REGULAR CALLED MEETING OF
THE BANQUETE ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Notice is hereby given that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the **Banquete Independent School District** will be held on **Wednesday, October 8, 2025** at **6:00 PM** in the **Library of Banquete Elementary School, 5436 Bulldog Ln., Banquete, Texas 78339** at which time, the agenda items will be discussed. In the course of the meeting, the board may change the order of business at its discretion without advance notice.

AGENDA

1. **Call To Order, Roll Call & Establish Quorum**

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Omar Ramirez. A quorum of board members was present. Roll Call was as follows:

2. **Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Mission & Vision**

The invocation was led by Mrs. Carla Ramirez.

Pledge Allegiance was led by Mr. Omar Ramirez.

Mission & Vision were read by Mr. Omar Ramirez.

3. **Public Participation (Open Forum) as per Policy BED (LOCAL):**

There was no public participation.

4. **Awards & Recognition**

The Banquete ISD Board of Trustees celebrated Mrs. Hofstetter, Mr. Pena, and Ms. Escobar in recognition of National Principals Month.

The Board also celebrated the Banquete Junior High Cross Country team, newly reestablished this year after a seven-year absence. Coach Hector Serna shared that a parent approached him at the parent meeting about the possibility of offering cross country to at the junior high level. The idea sparked the interest of 17 students. Coach Serna then took the idea to Coach Hermes, who then took the idea to Mrs. Tagle. Coach Serna shared that "the rest is history." He

recognized all of the students who helped make this junior high cross country program a success and also celebrated the success of the 7th grade girls team who came home with a district championship!

5. **Presentation/Information Item(s):**

5.A. President Updates

Mr. Omar Ramirez shared that the district's support of St. Michael the Archangel's Fall Festival helped make the festival a success.

Mr. Omar Ramirez also reminded the trustees to continue to meet the requirements of board training and log hours.

5.B. Superintendent Updates

Mrs. Tagle was not present at the meeting, and the Superintendent Updates were covered by Mrs. Kenna Moody, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning.

5.B.1. Enrollment & Attendance
Enrollment is 725 and Attendance is 94.79%

5.C. Administrator Updates

5.C.1. Academic Update
Mrs. Kenna Moody shared that TIA was not included this month because there were no updates to the framework. Submission will be on the 16th.

5.C.2. Special Programs Update - Emergent Bilingual
Mrs. Kenna Moody shared that TEA requires that the district present the emergent bilingual program to the board annually. Additionally, any requests for waivers for ESL certification will also be presented to the board for approval. The current emergent bilingual population in the district is 27, 18 students at BES, 3 students at BJH, and 6 students at BHS. We are an ESL district because we do not have 20 or more students in one grade level. As a district, we offer ESL services in one of two methods: pull out or content based instruction.
Mrs. Kenna Moody shared the process for identification and exit, and identified teacher certification shortages. Mrs. Kenna Moody shared information about the assessments that Emergent Bilingual students take. Mrs. Kenna Moody shared the district's intent to file a waiver with TEA and support teachers as they seek ESL certification. Mrs. Kenna Moody shared that one of the challenges is attracting teachers who already possess the certification is the lack of a stipend.

5.C.3. Athletics Update
Mr. Kevin Hermes shared that the volleyball and junior high football is winding down. The cross country season has also concluded with a 7th grade girls district championship. Coach Hermes shared that of the 120 student-athletes, only 2 students were ineligible for grades highlighting a true focus on being students first.

5.C.4. Special Education Update

Mr. Brent Coleman shared that the district is in the middle of the TEA Cyclical Audit. He shared that part of the information needed to submit is a stakeholder survey and discussed the importance of participating in the survey.

5.D. Bond Updates

5.D.1. Banquete Junior High - CLK Architects

Javier Huerta from CLK shared a condensed version of the project update, reviewing progress and outlining what to expect moving forward. Mr. Huerta shared that the bidding documents for the new Junior High will be completed in December, with the project scheduled to go out for bid in early January. Construction is set to begin in early February.

Phase 1 is targeted for completion in March. Phase 2 will include the demolition of the current Junior High and the interior demolition of the existing band hall. Renovation of the band hall is scheduled to begin in August and is expected to be completed by January 2028.

Planning for other projects, including CTE and athletic fields, will begin once the budgets for the Junior High construction are finalized. At the last meeting, we discussed the budget, and I am working to schedule a meeting to explore options for potential cost savings. One option is to renovate the existing band hall rather than build a new one. Another option is to renovate the existing Junior High gym and use any remaining funds from the budget to provide necessary upgrades.

