



Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: General Function Board of Education Meeting: 10/06/26

Item Title: Consulting Services: Patricia X Action
Valenzuela - Human Development Information
Discussion

BACKGROUND:

Parents Building a Brighter Future is a program designed for Brownsville ISD parents by Patricia Valenzuela. BISD Parents in Education is an initiative conducting monthly face-to-face sessions and an evening virtual session for our parents. These sessions are designed to comply with Title 1 requirements. Topics for discussion and activities were selected based on the results from parent surveys. In addition, there will be one in-service training for parent liaisons.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Categorical Funding: 211 for \$8,500 for 17 one-hour sessions.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend to approve for Patricia Valenzuela - Human Development, of Brownsville, TX to provide consulting services for BISD parents and parent liaisons for the 2026-2027 school year.

Categorical Funding: 211 for \$8,500 for 17 one-hour sessions.

Alejandra Aldrete

Submitted by: Principal/Program Director

Recommended by: Asst. Supt./Exec. Dir.

Dr. Nellie Cantu

Approved by: Chief of Operations

9/28/26

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:

Dr. Timothy E. Cuff

Dr. Timothy E. Cuff, Superintendent

When Necessary, Additional Background May Follow This.



Parent and Family Engagement Proposal 2026-2027

09/22/2026

Ms. Alejandra Aldrete
Parent & Family Engagement
Director
Brownsville ISD

Dear Ms. Aldrete,

Thank you for the opportunity to present this proposal as part of our continued partnership in supporting families within the district. Over the past years, it has been a privilege to contribute to parent education initiatives that promote stronger family connections and student success.

For the 2026–2027 school year, I have developed an updated series of training topics that build upon prior work in social-emotional learning, with an increased focus on self-awareness, mental and emotional health, and practical strategies for today's parenting challenges. The proposed sessions are designed to be relevant, engaging, and immediately applicable for families.



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Brownsville, TX 78520



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Sincerely,
Patricia Valenzuela, M.Ed.



**PROPOSAL
PARENT PRESENTATIONS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027**

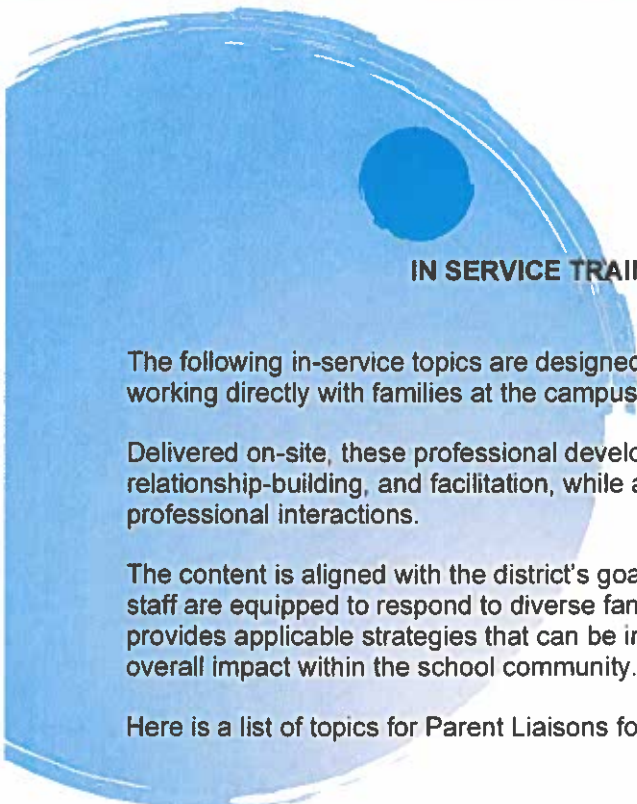
Sessions will be delivered in both modalities: On-site during the morning and virtually via Teams in the evening, allowing for accessible participation across the district. The frequency is one topic (two sessions) per month.

