

STATE OF TEXAS

(Minutes conducted via electronic voting)

COUNTY OF CAMERON

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the **4th day of August, 2026**, the Board of Trustees of the Brownsville Independent School District met in a **Regular Board Meeting** at the Administration Building, 1900 Price Road, Brownsville, Texas, for the purpose of transacting any and all business that came before the Board and with the following to wit:

PRESENT:

Carlos Elizondo	President
Frank Ortiz	Vice-President
Minerva Pena	Secretary
Denise Garza	Member
Jessica Gonzalez	Member
Neida Ruth Grantland	Member
Daniella Lopez Valdez	Member

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT:

Dr. Timothy E. Cuff	Superintendent of Schools
Eden Ramirez	Attorney for the Board

ALSO ABSENT:

None

WHEREUPON, a quorum being present and it appearing before the Board, it is hereby so found that notice of this **Regular Board Meeting** has been duly given in the manner and for the length of time as prescribed by law. The meeting was called to order and declared ready for the transaction of business with the following to wit:

- I. Regular Board Meeting called to order by Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board President at 5:30 p.m.**
- II. Moment of Silence led by Dr. Timothy E. Cuff, Superintendent.**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance led by Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member.**
- IV. Roll Call. Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board President announced that all Trustees were present.**
- V. Recommend approving the agenda of the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, August 4, 2026 with any corrections/deletions.**

Amendment(s):

X.A. General Function Item(s):

Item 17 Page 1 will be replaced with Page 1a
Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a

Item 18 **Page 19 will be replaced with Page 19a**
Page 37 will be replaced with page 37a

X. B. Payment(s):

Item 1 **Page 1 will be replaced with Page 1a**
Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a
Pages 101 – 106 will be deleted from agenda backup

XII. B. Personnel Item(s):

Item 3 **Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a**
Item 14 **Page 20 will be replaced with Page 20a**
Page 20b will be added to agenda backup
Item 15 **Will be deleted from agenda and backup**

Handout 1 – added to official minutes
Handout 2 – Personnel

Motion made by Denise Garza, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, and unanimously carried to recommend approving the agenda of the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, August 4, 2026 with corrections/deletions as stated by administration. (7-0-0)

VI. Recommend approving the minutes with any corrections:

- A. Special Called Board Meeting of Monday, June 15, 2026.
- B. Special Called Board Meeting of Tuesday, June 23, 2026.
- C. Rescheduled Regular Board Meeting of Wednesday, June 24, 2026.
- D. Special Called Board Meeting of Friday, July 17, 2026.

Motion made by Neida Ruth Grantland, seconded by Denise Garza, and unanimously carried to recommend approving the minutes of the Special Called Board Meeting of June 15, 2026, Special Called Board Meeting of Tuesday, June 23, 2026, Rescheduled Regular Board Meeting of Wednesday, June 24, 2026 and Special Called Board Meeting of Friday, July 17, 2026, with no corrections, as stated by administration. (7-0-0)

Recess: 5:37 p.m. Reception – Dr. Timothy E. Cuff, Superintendent
Reconvene: 5:57 p.m.

VII. Superintendent's Report: * SB1566

A. Conference Presentations:

- 1. Recognition of Honoring Lifelong Service: 50+ Years of Excellence in Education.

Ms. Maricela Zarate Puente, Administrator stated, the Brownsville I.S.D. was proud to honor and recognize the remarkable dedication and lifelong commitment of an educator who has served our students, schools, and community for 50 years. This distinguished individual has made a lasting impact of generations of students, fostering both academic achievement and personal growth. Her legacy reflects the highest ideals of the education profession and serves as an inspiration to all. Ms. Raquel G. Lopez, Stillman Counselor was recognized for her 50 years of service.

Ms. Lopez is a Stillman counselor. She celebrates her 50 years of service. She's accompanied today by her daughter and she's also accompanied by her principal her Stillman principal, and we congratulate you, Ms. Lopez. Ms. Raquel G. Lopez proudly celebrates 50 years of dedicated service in education, devoting her career to the academic, personal, and emotional growth of countless students. She began her career with Brownsville ISD in 1976 as a teacher at Central Middle School. Where she served until 1990. In 1996, she transitioned into the role of school counselor, continuing to serve the Central Middle School community through 2003. In 2004, she transferred to Stillman Middle School, where she continues to serve as head counselor, a leadership role she has held for the past 29 years. Positively impacting the lives of student's families, and staff.

Throughout her career, Ms. Lopez has viewed education as more than a profession. It has been her life's calling. Whether in the classroom or the counseling office, she has inspired students to achieve their full potential by providing academic guidance, encouragement, and compassionate support through life's challenges. One of the greatest rewards of her career has been seeing former students return as school professionals, devoted parents, and respected community leaders, knowing she played a meaningful role in their growth and success. Brownsville ISD proudly recognizes Ms. Raquel G. Lopez for her 50 years of exceptional service, compassion, and unwavering commitment to student success. Her legacy of excellence, leadership, and dedication will continue to inspire generations to come.

2. Presentation of the Collaboration with The University of Texas Health Science Center at Brownsville.

The purpose of this agenda was to provide the Board of Trustees with an update on Brownsville Independent School District's intent to collaborate with the University of Texas Health Science Center at Brownsville in submitting a proposal for the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Great Health for America funding opportunity (CDC-RFA-DP26-0233). This initiative in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the CDC, will bring together healthcare providers, schools, community organizations, local agencies and other stakeholders to identify priority health needs and implement measureable strategies that improve health outcomes for children and families.

Brownsville has been identified by the CDC as one of only four community's nationwide eligible to participate in this demonstration initiative. The funding opportunity seeks to improve children's health by addressing the root causes of chronic disease through community-drive evidence-based interventions that focus on nutrition, physical activity, environmental health, access to healthcare, and other social determinants of health.

If selected, the project would receive approximately \$8 million over a two-year performance period (approximately \$4 million annually) through a CDC cooperative agreement. Funding would support community assessment, data infrastructure, and coalition development, implementation of evidence-based interventions, evaluation activities, and ongoing performance measurement.

Participation in this initiative would position Brownsville as a national demonstration site

for innovative childhood chronic disease prevention strategies while strengthening regional partnerships and public health infrastructure. Successful implementation could improve health outcomes for children, reduce long-term healthcare costs, and establish a model that may be replicated in communities across the country.

