



TO: District 5 Trustee Applicants

FROM: BISD Board Governance

RE: District 5 Board of Trustee Vacancy Appointment Application

Thank you for your interest in serving as an appointed member of the Board of Trustees of the Beaumont Independent School District. To be eligible for appointment, the selected candidate must be at least 18 years old, reside in District 5, and be registered to vote. The appointee will serve until the next regularly scheduled election, which is May 1, 2021. In order to be considered for appointment, all application materials must be received in the Board Affairs Office no later than Thursday, July 16, 2020 by 4pm.

Submitted applications must include the following:

- A letter of interest addressed to the President of the Board of Trustees
- A resume, including community service and leadership
- Minimum of two (2) letters of reference
- Voter Registration VUID Number (to use as verification of address)
- The completed application form

The current members of the Board of Trustees will consider the submitted application materials, and the Board may solicit further information from the candidates before naming an appointee. The Board encourages you to review the enclosed materials that outline Governing Board responsibilities and expectations of trustees including Board Policy BBE (LOCAL), Board Members Authority, Board Policy BBF (LOCAL), Board Members Ethics, and Board Policy BBFA, Conflict of Interest Disclosures. In addition, should you have a family member that is considering employment at Beaumont ISD, please be aware of the statutory prohibition against nepotism applicable to all board members, including appointees. The statutory requirements are detailed in Beaumont ISD Board Policy BBFB (Legal), Prohibited Practices.

All candidates can find more information about the District on our website, bmtisd.com. Please contact Georgia C. Antoine at (409) 617-5003 or via email at gantoin@bmtisd.com, if you have any questions about the position or the selection process.



BEAUMONT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
APPLICATION TO FILL BOARD OF TRUSTEES VACANCY
DEADLINE: July 30th by 4:00 p.m.
RETURN TO: Georgia C. Antoine, Board Governance
3395 Harrison Avenue Beaumont, Texas 77706

Questions Contact: (409) 617-5003 or email gantoine@bmtisd.com

Please attach your resume and minimum of two (2) letter of reference

NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

OCCUPATION: _____ EMPLOYER: _____

LANGUAGES (other than English): _____

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

High School/ Higher Education	Degree Earned	Year Issued	Major/Minor

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Yes | No | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I am 18 years of age or older. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I am a resident of the Beaumont Independent School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I am a registered voter. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I have not been convicted of a felony or an offense under section 43.02(b) of the Penal Code (prostitution). TEC 11.066 |



QUESTIONNAIRE

Please enclose typed or written responses to the below questions:

1. Please list all schools you or your children/guardians attended at Beaumont ISD.
2. Please discuss your involvement and interest in Beaumont Independent School District.
3. Identify and state your position regarding the most significant issues confronting public education, in general, and Beaumont Independent School District, in particular. Also discuss the ways you feel the District should respond to these issues.
4. What do you see as the major responsibilities of a Board Member?
5. Please identify and discuss the areas of knowledge or expertise that you would bring to the Board's deliberations.

ATTESTATION

Per my signature below, I affirm that everything in this application is true and correct. I further affirm that I understand a Board Member's responsibility requires attendance at:

1. Monthly regular board meetings,
2. Frequent special meetings or study sessions, and
3. Numerous school events.

I also understand that this application may be made available to the public in compliance with the Texas Public Information Act.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name (printed): _____

**Prohibited Activities
by Public Servants—
State Law**

“Public servant” means a person elected, selected, appointed, employed, or otherwise designated as one of the following, even if the person has not yet qualified for office or assumed his or her duties:

1. An officer, employee, or agent of government; or
2. A candidate for nomination or election to public office.

Penal Code 1.07(a)(41)(A), (E)

Bribery

A person commits an offense if the person intentionally or knowingly offers, confers, or agrees to confer on another, or solicits, accepts, or agrees to accept from another, any benefit:

1. As consideration for the recipient’s decision, opinion, recommendation, vote, or other exercise of discretion as a public servant or voter;
2. As consideration for a violation of a duty imposed by law on a public servant; or
3. That is a political contribution as defined by Election Code Title 15 or an expenditure made and reported in accordance with Government Code Chapter 305 (regarding registration of lobbyists), if the benefit was offered, conferred, solicited, accepted, or agreed to pursuant to an express agreement to take or withhold a specific exercise of official discretion, if such exercise of official discretion would not have been taken or withheld but for the benefit.