Each presentation is designed as a one-hour interactive session, combining research-based content with practical strategies that parents can immediately apply at home. The format encourages reflection, engagement, and real-life application, ensuring that participants not only receive information but also develop meaningful skills to support their children's emotional, social, and academic growth.

LIST OF TOPICS AND PROPOSED CALENDAR FOR PARENTS

MONTH	AREA OF KNOWLEDGE	TOPIC
OCTOBER	Emotional Awareness & Regulation	1. Emotional Safety: The Foundation for Learning and Behavior
NOVEMBER	Mental Health & Emotional Support	2. Recognizing Early Signs of Emotional Distress in Children and Teens
DECEMBER	Family Connection & Repair	3. Rebuilding Trust After Conflict: Repair Strategies for Families
JANUARY	<i>In-service for Parent Liaison and Staff</i>	<i>Topic to choose at your convenience from the list presented in the next page.</i>
JANUARY	Modern Parenting Challenges	4. Raising Digitally Responsible Children: Beyond Screen Time Rules
FEBRUARY	Stress, Pressure & Emotional Balance	5. Supporting Children Through Uncertainty and Change
MARCH	Communication & Deeper Connection	6. When Children Shut Down: Understanding Withdrawal and Disconnection
APRIL	Academic Success & Cognitive Development	7. Creating a Home Environment that Supports Focus and Learning
MAY	Identity, Purpose & Future Readiness	8. Raising Self-Aware and Purpose-Driven Children





IN SERVICE TRAINING FOR PARENT LIAISONS AND STAFF JANUARY 2027

The following in-service topics are designed to support parent liaisons in strengthening their effectiveness when working directly with families at the campus level.

Delivered on-site, these professional development sessions focus on building practical skills in communication, relationship-building, and facilitation, while also enhancing self-awareness and emotional intelligence in professional interactions.

The content is aligned with the district's goals of increasing meaningful parent engagement and ensuring that staff are equipped to respond to diverse family needs with confidence, empathy, and clarity. Each session provides applicable strategies that can be immediately implemented to improve outreach, connection, and overall impact within the school community.

Here is a list of topics for Parent Liaisons for you to choose at your convenience:

1. **Building Trust with Families: Communication Strategies that Increase Engagement**
 - Practical tools to connect with diverse family dynamics
 - Reducing resistance and increasing participation
 2. **Emotional Intelligence for Parent Liaisons**
 - Self-awareness in professional interactions
 - Managing challenging conversations with empathy and boundaries
 3. **Facilitating Parent Workshops that Create Real Impact**
 - Moving from information delivery to transformation
 - Engagement techniques for adult learners
 4. **Supporting Families in Crisis or High-Stress Situations**
 - Recognizing signs of distress
 - Protocols, boundaries, and effective referrals
 5. **Cultural Responsiveness and Family Dynamics in School Communities**
 - Understanding diverse perspectives on parenting and education
 - Strengthening school-family partnerships
- 

PARENT PRESENTATIONS FOR MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM 2026-2027

This proposal also includes two parent education sessions for families participating in the Migrant Education Program during the 2026–2027 school year. These sessions will be delivered on dates and site to be determined by the Program Director and Ms. Valenzuela. Each session will be approximately one hour in length and designed to provide practical strategies and resources that support student success and family well-being.

Suggested presentation topics include:

1. **Supporting Your Child's Academic Success at Home (1 hour)**

This session will provide parents with practical strategies to help their children succeed academically, including establishing effective home routines, promoting reading and learning habits, maintaining communication with teachers, and accessing educational resources available through the school and community.

2. **Building Resilience and Emotional Well-Being in Children and Families (1 hour)**

This session will focus on understanding stress, strengthening family communication, fostering resilience in children, and developing healthy coping strategies that support emotional well-being and academic success.

QUOTE

The program includes 17 sessions of 1 hour each.