3. Presentation by Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott LLP of the Collection Report July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

Mr. Hiram Gutierrez, Rep, stated, good evening, good evening. Dr. Cuff, President Elizondo, and Honorable Members of the Board, and first of all, Dr. Cuff. Congratulations on your new position. It is an honor to be here before you this evening. I'm here to present you with your annual delinquent tax collection report, that being the period of July 1st, 2025, through June 30th 2026. The delinquent tax program for Brownsville ISD is designed with an emphasis on working with your taxpayers to help them resolve their delinquent tax problem, and leaving litigation as only a last resort. To that end, we have mailed over 10,230 letters, Notices of delinquency to your taxpayers. We have updated addresses on 1,400 accounts and we've made over 18,600 phone contacts with delinquent taxpayers at Brownsville ISD. When the letters and the calls don't have the desired effect, we don't get a response from the taxpayer. We also conduct field inspections. We go visit the business, or if it's a home, go visit the home, see if we can find somebody. We've conducted 259 Field inspections during this period. Once we contact your taxpayers, they're not always able to pay in full. So, during this time, we've entered into 432 formal payment agreements involving over \$1,275,000 in base tax owed to the district. As I said, we leave litigation as only as a last resort, and unfortunately sometimes we do have to file suits. During this period, we filed 387 suits involving over \$1,550,000 in base tax owed to the school district. Another tool we have at our disposal is tax warrants. This is something we conduct when it's a business. We can ask the court for a tax warrant and then the constable or the sheriff can go to the place of business and hopefully collect. And if that doesn't work, an auction can be held as well. During this period, we've had seven tax warrants involving over 13,000 in base tax owed to the school district. We also represent you in federal court, mostly in bankruptcies. And during this period we've been very busy with bankruptcies. We filed 55 claims in bankruptcy court involving over \$1,397,000 in base tax owed to the school district. Once we take a judgment, we still try to work with the taxpayer. We'll still see they're willing to pay, either pay in full or enter into a payment agreement. But if that doesn't happen, we will up properties up for auction. During this period we've had tax sales. Five properties were put up for tax sale. Four resulted in payment agreements or payment in full involving over \$29,251. One property was struck off. That means that there was no winning bid, so the property gets struck off to the taxing entities. We also put up two properties up for tax resale. Both of them sold. Bringing in over \$56,000 in base tax to the school district. This pie chart just shows you your delinquent tax role by category what's in bankruptcy, what's in deferral, partial pay, what's in litigation. And if you have any questions on that, I'll go back and answer those. Now, of course, all our efforts are geared to one goal. And that is to collect as much of your delinquent taxes as quickly as possible. And I'm very proud to tell you that during this period we've collected \$5,062,000 in base tax and an additional

\$1,392,000 in penalties and interest for a grand total of \$6,455,000. Now there's been a lot of refunds lately, and from that money, \$1,555,000 was used to pay refunds to taxpayers that had a change in their taxable value and receive the refund. This bar graph here, bar graphs, show you five years of delinquent taxes here at Brownsville ISD. On the far left is the 21-22 fiscal year. And on the far right is the most recent. I'm very proud to show you that every year your collections have been increasing in dollars, and most importantly, back in 21-22 your collection rate, that is how much, what percentage of the tax roll was collected, delinquent tax roll. Back then it was 42.73% and in 25-26 the collection rate is 48.91% almost 49%. And that is a great collection rate. I don't know of any school district that has a better collection rate than Brownsville ISD here in the valley. Another service that we provide to another very important service that we provide to Brownsville ISD is audit appeal services. These services help ensure SD is audit and appeal services. These services help ensure that the school district is receiving all the state funding that it deserves. During this period, we've conducted two audits, one for the 21 tax year. This is the third and last audit for that year and I'm very proud to let you know that this audit brought in \$2.2 million in additional state funding We' also are working on audit number three for the 22 tax year. We don't have final results on that but we'll let you know as soon as we do. And Purdue Brandon is very proud to be engaged here in the community here at Brownsville ISD. These are just some of the activities that we participated during this period, the Christmas Stocking giveaway back in December. And we sponsored the Brownsville ISD booth at Sombrero Fest. Very, very proud to be part of this. And with that, I close my report and I'd like to open it up for any questions that you may have. Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board President stated, go ahead, Ms. Garza. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, thank you, Mr. Elizondo. Mr. Gutierrez going back to where the collections that you had the comparable, refresh my memory you came on board in 2023. Mr. Gutierrez replied, yeah, May of 2023. Ms. Garza continued, okay, so just looking at the data presented to us, it seems that prior to your firm coming in we were kind of stagnant with our collections and we have been seeing a you know, an increase every year with your collection. So, thank you to your team. Continue doing the great work. Just wanted to point that out. So, thank you so much. Mr. Gutierrez stated, thank you, I appreciate that and we take great pride in the work we've been doing here at Brownsville ISD, and we look forward to continuing to work with the district. Ms. Garza stated, and also, thank you for always partnering up with our district you know, giving back to our students and all that. It is amazing when we see partnerships like this. So, thank you. Mr. Gutierrez stated, absolutely, thank you. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, Ms. Garza. Anybody else? Mr. Elizondo stated, just real quick on the audit, the audit number two, so 2021, is that new money that were returned to the district because of the audit that you? Mr. Gutierrez stated, right that's new money from the state for that tax year, 2021. We're able to go back and look at it because back in 2021, when your role was certified, since then there's been changes to the role. There was lawsuit pending, there was late homestead exemptions, all these kinds of activities that would have affected your 2021 had that been in place back in 2021 when you were certified, you would have gotten this money. But obviously those changes happen as the years go by. So by doing this audit, by going back and looking back at the 21 tax year and seeing were there any changes that could have helped you, and in this case, yeah, absolutely, those are big changes. Mr. Elizondo stated, so

you're actively engaged in looking to see where we can recover more money for the district. Mr. Gutierrez replied, absolutely. As you can see, we're already working on the 22 tax year and I'm sure we will be working on the 23 and 24 in the next few months. Mr. Elizondo stated, yes, we need it. Thank you so much. Anybody else? (Inaudible) Mr. Elizondo continued, thank you so much sir. Appreciate it appreciate it.

4. Presentation of the executive review of High School Athletic Programs.

Dr. Timothy E. Cuff, Superintendent stated, Dr. Cantu, I believe you're going to be speaking on this along with Mr. Leal. Dr. Nellie Cantu, Assistant Superintendent for Operations stated, thank you Dr. Cuff. Good evening, Board President Elizondo and distinguished Board Members, and our guest here this evening. In your packets, Board Members, you have the 2026 Annual Athletic Report. The purpose of this review was to provide an objective five-year review of the athletic program and with a strategic direction for the next five years from this year up until 2031. The review focused in five Areas. The first one had to do with the performance across all six high schools. Then we also looked at the second one, the objective findings using a consistent evaluation framework, and that was important for us. Also celebrating the strengths, but also identifying the opportunities that we have for improvement and establishing measurable priorities for continuous improvement. And then the last one is recommending a strategic direction. So, Coach Leal has worked with the team in his office in athletic, and so at this time I'm going to invite him to do his presentation. Coach Leal. Mr. Gilbert Leal, Athletic Director stated, good evening. President Elizondo, Dr. Cuff, Members of the Board. So. I'm very proud and blessed to be the Athletic Director here going on to my ninth year. And we've always taken advantage, always like to be able to celebrate the accomplishments of our district coaches. And we've always talked about being able to represent the standard. So this year we are looking at what we consider the standard for each of these schools from the coaches that have been set basically, the standard for each of our high schools. Athletics is an extension of the classroom and developing discipline, teamwork, and leadership, resilience, and accountability. Our standard always in BISD athletics is always going to be the student first and the athlete second. Across BISD we serve approximately about 7,000 student athletes across our six high schools and our 10 middle schools, with servicing 16 varsity sports across the district. These numbers represent not only the students but families, and they're not just statistics. Every high school was evaluated, is being evaluated, and was evaluated using the same standards, categories and expectations. This allows us to identify the strengths and find areas that we can support our sports and our schools through documented evidence rather than just perception from the stands. Fairness does not mean every campus will produce the same results. It means that every campus is measured by the same standard. Our responsibility is to protect the strengths while requiring measurable improvement where needed. We review on a five-year performance basis because one season does not define a program. The longer the view helps us distinguish where temporary setbacks may be sustained and sets up trends requiring structured support. The review found strong participation, championship level programs, and measurable growth across several campuses. It also identified the need for greater competitive consistency, program depth, and leadership development and feeder alignment. The next phase is not about starting over, it's about protecting what works and strengthening the systems around every single program. We recommend a five-year strategic framework that creates continuity all the way through 2031. Our campus profiles each campus profile uses the same format to identify the strengths, support the needs. And the future priorities. These are not just rankings, they're the tools that we use in order to provide the right support for the right programs. Hanna High School. Hanna has moved to 5A creates an important opportunity to strengthen the roster depth and the postseason consistency. The priority is to protect the existing strengths while providing targeted rebuilding support in identified programs.

