



Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: Board Member Request Board of Education Meeting: 06/24/2026

Item Title: TEA ESSER Non-Compliance issued to Dr. Jesus Chavez X **Action**
Compliance Matters for school years 2020-2022 Information
(Board Member Request – Carlos Elizondo) Discussion

BACKGROUND:

Discussion and possible action on matters regarding TEA ESSER Non-Compliance Correspondence issued to Dr. Jesus Chavez on April 22, 2024, and ESSER compliance matters for school years 2020-2022.

Board Member Request #1 dated Thursday, May 14, 2026 @ 8:14 p.m.

Board Member Request #2 dated Thursday, May 14, 2026 @ 8:59 p.m.

Board Member Request: Carlos Elizondo

Board Support: Minerva Pena

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:

Dr. Alda T. Benavides
Prepared by: Interim Superintendent

Recommended by: Interim Superintendent

Approved by: Interim Superintendent

Board Member Request

Dr. Alda T. Benavides
Interim Superintendent

When Necessary, Additional Background May Follow This.

Minerva Almanza

From: Minerva Almanza
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2026 10:56 AM
To: Minerva Almanza
Subject: FW: Board Member Request

Importance: High

FYI: Board of Trustees
Interim Superintendent

Board Agenda Request – Carlos Elizondo

From: Carlos Elizondo <celizondo2@bisd.us>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2026 8:14 PM
To: Dr. Alda T. Benavides <atbenavides@bisd.us>
Subject: Board Member Request
Importance: High

Dear Interim Alda T. Benavidez Superintendent Benavides,

Please place the following item on the agenda for the very next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees:

“Discussion and possible action on matters regarding TEA ESSER Non-Compliance Correspondence issued to Dr. Jesus Chavez on April 22, 2024, and ESSER compliance matters for school years 2020–2022.”

Due to the significance of the issues involved, including compliance, accountability, financial oversight, and public transparency, I am requesting that this item be scheduled for discussion and possible action at the next available board meeting.

Please confirm receipt of this request and advise once the item has been placed on the agenda.

Respectfully,
Carlos A. Elizondo
Board Trustee, Place 1

This email and any files transmitted with it are the property of the Brownsville Independent School District, are confidential, and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom this email is addressed. If you are not one of the named recipient(s) or otherwise have reason to believe that you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete this message immediately from your computer. Any other use, retention, dissemination, forwarding, printing, or copying of this email is strictly prohibited.

BISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability or genetic information in employment or provision of services, programs or activities.

BISD no discrimina a base de raza, color, origen nacional, género, religión, edad, discapacidad o información genética en el empleo o en la provisión de servicios, programas o actividades.

Minerva Almanza

From: pena4bisd@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2026 8:46 AM
To: Patricia Perez
Cc: Minerva Almanza
Subject: Agenda Items

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Brownsville ISD. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning,

Please be advised that I would like to have this email stand as approval for all current and future agenda items requests, submitted by any and all of my BISD Board Members' Colleagues.

Respectfully,

Minerva M. Pena
BISD Trustee
946-345-5564

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Minerva Almanza

From: Minerva Almanza
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2026 5:03 PM
To: Minerva Almanza
Subject: FW: Board Member Request

FYI: Board of Trustees
Interim Superintendent

Board Agenda Request – Carlos Elizondo

From: Carlos Elizondo <celizondo2@bisd.us>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2026 8:59 PM
To: Dr. Alda T. Benavides <atbenavides@bisd.us>
Subject: Board Member Request

FYI: Board of Trustees
Interim Superintendent

Board Member Request –

In light of the recent communication received from the Texas Education Agency regarding the unresolved ESSER compliance matter and the disallowed costs totaling \$573,571.74, I am formally requesting the following information and documentation from Administration in preparation for Board review and discussion:

1. A complete copy of all correspondence between the District and the Texas Education Agency related to this ESSER non-compliance matter from 2020 through the present date.
2. Copies of any correspondence, emails, memoranda, text communications, internal communications, or other written communications related to this ESSER matter involving any district employees, administrators, consultants, legal counsel, vendors, or members of the Board of Trustees.
3. A detailed breakdown of the disallowed expenditures totaling \$573,571.74, including:
 - Vendor names
 - Purchase descriptions
 - Dates of expenditure
 - Funding source details
 - Campuses or departments involved
 - Individuals responsible for authorization and approval
4. Identification of all district administrators, employees, consultants, or third parties involved in the review, approval, processing, oversight, or submission of the expenditures identified by TEA as non-compliant.

5. Copies of any internal audits, compliance reviews, corrective action plans, legal opinions, investigative findings, or consultant reports previously conducted regarding these ESSER expenditures.

6. Documentation reflecting whether the Board of Trustees was formally notified of the April 22, 2024 TEA correspondence at the time it was received, including the date of notification and the manner in which the Board was informed.

7. Clarification regarding:

- Why the matter remained unresolved for over two years
- What actions, if any, were taken following the April 22, 2024 notification
- Whether any repayment discussions, appeals, or negotiations were initiated with TEA

8. A legal and financial assessment outlining:

- Potential district liability
- Funding sources proposed for repayment
- Whether any additional penalties, sanctions, or compliance monitoring may result from this matter

9. A timeline of all major events associated with this ESSER compliance issue from the original expenditure date through the current May 19, 2026 deadline established by TEA.

Additionally, I request that this matter be placed as an agenda item for discussion and possible action at the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees under the following title:

“Discussion and possible action on matters regarding TEA ESSER Non-Compliance Correspondence issued to Dr. Jesus Chavez on April 22, 2024, and ESSER compliance matters for school years 2020–2022.”

Given the magnitude of the identified disallowed costs, the public accountability implications, and the district’s obligation to maintain transparency and compliance with federal grant requirements, it is imperative that the Board receive a complete and detailed briefing on this matter.

Respectfully,

Carlos A. Elizondo
Board Trustee, Place 1

This email and any files transmitted with it are the property of the Brownsville Independent School District, are confidential, and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom this email is addressed. If you are not one of the named recipient(s) or otherwise have reason to believe that you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete this message immediately from your computer. Any other use, retention, dissemination, forwarding, printing, or copying of this email is strictly prohibited.

BISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability or genetic information in employment or provision of services, programs or activities.

BISD no discrimina a base de raza, color, origen nacional, género, religión, edad, discapacidad o información genética en el empleo o en la provisión de servicios, programas o actividades.

Minerva Almanza

From: pena4bisd@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2026 8:46 AM
To: Patricia Perez
Cc: Minerva Almanza
Subject: Agenda Items

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Brownsville ISD. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning,

Please be advised that I would like to have this email stand as approval for all current and future agenda items requests, submitted by any and all of my BISD Board Members' Colleagues.

Respectfully,

Minerva M. Pena
BISD Trustee
946-345-5564

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)