Total cost: \$8,500.00

Special Hourly Rate for BISD Family Engagement: \$500.00 USD

(Regular Hourly Rate: \$600.00)

Special discount for Parent and Family Engagement percentage: 20%

All costs have been maintained at the same rate as the previous year, with no increases applied.

I trust you find the proposal satisfactory and look forward to your business. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,


Patricia Valenzuela

Patricia Valenzuela, M.Ed.





**- PARENT & FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT
- MIGRANT EDUCATION**

Committee Presentation

Patricia Valenzuela – Human Development Development
 2026–2027 Consulting Services for BISD Parents, Parent Liaisons & Migrant Families
 Parent & Family Engagement and Migrant Education Department

Student Achievement, Curriculum and Technology Committee

September 22, 2026 • BISD Administration Building Boardroom

Prepared for committee review and discussion

Agenda Items for Committee Review

Items IV.A.2 and IV.A.3 on the September 22, 2026 committee agenda





IV.A.2

Parents & Parent Liaisons

Patricia Valenzuela – Human Development

Consulting services for BISD parents and parent liaisons for the 2026–2027 school year.

\$8,500 • 17 one-hour sessions

Categorical Funding: Title I-A • Fund 211

Approximately 230 parents per session

IV.A.3

Migrant Families

Patricia Valenzuela – Human Development

Consulting services for BISD Migrant families for the 2026–2027 school year.

\$1,000 • 2 one-hour sessions

Categorical Funding: Title I-C • Fund 212

Approximately 50 Migrant families per session

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Patricia Valenzuela, M.Ed.



Local Experience • Professional Growth • Connection to BISD Families

Harvard Graduate School of Education

Participated in professional development and executive education focused on leadership, human development, emotional intelligence, equity, community engagement, and human-centered educational practices.

A BISD Parent & Local Community Connection

Her two daughters completed their K-12 education in Brownsville ISD. Patricia brings both a professional perspective and the lived experience of a BISD parent who understands our schools, families, and community.

Connecting with Today's Parents

For more than nine years, she has worked directly with BISD families across campuses. Her approach centers on listening, respect, practical strategies, and helping parents become active partners in their children's education.

Parent & Family Engagement and Migrant Education Department

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Proposed 2026–2027 Scope & Cost

Two funding streams support distinct parent and family engagement audiences



Title I-A Parent & Family Engagement

\$8,500

17 one-hour sessions

- Audience: BISD parents and parent liaisons
- Compliance: parent capacity-building and support for school-family partnerships
- Funding code: 211

Title I-C Migrant Education

\$1,000

2 one-hour sessions

- Audience: Migrant families
- Compliance: parent engagement and family support aligned to Migrant Education Program needs
- Funding code: 212

\$500 per one-hour session

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Federal Funding Alignment / Compliance

TEA guidance supports parent training and engagement activities when reasonable, necessary, allocable, and program-aligned



TITLE I, PART A

Parent & Family Engagement

TEA program guidance requires LEAs to build parent capacity and includes:

“provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children’s achievement”

TEA also permits other reasonable support for parental involvement activities requested by parents.

Source: TEA Title I, Part A Program Guide (ESSA §1116).

TITLE I, PART C

Migrant Education Program

TEA’s MEP guidance identifies service coordination that includes:

“Advocacy and outreach activities for eligible migratory children and their families”

It also identifies family literacy programs and requires parental participation and engagement through the MEP.

Source: TEA Title I, Part C Migrant Education Program Guide (ESSA §1304).

2025–2026 Parent Survey Evidence

Parent evaluations were used to inform planning for the 2026–2027 school year



733

responses analyzed

Same response base used for Questions 1–5

What parents rated

1. Was the topic adequately presented?
2. Was the presenter knowledgeable about the subject matter?
3. Was the content of this session relevant to your needs?
4. Did the session make a contribution to your knowledge?
5. How would you feel about having Mrs. Patricia Valenzuela as a speaker for the next meeting?