Hanna, as you see is a working with about 1,200 student athletes. We've identified their trend as developing and we've rated their rating movement from 2.65 to 2.35. Hanna is now moving down to 5A classification and is competing in the 32 5A district for the next two years. What we're looking at in order to sustain and build is our boys' basketball program has maintained the standard at Hanna for years. The softball has moved into the playoffs contention, and the tennis and girls powerlifting remain important strengths. Porter High School, is operating with about 900 student athletes and has been identified as advancing on their trend. Their campus movement as a whole operated from 2.21 to 2.60 Sustained build, football showed major turnaround in a playoff qualification. The boys' soccer established district soccer established district dominance. Girls powerlifting, baseball, and boys track are still growing. And actually, what's missing from here is that Porter High School represented the state of Texas in unified sports. And brought back two silver medals in the state competing at the state level. Pace High School is operating with about 955 student athletes as we speak. Its rating movement is 2.47 declined a little bit to 2.30. Pace is also one of our Five 5A classification schools with softball producing an elite transformation undefeated season this last year. Girls' basketball has advanced to playoff levels. Football, baseball and girls track have showed growth and the volleyball team has also been very competitive the last couple of years. Rivera is our other 5A classification school operating with 991 students currently. And we considered this trend as top-heavy, meaning that some of the highest heavy, meaning that some of the highest performing sports do very well. And then we have a little bit of a drop off. The rating movement we monitored from 3.15 down to 2.80. We just hired a new athletic coordinator this last June, so we're hoping that athletic leadership will be able to start surfacing starting this year. As far as the sustainability of the program, girls soccer made a major breakthrough. Volleyball with Coach Guerra is the standard when we're talking about the valley, valley pinnacle for volleyball coaches with over 700 wins. Powerlifting remains at elite levels, and their baseball and soccer programs are regionally renowned. Lopez High School actually has a very strong participation base with over 1,091 students. Its trend is categorized by priority support. So we're looking at trying to help them. We've saw a little bit of a decline this year based on the last three or four years of monitoring the schools. Volleyball became a top tier district competitor. Girl's swimming improved tremendously. And the girls track added some postseason qualifications in the last couple of years. Veterans Memorial Campus is working with about 1,781 students participating at that campus. It is our stable leader. Its rating has been around from 3.30 to 3.21. A small but steady growth. Veterans right now is the only 6A classification left in Brownsville ISD. Highest participation in the district. Volleyball and boys' soccer reach championship levels. With the soccer team reaching the fourth round. Tennis is predominantly successful. Powerlifting, baseball, and a strong soccer, girls' soccer program also remain strong. So our goal here is that we have an objective model that we use to be able to communicate and evaluate all of our schools on an annual basis. Those meetings happen on a weekly basis and monthly basis with our athletic leadership. We have as in the last three years, invested in our leadership in Brownsville ISD. We've poured a lot of education into our 16 athletic coordinators to try to build better leaders and try to build our next year's leaders moving on. So, that's other things that we look at besides just wins and losses. We look at sportsmanship. So, we monitor the sportsmanship that we have with the student athletes and our parents and our coaches

that are participating in our Tuesday, Friday nights. We just finished a two-year incident study. And that two-year incident study was actually praised by the university UIL Director at coaching school. The UIL director at coaching school for us being on top of our coaches and our kids and having a comprehensive plan to make sure that we could address some of the things that we're seeing on our courts and fields moving forward to try to come up with more proactive. So we do have a target for 26-27 when it comes to sportsmanship, but the bottom line is, has been this last year and this year coming in has been the emphasis on our safety. So. We all know that we have heat issues which we are we are aware of at the beginning of our school year. We've put some emergency action plans in place. We've been proactive. We've been one of the leaders in the Rio Grande Valley when it comes to monitoring safety and using the technology is available. We have a great communication base. When it comes to our BISD PD having the National Weather Center here. So, we're able to get on top of any weather issues that we have and of course the technology we have at Sam Stadium with our Perry Weather Center. So, we're in complete communication with our athletic leadership to make sure that safety is always going to be the priority in BISD. So, what we're looking here is that we are very blessed to be able to have the support of the School Board and our administration. We have some excellent leaders that we are invested in on an annual basis with our athletic leadership team, but not only at the middle school, with the high school level. And anything that we, any recommendations that you could make. We could bring back to our leadership team to make sure that we're moving in the right direction. Mr. Elizondo stated, Mr. Ortiz, you have some questions? You're done with the presentation, correct? **Mr. Leal stated, yes, sir.** Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, Coach, thank you. Coach, data certainly provides great information, and with data, which I see that y'all collected quite a bit of it, you were able to develop a five-year plan. To be honest with you coach, I'm glad to finally see a five-year plan. Okay, now, my question is, will we always have a five-year working plan? For instance, this is five years. At the end of this year, you're going to go back and analyze again, and then you would add another year. So my question is, will we always have a five-year plan for athletics? **Coach Leal replied, yes, sir. Yes, sir. Because the data that we're getting is coming in on a monthly phase basis, our athletic Sports are based in three phases fall, winter, and spring. And so, yes, yes, sir, to answer your question, we're going to be monitoring this like we have been the last eight years that I've been here on an annual basis and produce those five-year reports to find out where we're at, where we're going.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay, that's excellent to hear. So, we'll always have a working five-year plan in place. **Coach Leal replied, that is correct, sir.** Mr. Ortiz stated, good, good. My next question is are we looking at the middle school since they? The feeders to the high schools, and are we looking at something like this for them? Because at the middle school. We develop these students as they go on into the high schools, into different sports. So, are we thinking of also looking at the middle schools and having something like this done? **Coach Leal replied, yes Sir. So, our vertical alignment is in place. We just had our coaches welcome this last Friday. And we kind of moved away from the normal routine of just having our coaches sitting in an auditorium and getting their annual legal talk, and our business talk and our transportation talk and actually got them into rooms with their vertical alignment meeting. So we broke up into six different areas and the athletic coordinators which I've you know constantly had been communicating with them but they are basically the athletic director of their district and so their cluster they are the academic or excuse me the athletic leader of**