Mr. Huerta reviewed a brief overview of the management services that will be discussed in item 7.D. The goal is to minimize cost.

Mr. Dado Pena asked when the construction was going to begin and asked if we had any costs. Mr. Huerta responded that because the project has not gone out to bid, we do not have direct costs.

Mr. Bert Perez asked about the square footage of the project. Mr. Huerta shared that there were two sets of square footage, new construction and renovation.

Mr. Benji Ramirez gave Mr. Huerta feedback on the visual provided so that we could post on the district website and share with the community.

Mr. Omar Ramirez also gave feedback and reminded the board of the upcoming Town Hall Meeting.

Mr. Huerta shared that for the Junior Architect Day and the Town Hall Meeting, we will have renderings, virtual reality, and digital imaging.

6. **Consent Agenda:**

6.A. Payment of itemized bills
6.B. Financial Statements and Balances
6.C. Investments
6.D. Tax Office Report
6.E. Cafeteria Report
6.F. Cash Flow Report
6.G. Approval of all standard reports, minutes, bills and informational items.

Motion made to approve the consent agenda as presented by Mr. Bert Perez, and second by Mrs. Carla Ramirez.

Individual votes are as follows:

Benji--Yes
Dado--Yes
Nikki--Yes
Carla--Yes
Bert--Yes
Omar--Yes

Motion carries 6-0

7. **Action Item(s):**

7.A. Discuss and Consider Approval of the 2025–2026 District Goals and Performance Objectives.

Mrs. Kenna Moody presented the goals and objectives proposed and discussed the involvement of parents, grandparents, community members, and district staff in creating the goals and objectives.

Motion made by Benji Ramirez and seconded by Carla Ramirez.
The individual votes are as follows:

Benji--Yes
Dado--Yes
Nikki--Yes
Carla--Yes
Bert--Yes
Omar--Yes

7.B. Discuss and Consider Approval of the 2025–2026 Staff Development Minutes Waiver
Mrs. Moody presented

Motion made by Bert Perez and seconded by Benji Ramirez.
The individual votes are as follows:

Benji--Yes

Dado--Yes
Nikki--Yes
Carla--Yes
Bert--Yes
Omar--Yes

Motion carries 6-0

7.C. Discuss and Consider Approval of the 2025–2026 Bilingual/ESL Waiver
Mrs. Moody shared a one-pager that discusses the basic rationale for the ESL waiver and legal references. The one-pager also included the strategies to help teachers meet certification requirements.

Motion made by Carla Ramirez and seconded by Benji Ramirez.
The individual votes are as follows:
Benji--Yes
Dado--Yes
Nikki--Yes
Carla--Yes
Bert--Yes
Omar--Yes

Motion carries 6-0

7.D. Discuss and Consider Approval of the Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with CLK Architects & Associates

Mr. Benji Ramirez asked a question regarding the fee outlined in the amendment for the Professional Services Agreement submitted by CLK Architects & Associates.
Clarification was provided by Mr. Adrian Pena on the initial budgets for the projects to provide an estimate of fees if the amounts remain as originally allocated.
Mr. Bert Perez shared that because there are a lot of unknowns as far as cost, an approach based on final costs is the best method.

Motion made by Bert Perez and seconded by Carla Ramirez.
The individual votes are as follows:
Benji--Yes
Dado--Yes
Nikki--Yes
Carla--Yes
Bert--Yes
Omar--Yes

Motion carries 6-0

7.E. Discuss and Consider Approval of the Resolution Nominating a Candidate for the Nueces County Appraisal District Board of Directors

Mr. Adrian Pena shared the historical nomination process and gave clarification on the percent of representation of the nomination.

There was no action taken.

8. **Closed Session:** The Board of Trustees will enter into closed session as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.The Board may deliberate or receive information on matters as permitted under the following provisions:

8.A. A. §551.071 - Consultation with Attorney
8.B. B. §551.129 - Remote Consultation with Attorney
8.C. C. §551.072 - Real Property
8.D. D. §551.074 - Personnel Matters

9. **Open Session:**

9.A. Discussion and Approval of Appointments, Employments, Evaluations, Resignations, Reassignments, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of Employees

There was no action.

9.B. Date and Time for November Regular Meeting

November 19, 2025 is the date and time for the November Regular Meeting.
Individual votes are as follows:
Benji--Yes
Dado--Yes
Nikki--Yes
Carla--Yes
Bert--Yes
Omar--Yes

Motion carries 6-0

10. **Adjournment**