Rating scale shown in the source evaluations: 3 / 2 / 1. The next slide displays the distribution for each question.

Parent Survey Results: 2025–2026

All five questions use N = 733 responses



98.9% of the parents answered they will like Patricia Valenzuela as a future speaker.

Parent Voice

Selected comments from 2025–2026 Parent in Education meeting evaluations



"My biggest reason for coming to these meetings is to listen and learn from Ms. Valenzuela."

"We want Mrs. Valenzuela in all the meetings — she is the major motivation."

"Spectacular speaker as always (Mrs. Valenzuela)."

"We hope that next year we have Mrs. Patricia Valenzuela with us."

"We need more of Mrs. Valenzuela next year!"

"Ms. Valenzuela is wonderful and makes every topic relatable & entertaining."



Thank You

Questions & Committee Discussion

Parent & Family Engagement • Migrant Education

Brownsville Independent School District



BUILDING STRONGER PEOPLE, SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES

Patricia Valenzuela, M.Ed.
Education & Human Development Consultant

My Story with BISD

For more than nine years, my relationship with Brownsville Independent School District has been much more than a professional one. BISD has been part of my work, my community, and my own family's story.

I have had the privilege of serving BISD families as a parent trainer, education and human development consultant, and advocate for meaningful family engagement. Throughout these years, I have worked with parents from campuses across the district, creating spaces where families can learn, reflect, ask questions, feel heard, and better understand the important role they play in their children's education.

But I have also experienced BISD from the other side of that relationship: **I was a BISD mother.**

My two daughters completed their K–12 education within Brownsville ISD, and I have personally witnessed what can happen when public education, family involvement, opportunity, and high expectations come together.



Today, one of my daughters is a Texas A&M University graduate who was able to complete her bachelor's degree in only three years, in large part because of the college credits she earned through BISD's dual enrollment opportunities. My other daughter graduated as the Valedictorian of Veterans Memorial Early College High School Class of 2025 and is now a student at the University of Pennsylvania.

Their stories are deeply personal to me, but they are also part of the reason I believe so strongly in the work I do with families. I have not only spoken to BISD parents about the

value of education, involvement, communication, advocacy, and taking advantage of opportunities—I have lived that journey alongside my own children.



Building Relationships with BISD Families.

For more than 9 years, my work with BISD has allowed me to connect with parents from different schools, backgrounds, circumstances, and stages of their children's education.

My goal has never been simply to "deliver a presentation."
My goal has been to **build connections**.

Effective parent engagement requires more than providing information. Families need to feel that the person speaking to them understands their challenges, respects their experiences, speaks in a way that is relevant to their lives, and recognizes the strengths they already bring to their families.



This philosophy has guided my work with BISD for more than nine years.

Throughout this partnership, I have had the opportunity to provide presentations, workshops, trainings, and conversations addressing topics related with SEL and Emotional Intelligence, just as TEA is requiring after COVID since 2020:

1. How to Bring Social Emotional Learning to Your Home.
Como utilizar el aprendizaje social y emocional en casa.
2. Bringing Emotional Intelligence and Empathy at Home.
Formando en la inteligencia emocional y en la empatía desde el hogar.
3. Understanding Anxiety and Mental Health.
Comprendiendo la ansiedad y la salud mental.
4. Raising Emotionally Resilient Children in a Changing World.
Formando niños emocionalmente resilientes en un mundo cambiante
5. Healthy Emotional Families.
Familias Emocionalmente Saludables.
6. Discipline and Routine to Create a Safe Environment
Disciplina y rutina para crear un ambiente seguro.
7. Emotionally Available Parents.
Padres emocionalmente disponibles.
8. "Sharing is Caring": Building Social Awareness in Our Family
"Compartir es Amar": Haciendo conciencia emocional en la familia.
9. A Positive Attitude to Face Difficult Times
Una actitud positiva para enfrentar los tiempos difíciles.
10. Bringing Emotional Intelligence and Empathy at Home.
Desarrollo de la Inteligencia Emocional y la Empatía en casa.
11. Love and Friendship: The Base of Meaningful Relationships During Life.
Amor y Amistad: La base de las relaciones significativas a lo largo de la vida.
12. Building the Citizens of the Future at Home.
Construyendo al ciudadano del futuro desde el hogar.
13. Violence and Abuse Prevention at Home
Prevención del abuso y la violencia en el hogar.
14. Healing the Past for a Brighter Future.
Sanando el pasado para lograr un mejor futuro.
15. Solving Problem Skills in the Family Environment.
Habilidades para la solución de problemas en el ambiente familiar.

