board may see more agenda items this year than in the past because of a change in process in which our General Counsel is requiring contracts for services that, in the past, were covered by the terms listed on the purchase order.

E.15 American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Agreement

3. Will we receive a copy of the AFT agreement with the final agenda?

Yes, of course! The updated agreement will be provided with the final agenda.

Key items of note for 2026-2027 include:

- American Federation of Teachers and District staff reorganized the collective bargaining agreement to be more clearly organized for employees and management. Collaborative working sessions were conducted to update and rewrite outdated language.
- Salary increases of \$0.30 per hour for hourly staff and 1.5% for salaried staff. These increases will be retroactive to the beginning of the current fiscal year.
- Personal business days increased from three to five days.
- Language was added regarding two 15-minute breaks. This was not explicitly addressed in the previous collective bargaining agreement, this language was added to be clear and promote consistent practices.
- A separate line will be added to employee paychecks to clearly identify the amount of pay attributable to career increments. Previously, career increments were combined with the base pay of support employees.
- Retiring AFT members will receive payment for unused sick leave that mirrors the pay amount for the Tulsa Teachers Classroom Association.