“Benefit” means anything reasonably regarded as pecuniary gain or pecuniary advantage, including benefit to any other person in whose welfare the beneficiary has a direct and substantial interest.

Penal Code 36.01(3), .02

Illegal Gifts

A public servant who exercises discretion in connection with contracts, purchases, payments, claims, or other pecuniary transactions of government commits an offense if the public servant solicits, accepts, or agrees to accept any benefit from a person the public servant knows is interested in or likely to become interested in any contract, purchase, payment, claim or transaction involving the exercise of the public servant’s discretion. *Penal Code 36.08(d)*

A public servant who receives an unsolicited benefit that the public servant is prohibited from accepting under the provision above may donate the benefit to a governmental entity that has the authority to accept the gift or may donate the benefit to a recognized tax-exempt charitable organization formed for educational, religious, or scientific purposes. *Penal Code 36.08(d), (i)*

Exceptions

Illegal Gifts does not apply to:

1. A fee prescribed by law to be received by a public servant or any other benefit to which the public servant is lawfully entitled or for which the public servant gives legitimate consideration in a capacity other than as a public servant;
2. A gift or other benefit conferred on account of kinship or a personal, professional, or business relationship independent of the official status of the recipient;
3. A benefit to a public servant required to file a statement under Government Code Chapter 572, or a report under Election Code Title 15, that is derived from a function in honor or appreciation of the recipient if:
 - a. The benefit and the source of any benefit in excess of \$50 is reported in the statement; and
 - b. The benefit is used solely to defray the expenses that accrue in the performance of duties or activities in connection with the office which are nonreimbursable by the state or political subdivision;
4. A political contribution as defined by Election Code Title 15;
5. An item with a value of less than \$50, excluding cash or a negotiable instrument as described by Business and Commerce Code 3.104;
6. An item issued by a governmental entity that allows the use of property or facilities owned, leased, or operated by the governmental entity; or
7. Food, lodging, transportation, or entertainment accepted as a guest and, if the donee is required by law to report those items, reported by the donee in accordance with that law.

Penal Code 36.10

Honoraria and
Expenses

A public servant commits an offense if the public servant solicits, accepts, or agrees to accept an honorarium in consideration for services that the public servant would not have been requested to provide but for the person's official position or duties. This provision does not prohibit a public servant from accepting transportation and lodging expenses or meals in connection with a conference or similar event in which the public servant renders services, such as addressing an audience or engaging in a seminar, to the extent those services are more than merely perfunctory. *Penal Code 36.07*

Abuse of Official
Capacity

A public servant commits an offense if, with intent to obtain a benefit or with intent to harm or defraud another, intentionally or knowingly violates a law relating to the office or employment, or misuses government property, services, personnel, or any other thing of value, belonging to the government that has come into the public servant's custody by virtue of the person's office or employment.
Penal Code 39.02(a)

"Law relating to a public servant's office or employment" means a law that specifically applies to a person acting in the capacity of a public servant and that directly or indirectly imposes a duty on the public servant or governs the conduct of the public servant. *Penal Code 39.01(1)*

"Misuse" means to deal with property contrary to:

1. An agreement under which the public servant holds the property;
2. A contract of employment or oath of office of a public servant;
3. A law, including provisions of the General Appropriations Act specifically relating to government property, that prescribes the manner of custody or disposition of the property; or
4. A limited purpose for which the property is delivered or received.

Penal Code 39.01(2)

Official Oppression

A public servant acting under color of the public servant's office or employment commits an offense if the public servant intentionally subjects another to sexual harassment.

A public servant acts under color of the public servant's office or employment if the person acts or purports to act in an official capacity or takes advantage of such actual or purported capacity.

