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**CALALLEN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA ITEM**

MEETING DATE: July 13, 2026

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Discuss and take possible action regarding District’s Senate Bill 546 School Bus Three-Point Seat Belt Plan

PRESENTER: Kelsey Ramos, Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations

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|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation/Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Consent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Informational Report | <input type="checkbox"/> Old Business | <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only |

SUMMARY: Senate Bill 546, passed during the 89th Texas Legislature, amended Texas Transportation Code §547.701 to require that all school buses operated by or contracted for use by a school district be equipped with three-point seat belts for every passenger, including the driver. At the April 20, 2026 board meeting the Board determined, pursuant to Texas Transportation Code §547.701(e)(1), that the District's budget did not have the financial feasibility to support the purchase of thirteen (13) replacement school buses equipped with three-point seat belts. District Administration obtained an itemized retrofit estimate totaling \$536,966.48 for the thirteen (13) buses that are not currently equipped with passenger three-point seat belts.

Subsequent to that determination, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) announced the School Bus Safety Grant Program, established through Rider 85 of the General Appropriations Act (Senate Bill 1, 89th Legislature). The grant program provides eligible school districts with reimbursement of up to \$6,000 per bus to retrofit existing school buses with three-point seat belts. Eligibility requires that the district previously completed the required SB 546 reporting. Applications for the grant are due to TEA by August 14, 2026.

DISTRICT PRIORITIES:

PRIORITY 1: Building and Sustaining a Culture of Performance and Preparedness for Life Beyond High School	1.4 Student Safety and Well-Being
PRIORITY 2: Building and Sustaining a Culture of Faculty and Staff Commitment	N/A
PRIORITY 3: Increasing Community Engagement and Commitment	N/A

PRIORITY 4: Ensuring Effective and Efficient Operations	4.1 Strong Financial Stewardship 4.3 Safety and Security
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RECOMMENDATION: Administration recommends the approve the District’s Senate Bill 546 School Bus Three-Point Seat Belt Plan as presented.

MOTION LANGUAGE: No specific language required.

FUNDING SOURCE AND FINANCIAL IMPACT: Not Applicable

Funding Source: General Operating Budget	Financial Impact: See attached for information
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