their district cluster and so all the middle schools broke in and they went over and they introduced all their varsity coaches. Those are basically our expert in the sport if they're the varsity coaches assigned to that cluster, and they'd be able to introduce themselves to the clusters, to either the one or two middle school clusters that feed into them, and then they start developing their plans. So we do have close interaction. We have a very close-knit interaction communication with our middle school coordinators on a weekly or biweekly basis, and so we try to coordinate ways to be able to strengthen those relationships. And we have great ideas from our varsity coaches and our middle school leadership. Mr. Ortiz stated, okay, so we will be seeing a five-year plan for the middle schools as well? **Coach Leal replied, yes, sir.** Mr. Ortiz stated, thank you, sir, that's all I have. Mr. Elizondo stated, Ms. Grantland. Ms. Neida Ruth Grantland, Board Member stated, I'm really happy to see this report. I'm really happy to see the data that you've collected. I think it's pretty extensive and I think it's in depth. So I really do appreciate that. I wanted to ask you do you have a standard operating procedures manual for every campus to follow when it comes to any type of issue, safety or whatever your categories of concern are? Do you? **Coach Leal replied, yes, so yes we do. And so one of the ways that I try to improve as a leader to try to find ways to be able to improve our athletic department. And so last year the emphasis was finding ways to be able to have organized checklists for all our ACs to make sure that everything is getting covered, emergency action plans, making sure our compliance is set. Things like that. My goal for myself this year was operations, now that you mentioned it. So if you look on our athletic website, you could go to our athletic site, there's a compliance folder that's sitting there. And so now, just like you mentioned, there's checklists for compliance for every single field that we've been working on the last eight years. But I just redid that all this year. And it's there for all our coaches, and that was communicated clearly with them this last Friday.** Ms. Grantland stated, great, and when it comes to your athletic coordinators on campus when they run into a staff problem, any kind of an issue, I mean different kinds of issues, but any kind of an issue, do they have a guide that they can follow as they interact with the situation. **Coach Leal replied, yes ma'am.** Ms. Grantland continued, and it's the same thing at every campus? **Coach Leal replied, yes Ma'am. We have a chain of command. And so, issues that happen at the sub varsity are addressed to the varsity coach. The Varsity Coach addresses any of those things with the athletic coordinator. Nothing leaves the campus unless the principal is involved. And then if something needs to be elevated from the campus level to our office, everybody is in the loop, and so I tried to pride myself in making sure that everybody at every level is always on the same page, and so I think we have a very good communication base with our high school principal, and our AC's and all of our head coaches. And we do have an open-door policy, and I accept calls and phones calls on weekends and nights, and all of that. And I think that every coach in BISD that our door at the Athletic Department is always open. And we get those calls and they feel comfortable reaching us. Just having to reinforce that we do have a chain of command to make sure that the athletic leadership and the campus leaderships have a chance to tackle some of the things before school.** Ms. Grantland stated, wonderful, that kind of support is important. Just a couple of suggestions for you to consider. You might want to consider having some kind of an event in the spring where your eighth-grade students can meet up with the high school football, especially since that's the sport that we see the most. And have them maybe do a camp or something with the eighth graders to encourage them as they go into high school, maybe early in the spring or something like that. Please consider that if you don't already do it. **Coach Leal stated, so, we do that at UIL, which keeps us from doing that outside the school year. So those camps that you're talking about are actually being done as we speak right now, before the first day of school starts.** Ms. Grantland stated, that's wonderful,

that's great. **Coach Leal stated, within UIL rules.** Ms. Grantland stated, just one other small item, I had a person approach me last football season asking me why our boys don't take a knee when one of the members is injured. And I'd like to see us return to that, that habit. I think it shows respect for the player that was injured. I think it shows unity in the team. So, I would sincerely ask you to start getting them to take a knee when somebody's injured because I observed that as well. You know, they were throwing the ball over on the side or whatever while their teammate was on the ground. **Coach Leal replied, yes Ma'am that has to do with sportsmanship.** Ms. Grantland stated, thank you. Mr. Elizondo stated, just to address that, I know that maybe not all schools do it, but I know that I've been to some of the high schools, Hanna and my little girl was a cheerleader, not a football player, and they always took a knee, so. (inaudible). Mr. Elizondo continued, yeah, but not all schools do it. Yeah, so, okay, I appreciate it. Thank you. Trustee Gonzales first. And then we'll get you, Ms. Garza. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, thank you. I know, I'm glad they're, my colleagues are mentioning the middle school. I do know that UIL does bind us a lot, and I wanted to take it a little bit further, and go all the way down to elementary. I know again UIL binds us by specific rules, but at the same time I can't even think of how, but maybe if the athletic program can partner a little bit more with our curriculum department and just God, I don't know, open house, have a group of football players at the elementary, it's at the different days anyway. Elementary has it on its own, middle school has it on its own, and high school, and it's but and in uniform type. Pobrecitos, not in the hole, they're going to sweat, but just something to maybe guide the parents and kind of, show them, hey guys when you're done with maybe elementary, this is next. And then, same thing, middle school have the high schools there. And hey guys, this is it. But not just football. You know, it's worrisome when I'm hearing in high school, for example, golf that we have students that have never held a golf club in their lives, which is understandable. Golf is not for everybody, especially it's a pricey sport. But, same thing, it's just about introducing and opening their eyes to every single sport that's out there. Because the thing about athletics, the thing about fine arts, and well, honestly even our academics that we have is that is what sets us apart from the charters. That's why they want to come to us. It's because of the programs that we have. So, I do recommend that we just need to do maybe a little bit better in introducing those programs from the very beginning, like they say, from the very, very beginning, which is that elementary. **Coach Leal replied, yes Ma'am.** Ms. Gonzalez stated, thank you. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, Ms. Gonzalez; Ms. Garza. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, yes, thank you, thank you, Coach Leal, for your presentation. I know this was something that we had been asking for some time, and I want to say it was the entire Board that we had been asking for this review for some time, so thank you so much. I know you mentioned it's a five-year plan. So, this five-year plan started when. **Coach Leal replied, actually it started five years ago. So, this the plan that we have right now goes back five years, and every year that we have another year of data, the plan and the numbers and the evaluation just move back to every five years. So it's a movable evaluation.** Ms. Garza stated, for example I know some of our campuses we saw where the rate was a little low, right, compared to, I guess, previously, and so, how are we going to implement helping those teams or that athletic program? Because I know for, and I don't want to like pick on a campus, but like one was mentioned, you know, they had a playoff season right and so I know that prior to five years ago, there was no playoff season. So, how do we continue? Because I know that this has been very big why we get parents right into BISD, it's usually in the high school, right? Because of our athletics programs. And right now, we're actually seeing where a lot of kids want to go to Veterans right, because they are considered the winning team. But it's not fair to our other campuses. So, I just want to see like those campuses that had low ratings that they were not steady, right? How are we going to work this year to move them forward? Because I don't want to be where five years from now, again we're still in the same situation that we were five years ago. **Coach Leal replied, so, the answer to that is that the you know, all six of our schools are evaluated the exact same way, and so we do have we do evaluate our schools on a five-year basis, and those scores are looked at it collectively. I have a good eye on all of our school and sports and there is some coaching turnover. There is a UIL classification that turns over every two years, that**

puts our teams into different districts. So I look at that also. So there are lots of factors besides the wins and losses that go into the evaluation process. But to answer your question, I do have a tool that is used for the evaluation of all of our varsity sports, only varsity because that's playing for keeps. I do have a tool that I evaluate four measures on our middle school on attendance and on discipline, and on participation levels and things like that. The only measure they don't have is competitive athletics because we're trying to get the kids up and going. But we do evaluate all our schools on a five-year basis. It does move every single year. We do have strengths and weaknesses at each one of our schools. And we have some incredible programs at all six of our high schools. And so, like you mentioned, our parents know where our best volleyball coaches are at in Brownsville. And so they're going to go follow those paths to make sure that their daughters are playing for this Hall of Fame coach. They know where the soccer teams are at, they know where the baseball teams are at. So. Yes, there has been a little bit of success, a lot of success at one of our high schools, like you had mentioned. But I think if you look at all six of our high schools there's pinnacle coaches in sports at all six of our schools and so our parents are smart. And they'll know to locate their students if athletics is very important to them, they'll find their ways to you know to those schools they make sure that their students have good great interactions with the coaches that they want.