"Sexual harassment" means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, submission to which is made a term or condition of a person's exercise or enjoyment of any right, privilege, power, or immunity, either explicitly or implicitly.

Penal Code 39.03(a)(3), (b), (c)

**Misuse of Official
Information**

A public servant commits an offense if, in reliance on information to which the public servant has access by virtue of the person's office or employment and that has not been made public, the person:

1. Acquires or aids another to acquire a pecuniary interest in any property, transaction, or enterprise that may be affected by the information;
2. Speculates or aids another to speculate on the basis of the information; or
3. As a public servant, including as a school administrator, coerces another into suppressing or failing to report that information to a law enforcement agency.

A public servant commits an offense if with intent to obtain a benefit or with intent to harm or defraud another, the public servant discloses or uses information for a nongovernmental purpose that:

1. The person has access to by means of the person's office or employment; and
2. Has not been made public.

"Information that has not been made public" means any information to which the public does not generally have access, and that is prohibited from disclosure under Government Code Chapter 552 (the Public Information Act).

Penal Code 39.06(a), (b), (d)

Nepotism

Except as provided by law, a public official may not appoint, confirm the appointment of, or vote for the appointment or confirmation of the appointment of an individual to a position that is to be directly or indirectly compensated from public funds or fees of office if:

1. The individual is related to the public official within the third degree by consanguinity (blood) or within the second degree by affinity (marriage); or
2. The public official holds the appointment or confirmation authority as a member of a local board and the individual is related to another member of the board within a prohibited degree.

Gov't Code 573.002, .041 [See DBE]

"Public official" means:

1. An officer of this state or of a district, county, municipality, precinct, school district, or other political subdivision of this state; or

2. An officer or member of a board of this state or of a district, county, municipality, school district, or other political subdivision of this state.

Gov't Code 573.001(3)

The nepotism law governs the hiring of an individual, whether the individual is hired as an employee or an independent contractor.
Atty. Gen. Op. DM-76 (1992)

A public official may not approve an account or draw or authorize the drawing of a warrant or order to pay the compensation of an ineligible individual if the official knows the individual is ineligible.
Gov't Code 573.083

*Counties with
Population
35,000 or More*

If, under the district's employment policy [see DC], the board delegates to a superintendent the final authority to select district personnel:

1. The superintendent is a public official for the purposes of the nepotism prohibitions of Government Code Chapter 573 only with respect to a decision made under that delegation of authority; and
2. Each member of the board remains subject to the nepotism prohibitions with respect to all district employees.

For purposes of this provision, a person hired by a district before September 1, 2007, is considered to have been in continuous employment [see DBE] and is not prohibited from continuing employment with the district subject to the abstention requirements.

Education Code 11.1513(f), (h)

*Counties with
Population Less
Than 35,000*

The provisions at Counties with Population 35,000 or More do not apply to a district that is located:

1. Wholly in a county with a population of less than 35,000; or
2. In more than one county, if the county in which the largest portion of district territory is located has a population of less than 35,000.

Education Code 11.1513(g)

A member of a board that has delegated to the superintendent final authority for personnel selection is not a public official with appointment authority for purposes of the nepotism prohibitions of Government Code 573.041. *Atty. Gen. Op. GA-123 (2003)*

With respect to renewed contracts, however, board members may be the relevant public officials for nepotism purposes. *Atty. Gen. Op. GA-177 (2004)*

**Former Board
Member Employment**

A trustee of a district may not accept employment with the district until the first anniversary of the date the trustee's membership on the board ends. *Education Code 11.063*

**Incompatibility of
Office**

The common law rule of incompatibility prohibits one person from holding two offices if the duties are in conflict or if one is subordinate to the other. Offices are legally incompatible when the faithful and independent exercise of one would necessarily interfere with the faithful and independent exercise of the other. *Thomas v. Abernathy County Line Indep. Sch. Dist.*, 290 S.W. 152 (Tex. Comm. App. 1927); *Turner v. Trinity Indep. Sch. Dist.*, 700 S.W.2d 1 (Tex. Ct. App. 1983); *Atty. Gen. Op. JM-634 (1987), MW-450 (1982)*

**Instructional
Materials Violations**

Rebates

A trustee commits an offense if the trustee receives any commission or rebate on any instructional materials or technological equipment used in the schools with which the trustee is associated.

