



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Date: May 18, 2026 Prepared By: Jeff Clark
Subject: Discuss and Consider Approval of the 2025-2026 School Bus Seat Belt Compliance Report Regarding Senate Bill 546

Action

PURPOSE OF RECOMMENDATION:

A public presentation is required regarding the current inventory of school buses. This report will include the existence of buses equipped with three-point harness seatbelts, two-point seatbelts, and buses without seatbelts including the cost to convert those without three-point seatbelts to three-point seatbelts.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Senate Bill 546, passed during the 89th Texas Legislature, strengthens standards for school buses transporting students in Texas. The bill amends Texas Transportation Code §547.701, with the addition of subsection (f), requiring 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.

If a school board determines that the district's budget does not allow for the purchase of buses equipped with three-point seat belts, the district must present a report in a public board meeting that includes:

1. The number of buses operated by or contracted for use by the district that:
 - a. are not equipped with seat belts;
 - b. are equipped with two-point seat belts;
 - c. are equipped with three-point seat belts; and
2. The estimated cost to the district to equip all buses with three-point seat belts

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the report as presented be submitted to the Texas Education Agency.

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

Possible Motion: "I move to approve the report as presented to the Texas Education Agency."