Ms. Garza stated, thank you for that clarification but also going back to your five-year plan like for example Rivera you're going based on five years ago, but that coach has barely been there for a complete one year so to me I'm thinking his five-year plan should begin last year not five years ago right what has been his success from last school year moving forward. I that how I'm thinking we should evaluate. Another thing is I understand we have students going right to different schools but I think in order for us to have a successful district, maybe we also need to reevaluate our transfers because that is one thing, I think a lot of us get complaints on that there is coaches recruiting, you know. Like right now I've heard Vela a lot of those Vela kids should be going to their feeder campus which is Hanna but a lot of them are getting picked up to go to Veterans and I think if we want to show that we are a successful district not just in academics but also athletics, we need to have our talent spread out, not just in one area. Because it's not fair to our other high schools. **Coach Leal stated, I agree with you a thousand percent. UIL sports is community-based, neighborhood-based and so I've seen, what hurt us was the COVID year. Which we opened up our school district enrollment and allowed students to go to school wherever they wanted. That hurt us it hurt our neighborhood-based students being required to go to the schools that in the neighborhoods that they grew up in.** Ms. Garza stated, correct. **Coach Leal continued, so we're working through that the UIL also this is not a problem that's in here in Brownsville that's statewide. And so there's legislation that's coming up that may make this worse that allows a student anywhere in the state of Texas to go participate at a different neighboring school without penalty of being held back for one year and that's being voted on this October by our legislators. So a lot of these rules are not coming from our superintendents, they're coming from state legislators that are all over the state. So right now we're an open school district but we're bound by our physical address at the high school level. So, we have some, you know, we have of our 10 middle schools, some of our middle schools are what we call split feeders. They don't directly go into the high school that they're directed in. So that hurts vertical alignment and that also hurts the rights of each of our students. To give you a perfect example, if a student lives in Rivera, and they chose to go to Oliveira Middle School and Oliveira feeds into Hanna, that student their freshman year would be varsity ineligible because they don't live in the Hanna zone. If that same kid decided to go to Vela, which also feeds into Hanna, because**

Vela is a 100 feeder into Hanna. That student would be varsity eligible their freshman year. So we have attendance issues within Brownsville ISD that's not fair for the student athletes that are the same grade that just chose to go to a middle school that is a split feeder versus a direct feeder. So there's things that we could clean up as a school district, that would help that. Ms. Garza stated, yeah thank you, Coach Leal and maybe something to consider Dr. Cuff as I've been only saying this for six years. I think we need to do a rezoning. I don't know I think it's been a very long time since there was a rezoning zoning and maybe clusters as well because I think that help parents also see what the feeder schools were and it also will help us identify where some of our students technically should be at like for example if they're at Cromack-Castaneda but they're at Pullum, but if we were to re-zone we can truly get a number of what our campus projections should be without the open enrollment. **Dr. Timothy Cuff, Superintendent stated, if I may add, I was at Sharp Elementary and Sharp Elementary is a feeder school to Stell, Stell onto Pace. But I was in the Porter cluster. And I've asked for that for about five to six years, and it fell on deaf ears. I'm sorry. I'm just saying the way it is.** Ms. Garza interjected, no, no, it's true because. **Dr. Cuff continued, I never could understand when 90 and Ms. Gonzalez kind of knows about this, when about 90% of my kids leaving Stell or leaving Sharp, go to Stell, and about 10%, I'll say about 10%, Ms. Gonzalez, you were there, go to Faulk, and it's because of the zoning, the streets.** Ms. Garza stated, something to consider. I've mentioned rezoning maybe for the past six years, and it was always like, don't mention that. So it was like it was a bad word, but I think we really need to reevaluate you know, our schools because this doesn't just impact athletics, it also impacts academics. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you for that. Ms. Pena, go ahead. Ms. Minerva Pena Board Member stated, Ms. Gonzalez had a question. Mr. Elizondo stated, I'm sorry, sorry, I apologize. I apologize Ms. Gonzalez, go ahead. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, thank you. I just remembered I didn't forget to add something, but really quick, I just wanted to add what Ms. Garza said. Yes, I do agree, a lot of that alignment did mess up, like Dr. Cuff was saying, was when we started with the school consolidations, which is when most of us weren't here. So, I just wanted to mention that that's where it, it did start a lot of it. Then obviously, some of us consolidated more schools, so we're still there again. What I forgot to ask when I spoke to you earlier it's a two-part question. I know that wrestling we were phasing it in. Are we good to go at all high schools now? **Coach Leal replied, this last year we phased in the third, the last two schools, which is Porter and Pace, and we actually had a state representative at one of those two schools.** Ms. Gonzalez interjected, yes so wrestling is everywhere, well high school. **Coach Leal, we are in all six high schools as of today.** Ms. Gonzalez stated, and what about our inclusion sports? I if I remember correctly, I know that we could have added or where are we or we're, or are we still the same. **Coach Leal replied, so I am I'm actually a member of the UIL Unified Board for the state of Texas, proud member and so I get a voice, and so I hear, the sports that are being adopted. It is under the umbrella, the UIL, so I just happened to be stumbling on our website and I noticed that there's a couple of sports that are there but they haven't been approved through the unified UIL board yet. So I think one of them I saw was volleyball unified volleyball and I think I saw another one there too so I don't want to mention it. But until it gets approved through the legislation but these just like all the sports that we have are actually under the umbrella the UIL now.** Ms. Gonzalez stated, okay so we still have track and basketball. **Coach Leal interjected, two schools track and basketball are officially the only two sports in unified athletics that is offered in the state of Texas.**

Ms. Gonzalez stated, okay, thank you, that's all. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you Ms. Gonzalez. Ms. Pena? Ms. Minerva Pena, Board member stated, yes and going back to the schools and how they recruit the players, and my question has always been, what about the coaches? The coaching has a lot to do with the development of the child. And I can tell you, because I coached 30 years for baseball. And they would give me players that didn't know how to walk, much less play baseball. And I came out first place every year in the city of Brownsville. Because the basics I taught them. They gave me those players because they thought I was cheating. I said, No. I'm teaching. You've got to teach the basics and develop the player completely. How are you evaluating coaching where they don't have a winning season or the children or the students are not up to par? How are we doing that? Because sometimes people will say, well, because they got the best players. Not really. Because if you're a coach and you get someone that can walk, talk, live, and breathe, you can make them into a star. Have we evaluated places and schools where we have coaching where the students are not being developed properly or they don't do anything well? I don't know how to say this without stepping on toes. How are we evaluating that? Because if a child is healthy, has the desire and the willingness. The coach has something to do with the end results. How are you evaluating that? **Coach Leal replied, so I'm going to defend my profession, and so...** Ms. Pena interjected, please do. **Coach Leal continued, so the first thing I'm going to go on record is saying that the UIL extracurricular activities that we have in the state of Texas is envied by every state in the United States. And I'll tell you the reason why. All of our sports in Texas, Public school sports, are community-based sports, meaning that if I go to Florida, and they have beautiful athletes over there in California the coaches in California are bankers, lawyers, insurance salesmen, plumbers, all kinds of professions, and then after they finish work, they go over there and they work with kids that have the ability to go to any school that they want in the state of Florida and go play sports. So when those state championships in Florida happen, and of course they have NFL and MLB players all over the place, they have 500 to 1000 fans watching their non community based athletes participate. In the state of Texas, if you're going to go to the state championships in Texas for football, you're going to see almost 200,000 total fans watch seven or eight football games wherever they're at because they're community based. So, my point on that is that every single coach in the state of Texas is a teacher first. We're educators, we're professionals. And not only are we professionals. But we have to be certified in UIL, CPR, AED, first aid, not only in compliance in every single one of our sports, as well as being sports specific. So, Texas is the only state in the United States that our teachers, our coaches, are professional teachers first, and we get to work with our kids on a daily basis in athletic periods and after school, which provides us as coaches the opportunity to be able to make a meaningful impact on those kids because, for the most part, we're their parents. And if the mom is not there and the dad is not there, we have the ability to influence that. So, I'm very thankful for the sacrifices that our coaches make. And they may not be unbelievable baseball coaches. But they spend more time with our kids, teaching them how to get out of bed and how to get in line and do your jumping jacks right and your shirt is wrong or your tire shoes or this and this. And so those are the values, that I'm most thankful for. Unfortunately, you know, on the varsity level, It does come down to wins and losses. So we look at everything. So when we have poor performances and we may have four or five years of bad performances, we're in a coaching shortage. And so, you know, and also the speech that Mr. Salinas gives us all it's a stipend that our**

