

The State Board of Education (SBOE) adopts the review of 19 TAC Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter A, Board of Trustees Relationship, and Subchapter B, Special Purpose School Districts, pursuant to Texas Government Code, §2001.039. The SBOE proposed the review of Chapter 61, Subchapters A and B, in the May 15, 2026 issue of the *Texas Register* (51 TexReg 3389).

The SBOE finds the reasons for adopting Chapter 61, Subchapters A and B, continue to exist and readopts the rules.

The SBOE received comments related to the review of Subchapters A and B. Following are the comments received and the corresponding responses.

Comment: One commenter asked that U.S. history not be replaced or presented inaccurately and opposed modernizing the U.S. Constitution. The commenter emphasized the U.S. Constitution's religious and moral foundations and asked the SBOE to vote accordingly.

Response: This comment is outside the scope of the rule review.

Comment: A school district trustee supported meaningful trustee training and asked the board to examine whether the expanding training framework is sufficiently aligned with trustees' core governance responsibilities. The trustee recommended greater emphasis on student outcomes governance, progress monitoring, strategic goal setting, data-informed decision-making, and superintendent evaluation.

Response: The SBOE offers the following clarification. Under Texas Government Code, §2001.039, rule review is designed to identify whether the reason for adopting a rule continues to exist. Changes to rules must be initiated through the administrative rulemaking process.

Comment: A commenter asked that instructional materials present religions, governments, economic systems, and historical movements fully and critically, including controversial or harmful consequences. The commenter specifically raised concerns about the treatment of Islamic texts and legal traditions and asked that materials remain accurate, transparent, and intellectually honest.

Response: This comment is outside the scope of the rule review.

Comment: One commenter supported continuing to adopt Chapter 61 and its trustee training framework. The commenter requested a structured, evidence-based crosswalk connecting each required training category to trustees' statutory duties under Texas Education Code, Chapter 11, so the board can assess alignment and proportionality as requirements expand. The request was not to reduce hours, but to verify that required training remains purposefully connected to trustee responsibilities.

Response: The board offers the following clarification. Under Texas Government Code, §2001.039, rule review is designed to identify whether the reason for adopting a rule continues to exist. Changes to rules must be initiated through the administrative rulemaking process.

Comment: One school district trustee stated that training is essential for school board members to remain informed about frequent changes, meet accountability expectations, and continue learning.

Response: The board agrees and adopted the rule review.

Comment: One commenter asked whether substantially similar training required by other licensing bodies, public employers, or religious organizations could count toward school trustee training requirements. The commenter suggested considering a state-offered or state-approved curriculum and assessment that could satisfy multiple equivalent requirements.

Response: The board offers the following clarification. Under Texas Government Code, §2001.039, rule review is designed to identify whether the reason for adopting a rule continues to exist. Changes to rules must be initiated through the administrative rulemaking process.

Comment: The commenter recommended giving trustees opportunities to increase their awareness of economic development so they are better prepared to evaluate career and technical education program needs.

Response: The board offers the following clarification. Under Texas Government Code, §2001.039, rule review is designed to identify whether the reason for adopting a rule continues to exist. Changes to rules must be initiated through the administrative rulemaking process.

Comment: A school district trustee and a principal supported readoption of Chapter 61, Subchapter A. They asked that future rule maintenance include a structured, evidence-based crosswalk mapping required trustee training categories to statutory duties in Texas Education Code, Chapter 11. They framed the request as an alignment and proportionality review, not a reduction in required hours, and offered to contribute a practitioner perspective.

Response: The board offers the following clarification. Under Texas Government Code, §2001.039, rule review is designed to identify whether the reason for adopting a rule continues to exist. Changes to rules must be initiated through the administrative rulemaking process.

No changes are anticipated to Subchapters A and B as a result of the review.