16. Social Emotional Learning to Raise Successful Children.
Aprendizaje Social y Emocional para formar hijos exitosos.
17. Dealing with Fears and Anxiety at Home.
Manejo del miedo y la ansiedad en el hogar.
18. Improving Your Family Environment.
Mejore su ambiente familiar.

These sessions have allowed me to address not only academic success and parental involvement, but also many of the human factors that influence a child's ability to succeed: communication, emotional intelligence, parenting practices, mental and emotional wellness, motivation, relationships, resilience, self-awareness, family-school partnerships, and the challenges families face in an ever-changing world.

I have also provided training for Parent Liaisons with the topics:

1. Working with Parents During Difficult Times
2. The Art of Empathy: Connecting with Other People's Feelings
3. Talking to Our Parents Community. (Presentation Skills)
4. Parent Educators as Mediators in Conflict Resolution.
5. Building a Parents Community at School
6. Understanding Our Families: Heritage and Culture in Our Community
7. Dealing with Difficult People
8. Understanding the Role of a Parent Educator

Continuing My Own Professional Growth

My commitment to serving BISD families and professionals has also required a commitment to my own continued learning.

As part of that journey, I have had the opportunity to participate in professional development and executive education experiences through the **Harvard Graduate School of Education**, where I have expanded my knowledge in areas related to leadership, human development, emotional intelligence, equity, community engagement, and the human-centered practices needed to lead and serve effectively in today's educational environment.

These experiences have allowed me to learn from nationally recognized educators, researchers, and thought leaders while reflecting on how those ideas can be translated into practical strategies for the communities I serve. For me, the value of these opportunities extends far beyond adding a credential to my professional background. What I learn must return to my community.



I have intentionally incorporated this continued professional growth into the programs, trainings, and conversations I facilitate, bringing new perspectives and evidence-informed practices back to the parents, employees, and leaders I have the privilege of serving—including those within Brownsville ISD.

Beyond Parent Engagement: Supporting BISD Leaders and Employees

My relationship with BISD has also expanded beyond my work with parents.

For over 3 years I have had the opportunity to collaborate with **Food and Nutrition Services (FNS)** in leadership and human development initiatives designed to strengthen the people who serve our students every day.

This work is especially meaningful because I believe that strengthening a school district requires investing not only in students and families, but also in the people who make the organization function.

I have also trained parents of children with special needs in collaboration with Special Services Department.



Whether I am working with parents, employees, supervisors, or leaders, the foundation of my work remains the same: **people perform, communicate, lead, parent, and serve more effectively when they develop greater self-awareness and stronger human connections.**

Service Beyond the Contract



Another important part of my history with BISD cannot always be reflected in a contract, purchase order, or invoice.

Throughout the years, there have been occasions when BISD campuses, departments, employees, or leaders have reached out asking for my support beyond contracted services. Whenever possible, I have chosen to help.