coaches are getting. They're not (inaudible), you know they're teachers first and then they go out there after school in the heat, in the morning, at six in the morning, at eight at night, on a Saturday during spring break, during Christmas, influencing our kids at BISD. So we tried to help them, you know, but at the end of the day, if our kids are graduating and they're coming to school and they're not discipline problems and they're passing all their classes and they're doing something after high school, then that's the check mark that we're looking for. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you for that explanation. Ms. Pena stated, thank you, and let me just real quick. My objective is to help them, not to hurt them, I understand that. Do you have any training. like someone wants to coach baseball, and they really love it, what kind of training do you give them, or do you do give them training in that sport to help them, because some people have the love of the sport, but don't have any skill. So is there anything that you, as the head director of athletics, does to give this kind of training to these people who have the love of the sport, to help to develop it. Are you doing that in any way, shape, or form? **Coach Leal replied, so we work with our coaches. We bring in, we're blessed enough to have so many coaches that are in Brownsville. that we don't have to take our coaches to clinics all over the United States. We could bring the expert to Brownsville. So at Hanna High School, we brought college coaches to the Hanna campus to talk about offenses and defenses. So, we've brought state powerlifting, or actually university powerlifting coaches, we bring those coaches here and develop strength and conditioning programs for all our coaches. So, we do evaluate all our coaches. If they need some help, my door is always open. Hey, coach, we need to look at this. Go. As long as the financial Financing is there. It's always going to be a yes. And we make sure that we bring the qualified specialists that know that area to help our coaches. And if they still can't do it, then eventually we're going to have to make a call. But that call is going to be site based, Site based with the principal's approval and the athletic coordinator's approval, and then we go and then those recommendations are brought to us at the athletic department, and then we move those on.** Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, Coach. I think the answer was yes. Go ahead. Ms. Grantland stated, thank you, Mr. President. Ms. Pena interjected, that's what I was waiting for. Ms. Grantland continued, I was just going to add to what you're saying in terms of the athletic coordinator, I'm sure he keeps an eye out also for any coach that's kind of struggling and brings that information to you. And then you all can unite to help them. Going to the zoning issue. The thing that makes me sad is that because things are kind of lopsided, students get discouraged. And so it's like, well, why join? I mean, all the good players have been taken by, and we pick on Veterans, but it's kind of true. You know. Veterans has a lot of the players from all over the place that are pretty skilled. And so, I think that we really do, I agree, we really do need to look at it and see if we can level the playing field, so to speak. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, Ms. Grantland. Anybody else? Thank you, Ms. Pat.

5. Presentation of the preliminary findings and recommendations from the Food and Nutrition Consultant.

Dr. Timothy E. Cuff, Superintendent stated, thank you. I'd like to ask Ms. Pena to introduce our guest please that will go over the audit from the Food Service Department. Ms. Rosario Pena, Assistant superintendent for Administration and Finance stated thank you Dr. Cuff, Board President, Mr. Elizondo, Superintendent Dr. Cuff, Board Members and audience. Tonight, we have Ms. Carmen Ocañas

Lerma, who is our FNS consultant, and will be providing a report on preliminary findings and recommendations for the Food and Nutrition Department. Ms. Carmen Ocañas, Consultant stated, good evening, Board President Elizondo, members of the Board and Dr. Cuff, it is my pleasure to be here tonight to provide you with the preliminary or report on Child Nutrition Fund Balance Trends and Analysis. Sorry I have to keep switching glasses. And I've had the pleasure of working closely with the Food and Nutrition Department with Ms. Cruz and her team, her assistant directors and also some of the coordinators and gathering a lot of pieces of data to look and analyze trends in budgeting, and mainly to find out what were the key factors that were driving deficits. So, you were provided with a summary, a preliminary summary. I did not bring a PowerPoint, I normally do that, and they're a great length, and so I wanted to do this more of a conversation, because I know that you're probably going to have a lot of questions for me. So, in my report, I talk a lot about you've had an extreme Enrollment decline over the years, and that is stuff that we already know. But what we don't understand sometimes is how that impacts the Food Service Department. So, to give you an example of just a little bit how enrollment decrease could potentially reduce the number of reimbursable meals. I provided an example of a drop of, say, 2,000 students' times \$4.50 average reimbursement times 177 instructional days. That could mean a possible 15 that can mean a possible \$1.5 million in revenue, right? You have lost a lot more than that over the last three, six, and even the 10 years. Since I have worked with Brownsville in the past for decades, I've known you to be at 50,000 48,000 40,000 and right now you are at probably about 33,000, right? So, just in the past five years, you lost 6,000 kids, and so as a result, you're going to have lower breakfast participation which is currently at 56% of enrolled students are going through the line. So it also counts who's in attendance. So if you have a lot of absenteeism, you have a reduction, then your services are also dwindling and going lower and lower, right? Your lunch participation is currently at 76% both of which can be improved tremendously. And specifically in breakfast, when you're at 50 some, then you start implementing breakfast in the classroom second chance breakfast, breakfast in the hallway, because that is going to bolster the revenue directly into the breakfast program. The same goes for lunch. So, at 76, you could probably aggressively increase, and it's not going to sound like a lot, but a 4.80, 82%, 83% would also bolster your revenue into the lunch program. I looked at other programs like commodity entitlement, I looked at CACFP, which is the Child and Adult Daycare Food Program which is at risk, snack and supper and that one too can also improve by offering more services. The a la carte and catering so those are the things that also bring in revenue and in ways for example you know catering aboard dinner that is that is also a service that can be provided that also generates revenue to the department. Mainly and it was I'm not going to say that it was an easy find I was relieved to find that the main issue in the department is that you are extremely, extremely overstaffed. And so, we conducted a lot of staffing levels, we did a lot of reports, specifically we did a meals per labor hour formula, which is below industry benchmark. Staffing is at approximately nine to 14 meals per labor hour. When it should be at about 18 to 23 meals per labor hour. This is an industry standard. We gather this data, we put it in this bowl, we swish it around, and out comes these, the output is these formulas. So labor cost per meal has increased. And remember that of course labor is fixed and it consumes