Gifts

A trustee commits an offense if the trustee accepts a gift, favor, or service that:

1. Is given to the person or the person's school;
2. Might reasonably tend to influence a trustee in the selection of instructional material or technological equipment; and
3. Could not be lawfully purchased with state instructional materials funds.

"Gift, favor, or service" does not include staff development, in-service, or teacher training; or ancillary materials, such as maps or worksheets, that convey information to the student or otherwise contribute to the learning process.

Education Code 31.152

Free Materials

A person commits an offense if the person knowingly violates any law providing for the purchase or distribution of free instructional materials for the public schools. *Education Code 31.153*

**Prohibited Activities
by Public Servants—
Federal Law**

Bribery—General

"Public official" includes a person acting for or on behalf of the United States, or any department, agency, or branch thereof, in any official function, under or by authority of any such department, agency, or branch of government. The term includes any person who has been nominated or appointed to be a public official, or has been officially informed that such person will be so nominated or appointed. *18 U.S.C. 201(a); Dixson v. U.S.*, 465 U.S. 482, 499 (1984) ("To be a public official under section 201(a), an individual

must possess some degree of official responsibility for carrying out a federal program or policy.”); U.S. v. Franco, 632 F.3d 880 (5th Cir. 2011)

A public official commits an offense if the public official, directly or indirectly, corruptly demands, seeks, receives, accepts, or agrees to receive or accept anything of value personally or for any other person or entity, in return for:

1. Being influenced in the performance of any official act;
2. Being influenced to commit or aid in committing, or to collude in, or allow, any fraud, or make opportunity for the commission of any fraud, on the United States; or
3. Being induced to do or omit to do any act in violation of the official duty of such official or person.

18 U.S.C. 201(b)(2)

Bribery—Federal
Programs

“Agent” means a person authorized to act on behalf of another person or a government and, in the case of a government, includes a servant or employee, and a partner, director, officer, manager, and representative.

“Government agency” means a subdivision of the executive, legislative, judicial, or other branch of government, including a department, independent establishment, commission, administration, authority, board, and bureau, and a corporation or other legal entity established, and subject to control, by a government or governments for the execution of a governmental or intergovernmental program.

If a district receives, in any one year period, benefits in excess of \$10,000 under a federal program involving a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, guarantee, insurance, or other form of federal assistance, an agent of the district commits an offense if the agent:

1. Embezzles, steals, obtains by fraud, or otherwise without authority knowingly converts to the use of any person other than the rightful owner or intentionally misapplies, property that:
 - a. Is valued at \$5,000 or more, and
 - b. Is owned by, or is under the care, custody, or control of the district; or
2. Corruptly solicits or demands for the benefit of any person, or accepts or agrees to accept, anything of value from any person, intending to be influenced or rewarded in connection with

any business, transaction, or series of transactions of the district involving anything of value of \$5,000 or more.

This provision does not apply to bona fide salary, wages, fees, or other compensation paid, or expenses paid or reimbursed, in the usual course of business.

18 U.S.C. 666

Each Board member shall provide to the District in a timely manner information necessary for the District's annual financial management report. [See CFA]

As a member of the Board, I shall promote the best interests of the District as a whole and, to that end, shall adhere to the following ethical standards:

**Equity
In Attitude**

- I will be fair, just, and impartial in all my decisions and actions.
- I will accord others the respect I wish for myself.
- I will encourage expressions of different opinions and listen with an open mind to others' ideas.

**Trustworthiness
In Stewardship**

- I will be accountable to the public by representing District policies, programs, priorities, and progress accurately.
- I will be responsive to the community by seeking its involvement in District affairs and by communicating its priorities and concerns.
- I will work to ensure prudent and accountable use of District resources.
- I will make no personal promise or take private action that may compromise my performance or my responsibilities.