I have contributed time, presentations, participation, consultation, resources, and other **in-kind professional services** when the district or its community needed my assistance, such as events related with violence at schools, requested visits to cafeteria personal in many campuses to have motivational talks, presentations for parents in different campus to support parent liaisons, online emotional support for parents during COVID, supporting as a mediator in parent-campus conflicts, active support as parent and also as a community member for NCUST visits, providing emotional support to parents about mental and emotional health when they reach for me in private, just to mention a few.



I chose to provide these services because I have never viewed BISD simply as a client. This is my community. It is the district that educated my daughters, the district whose families I have served for years, and an institution whose success directly impacts the future of Brownsville.

Recognition Along the Journey

Throughout these years, BISD has honored and recognized my contributions in different ways. Each recognition represents much more to me than an award or certificate. It represents a relationship that has been built over time with campuses, departments, administrators, staff members, and—most importantly—families.

Among the recognitions I have received are:

- **2021 Parent Recognition during the Board Meeting.**
- **2025 Principal for a Day**
- **Three years as C.A.R.E Partner Program Member.**
- **Special recognition by Stillman MS as Parent Volunteer of the Year**
- **3 Special recognitions as Parent Volunteer at Ortiz Elementary**



I am grateful for every one of these recognitions because they document a professional relationship that has grown through years of consistency, trust, and service.

More Than Nine Years of Work – A Relationship Built Over Time

When I look back at my history with Brownsville ISD, I see much more than a collection of presentations.

I see parents who returned to attend another session.

I see families who felt comfortable enough to share their struggles and ask difficult questions.

I see administrators and staff members who trusted me to work with their communities.

I see opportunities to support employees and leaders in their own personal and professional growth.

I see years of adapting my work to respond to what BISD families and employees needed at different moments.

And I also see my own daughters—two BISD students whose educational journeys remind me personally of what is possible when schools, families, educators, and opportunities come together.

That combination of **professional experience and personal connection** is what makes my relationship with BISD unique.

After more than nine years, I understand this community because I am part of this community.

My hope is to continue building upon what we have already created together. There is still important work to be done with parents, employees, leaders, and families, particularly as our community faces new academic, social, emotional, and family challenges.

I hope one day be able to continue serving Brownsville ISD, bringing not only my professional experience as an Education and Human Development Consultant, but also something that cannot be developed overnight: **years of relationships, credibility, knowledge of our community, and trust built through consistent presence and service.**

My history with BISD is something I deeply value. More importantly, I believe it can become the foundation for the work that still lies ahead.

Patricia Valenzuela, M.Ed.

Education & Human Development Consultant



Evaluation Form

TITLE: _____

DATE: _____

PLACE: _____

TIME: _____

Please check one:

Por favor marque una:

Parent _____ Aide _____ Teacher _____ Administrator _____ Other _____ (specify)

Padre _____ Asistente _____ Maestro _____ Administrador _____ Otro _____ (especifique)

Please circle one number for each question: 3=Very Good 2=Good 1=Fair

Por favor circule un número en cada pregunta: **3=Muy Bien 2=Bien 1=Favorable**

1. Was this topic adequately presented? 3 2 1
 ¿Fue presentado el tema adecuadamente?

2. Was the presenter knowledgeable about the subject matter? 3 2 1
 ¿Estuvo el presentador bien informado en su materia?

3. Was the content of this session relevant to your need? 3 2 1
 ¿Fue el contenido de esta sesión apropiado a su necesidad?

4. Did this session make a contribution to your knowledge? 3 2 1
 ¿Contribuyo esta sesión a incrementar su conocimiento?

5. How would you feel about having Mrs. Patricia Valenzuela as a speaker for the next meeting? 3 2 1
 ¿Cómo calificaría su satisfacción con la participación de la Sra. Patricia Valenzuela como oradora para la próxima reunión?"

General Comments / Comentarios Generales

Please return this Evaluation Form at the end of the session.

Favor de entregar esta Evaluación al final de la sesión.

BISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, 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, sexo, religión, edad, discapacidad o información genética en el empleo o en la provisión de servicios, programas o actividades.