a larger percentage of the program revenue. We recommended attrition. There are some things that are happening already behind the scenes to make improvements, to cut back on staffing ratios. Under budget development, historically the department budgeted over overstated, right? It overstated the revenue consistently over a period of years, right? And so that also causes when you overstate a budget, it's almost like developing this blank check. You just keep writing and writing because you're never going to reach that threshold where you say, okay, stop, we're already reached our maximum, right? Operating expenses continue to increase so that you have higher food costs, increased employee wages, rising benefit costs, and increased supply and operating expenses. So, we all know that when we came back after COVID, everything suddenly started to skyrocket. Even paper products, the napkin, the spork, the little spoon that you use, all of those have increasing costs. The deficit, most concerning trend, is the deficit appears to be structural rather than temporary. So, if you keep going the way that you have been in the last couple of years. Then this is going to be recurring, and so you will have to fund from local the shortfall of the department. And that is actually in guidance and federal rule says that when you participate in child nutrition federally funded programs, the district agrees to fund any shortfall of the department from another source other than federal, meaning local. So, this means the department is not experiencing a one-time loss, but rather an ongoing imbalance, and it repeats each year. So as a result, fund balance decreased annually. And fund balance is like a savings account. You finish out the year, you had excess, you put it away in this fund balance account, and as you need it throughout the year, for whatever reason, let's say food costs, more kids came through the line, so you have to buy more food, then you have to move funds from that account over to replenish the food service account, right? Cash reserves are depleted and financial flexibility is also reduced. Future deficits become more difficult to absorb, right? So, there was a question that arose about you know, food service is always self-sufficient. They have their own funds and their own federal reserve, right? But it's not until you deplete the fund balance and you start asking for local funds that it now, oh, wait, so we have to fund this, right? So, it's something that has been ongoing. So, in budget development and use of fund balance, I went back a period of five years and I pulled data reports from the TEA website, from the annual financial report, from the TDA website, because I wanted to make sure that the meals that were being consumed, that were being served to the students, were also being claimed. So all those numbers seemed to match month after month, right? So, you are doing due diligence of filing claims on a timely basis and you're collecting the revenues that is coming to you, but where we need to improve is providing more services to the students, because that means more federal funds. Over the five-year period. You had an overstatement of budget during the COVID famous year was 63%. So that means that when we went to curbside feeding, we estimated a normal year with this certain amount, but then we went to curbside feeding and we're feeding as many kids as we could, but you had a short, you were short about 15 million that year. So it does have an effect, right ripple effect over subsequent years. And in the following year, you had a shortfall of 5 million. And you can see that on page three, where I have a table explaining each year by year and the percentage that was either overstated or underperformed. And that was my job to determine whether the accounts were overstated, was it

underperformance, or what, you know, what caused some of these things. I do want to, you know, of course, disclaim that the Child Nutrition Department has been working arduous and hard providing me with all the data that has been necessary. We have had sessions and meetings and a lot of discussion on what comes next. Right? What is the plan of action? There's a reliance on fund balance for the payment of indirect costs. So there's an indirect cost applied to the department, and that is fully legal. That is. TEA publishes indirect cost rates that are applied to federal grants. That has been done consistently over years. I did ask your internal auditor to test one year to make sure that it was being calculated correctly. That it was being charged to the department in a way that was compliant and according to all of the regs, and it did come back, his report to me was that it was done correctly. So it's not in the area of indirect costs. It's just a matter of possibly agreeing on a pause on charging indirect costs because obviously the department cannot afford that right now. And so it becomes a Loop, it kind of loops around where you're charging them indirect, which is like an overhead, right? You're charging them a light bill, and utility, and water, and superintendent's office, and payroll, and things that you cannot see and measure, hence the indirect cost. However, when they can't afford it at the end of the year. You're having to come back and fund that department again because you took that out, right? Actionable items, we did a slew of recommendations, and things that we talked with the department and with the agreement of the department, things that could be implemented before the start of the school year. Things that are beneficial to the department without harming the services to the students of Brownsville ISD. We did a campus by campus staffing and analysis that has been completed. We established the benchmark for meals per labor hour for each site. There's a reduction and force recommendation that is aligned with the meal per labor hour formula. And the report has been completed and submitted to the FND director and team with an approximate reduction in force of over 100 hourly personnel. Okay. We are going to look into the reduction in force of location 913, which is the administration office to make sure that they are aligned with the number of meals that are being produced. We will review the indirect cost allocations and compliance requirements, which are already done. But I want to keep going with prior years to make sure that it was done consistent with guideline. Develop a 26-27 financial recovery plan by increasing revenues and programs, such as breakfast in the classroom, in the hallway, more lunch, more suppers, tutorials, anything that could bring the department into the black. Monitor participation trends monthly, monitor MPLH or meals per labor hour formula on a monthly basis. And also monitor the per plate cost by month. And initially I always said we will not go in and start, I'm going to start looking at food and inventory and procedures to manage that. But I am not recommending that we go in there and start slashing and cutting, uh, the quality of the meals, need to stay intact, right? Um where we are seeing the majority of the problem is on the staffing ratios against the revenue. Align staff levels with actual meal production and participation. The budget is based on past performance and make adjustments based on current performance indicators. Implement a la carte sale of Smart snack throughout all campuses, increase participation at breakfast, in the classroom, in the hallway, lunch participation. And the rest of the programs that I mentioned previously. So on page six, as for the breakdown of the 25-26 fiscal year that cost the deficit to ask the district to fund

the shortfall for the district. I am on page six, you will see that the total revenues were at 32 million dollars, salaries were comprised at 46% benefits 16%, Professional service. Food purchase was 50% USDA foods was 3.3% , supplies was 397. Travel was a point, a fraction of a percentage. And equipment was 4.8. So the total expenditures were 126% of budget. And that's a lot. And so, when I do now, under key findings, I go in and explain the total expenditures equal 126 of revenue. Meaning the child nutrition program spent 26% more than it generated in the revenue. Salaries and benefits together consume 63% of the total revenue. Okay, and I'm going to read that again because I want to make sure that we really understand the impact of having this many staff members. The salaries together are 63% of the revenue. Food purchases account for 50% of the revenue. So combined labor and food, you're at 113% right? You should be at 100%, not over. So that does not leave any wiggle room for any other operating expenses such as supplies, equipment, travel, other operating. This indicates that the departments to largest cost drivers alone exceed the revenue available to operate the program resulting in a structural operating deficit. Now this doesn't mean that there is some form of bad management. Or that's something, because I get asked, well, what happened? It just means that the department has been carrying all these employees after COVID and never was adjusted. We never looked at child nutrition to say, okay, it's time to reduce staff, either through attrition. We don't want to do a rift. But I think we're at the point where you might be in a position to start looking at something like that because immediate action is necessary. Otherwise, I will be back at the end of next fiscal year and report we didn't make it, right? And the goal is to bring the department whole, right, through the cuts, through aggressive-- I won't say aggressive, I will say assertive measures to reduce staffing at the campus level in this department to make sure that we can return the Funds that were used from local back to the district, but at the same time that the department will be self-sufficient. And that is the extent of my report. I will answer any questions you may have. Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated, thank you. We do have a question here to my left. Ms. Gonzalez? Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, thank you. I have a couple of, maybe not question, well, we'll just go with it. First and foremost, let me just say I do not support a reduction in force in FNS and/or any other department. Let's just lay that flat out clear. Before we move forward. I don't support a reduction in force. I struggle, I get what you did, and I thank you for it. Let me say that as well. Thank you for giving us all this analysis. The only year that I struggle with is especially the 2021 year because that was the first year of COVID, which was absolutely new for the world. So those numbers obviously are way off, but I know that most of us here know that we made such an impact on the families, feeding them, taking them to their homes. You know, we just, FNS was one of those among others that made such, such an impact and helped and took a hit, their staff took a hit COVID wise, health wise, because of everything that was were doing. But again, it was very grateful. But I just struggle with the fact that it's included in the analysis, just because, again, it was a global pandemic. You know, I don't think it's fair to include it. But anyway, what's done is done. Salaries, yes, 46% I don't know if you're familiar with, but with the district as a whole, our salaries are 70 something percent. Somebody helped. We're in the 70 something percent of our millions and millions of budget. Not that I am excusing it. My concern with this is what are, I kind of go back when I mentioned earlier when athletics working with academics, with curriculum, what are we doing to combine FNS with the curriculum department, with principals, with all