**Honor
In Conduct**

- I will tell the truth.
- I will share my views while working for consensus.
- I will respect the majority decision as the decision of the Board.
- I will base my decisions on fact rather than supposition, opinion, or public favor.

**Integrity
Of Character**

- I will refuse to surrender judgment to any individual or group at the expense of the District as a whole.
- I will consistently uphold all applicable laws, rules, policies, and governance procedures.
- I will not disclose information that is confidential by law or that will needlessly harm the District if disclosed.

**Commitment
To Service**

- I will focus my attention on fulfilling the Board's responsibilities of goal setting, policymaking, and evaluation.
- I will diligently prepare for and attend Board meetings.
- I will avoid personal involvement in activities the Board has delegated to the Superintendent.
- I will seek continuing education that will enhance my ability to fulfill my duties effectively.

**Student-Centered
Focus**

- I will be continuously guided by what is best for all students of the District.

Board Authority

The Board has final authority to determine and interpret the policies that govern the schools and, subject to the mandates and limits imposed by state and federal authorities, has complete and full control of the District. Board action shall be taken only in meetings that comply with the Open Meetings Act. [See BE(LEGAL)]

**Transacting
Business**

When a proposal is presented to the Board, the Board shall hold a discussion and reach a decision. Although there may be dissenting votes, which are a matter of public record, each Board decision shall be an action by the whole Board binding upon each member.

**Individual Authority
for Committing the
Board**

Board members as individuals shall not exercise authority over the District, its property, or its employees. Except for appropriate duties and functions of the Board President, an individual member may act on behalf of the Board only with the express authorization of the Board. Without such authorization, no individual member may commit the Board on any issue. [See BDAA]

**Individual Access to
Information**

An individual Board member, acting in his or her official capacity, shall have the right to seek information pertaining to District fiscal affairs, business transactions, governance, and personnel matters, including information that properly may be withheld from members of the public in accordance with the Public Information Chapter of the Government Code. [See GBA]

Limitations

If a Board member is not acting in his or her official capacity, the Board member has no greater right to District records than a member of the public.

An individual Board member shall not have access to confidential student records unless the member is acting in his or her official capacity and has a legitimate educational interest in the records in accordance with policy FL.

A Board member who is denied access to a record under this provision may ask the Board to determine whether the record should be provided or may file a request under the Public Information Act. [See GBAA]

Requests for
Records

An individual Board member shall seek access to records or request copies of records from the Superintendent or other designated custodian of records, who shall respond within the time frames required by law. When a custodian of records other than the Superintendent provides access to records or copies of records to an individual Board member, the provider shall inform the Superintendent of the records provided.

In accordance with law, the District shall track and report any requests under this provision, including the cost of responding to one

or more requests by any individual Board member for 200 or more pages of material in a 90-day period.

Requests for
Reports

No individual Board member shall direct or require District employees to prepare reports derived from an analysis of information in existing District records or to create a new record compiled from information in existing District records. Directives to the Superintendent or other custodian of records regarding the preparation of reports shall be by Board action.

Confidentiality

At the time a Board member is provided access to records or reports that are confidential or otherwise not subject to public disclosure [see GBA], the Superintendent or other District employee shall advise the Board member of the responsibility to comply with confidentiality requirements and the District's information security controls.

**Referring
Complaints**

If employees, parents, students, or other members of the public bring concerns or complaints to an individual Board member, he or she shall refer them to the Superintendent or another appropriate administrator, who shall proceed according to the applicable complaint policy. [See (LOCAL) policies at DGBA, FNG, and GF]

When the concern or complaint directly pertains to the Board's own actions or policy, for which there is no administrative remedy, the Board member may request that the issue be placed on the agenda.

**Visits to District
Facilities**

A Board member shall adhere to any posted requirements for visitors to first report to the main office of a District facility, including a school campus. Visits during the school or business day shall not be permitted if their duration or frequency interferes with the delivery of instruction or District operations. [See also GKC]