that? What can we do better? So, Dr. Cuff, we have, for example, two high schools last year, that did a one lunch period for the entire campus. They're going to do it again this year. I invite you to go to those campuses unannounced, I will say, because if not, they will have everything nice and ready for you. I know because I did it. They already know. They are going. Mr. Elizondo stated, so you'll be going all year? Ms. Gonzalez continued, think of a freshman that's already traumatized to go into a high school and then it's going to be a one lunch person for one thousand kids and there's going to be nowhere to sit, nowhere to stand, they don't even know where they can possibly go, what hallway they can hang out with. How is this hurting those numbers? Now not only high schools, I kind of think of elementaries when we start with the tutorials in the morning, UILs, library clubs, all that kind of stuff. We tell the kids, okay, you just got off the car, you got off the bus, go, for example, to the library. No, go to the cafeteria, get breakfast, then go to the library. We're making it seem like it's okay for these kids to just, okay, just run to the library or run to the gym. No, what are we doing? That is my question. What are we doing? As a whole, all of it, I mean FNS and curriculum and everybody, what are we doing as a whole to making sure that no child goes without a meal? And you probably can't answer that, it's more of a let's open our minds and let's think about what we're doing. Ms. Ocañas stated, I want to address one of the comments that you made initially was what can we do as a whole to make sure that people do not lose their job, right? Because I'm not here to recommend that. And I said that from the very beginning. I'm not going to hurt people. We don't want to say that, but business wise, you need to shuffle people around. Because Food service cannot afford to have that many people, right? So, number one was we recommended that the vacancies be frozen, and that's 50 vacancies, right? That have not gone unfilled, so, don't stop, don't hire people. We're going to use what we have already and move, it's going to hurt, it's going to pinch a little bit. We're going to move people from within to go fill the gaps where they exist, right? So, and just to give you an example, you might have a campus that has 400 kids, but yet they have eight people assigned to that campus. That is too many people. So, and... Ms. Gonzalez interjected, if I, I'm Sorry, if I could just interrupt right there. Let's just go to your analogy of 800 kids. How many feeds are eating for, how many kids are eating for breakfast? How many kids are eating for lunch? And how many kids are eating for dinner? Before, and I get the whole attrition thing, you know, we deal with that. It's almost, I feel like I have, we have TASB up there telling us attrition, attrition, attrition, we just, we just adopted our budget, so please don't traumatize us with that anymore. But we're familiar. You're preaching to the choir when you talk about attrition. We are familiar with that. My concern is, and I'm probably going to open Pandora's box when I say this, but my concern is let's just say we don't need two high school librarians. Okay, but how many kids are going? How many more kids can we get to go to the library? It's the same thing with the cafeteria. What are we doing to bring those kids to get a tray? Not only that, are we teaching our parents? And I know we have, because I'm a parent advocate right here, are we teaching the parents that the way we collect revenue is by the plate? Are we teaching our parents that we have to make food regardless if a campus has 1,000 kids and only three? Sorry, show up. Mr. Eden Ramirez, Board Attorney stated, we do have time Ms. Gonzalez. Ms. Gonzalez continued; I'll close it up, I'll just leave it at that. It's just something for us to think about what are we doing as a whole to feed these kids? Ms. Ocañas stated, I'm going to harp again on the meals per labor hour formula, which is the industry standard that we use in food service. Every food service director uses that to make sure that we are properly staffed. But it is

also a means to protect staff to make sure that they're not being overworked. We don't want to break people's backs either right? But at the same time, again, you know, that formula is there for that reason to protect the staff, but also to protect budgets that are already hurting or maybe in crisis, as is the case here. And I totally get it. I never wanted to use the word RIF, but I want to make sure that the excess staffing, there is a place for them at the campus where they can go perform the same duty, the same pay grade, but at the campus level. You are already funding these employees because you are going to transfer funds to make this department whole. So, my suggestion and my recommendation transfer them to the campus. They're custodians, they can do custodial work and then the food service department stays with those people that are skilled at making wholesome and nutritious meals every day and presenting that. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you ma'am and I think you were brought in to do the audit right? It's more of an audit and to find where we can trend or trim, or make better, I understand. I'm not sure who I had first. I think it was Ms. Garza, and then it will be you, Ms. Pena. We'll start on my left. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, thank you, Mr. Elizondo. Ma'am, thank you for your audit. I think most of us knew that we were overstaffed in this department. Do you happen to have an estimated amount of the number of overstaffed individuals we have? Ms. Ocañas replied, it is we, I came up with 156, and your finance coordinator and CFP came up with 157, so we're like right there on the same amount. Ms. Garza stated, because I think we all knew we were overstaffed. My concern was we kept on hiring, and why did it continue? Why did we continue hiring? These are positions that don't come to the board, right? Hourly employees are not board approved, and so and you mentioned in your presentation that many times FNS in general states that they are self-funded department. That was something we were constantly being told. But we knew we were overstaffed, yet the department kept on asking for more staff. And I am aware that there was also a lot of overtime also happening. And I know we don't want to hear about a RIF, but this is kind of the trend that a lot of districts are heading. One, because of the decline of enrollment. It's not just a BISD issue, it's an issue that we are seeing throughout the state of Texas. So I think we need to correct this. As you mentioned, we can put them into the campus, right? There's positions that we can fill them into. But I also, Dr. Cuff, I think moving forward, we just need to be a little more cautious on those positions that are not Board approved positions because we never see those hourly positions. And with the trend that is happening, not just in FNS, you know, this is staff, you know, in general, it would hold us more accountable of what is being done within our district and our finances. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, Ms. Garza. Also, just real quick also just real quick this information that you presented is also in... Pat help me. **Ms. Patricia Perez, Executive Assistant stated, it's on BoardBook sir.** Mr. Elizondo continued, so it's on BoardBook the community has full access to your audit and they can go out there and see it. There's plenty of other questions, we got a man here anyway that's working 24 hours a day already so. Miss Pena. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, yes and I agree with some of the statements of my colleagues especially and I noticed you said I'll be back next year so the state pays you to come and audit this? Ms. Ocañas replied, no. The reason I said I would be back at the end of next school year is because I will be returning on a monthly basis to do monitoring and working with the Finance Coordinator to ensure that we are doing plate cost and per labor hour formula on a monthly basis, so that that kind of monitoring. At the conclusion... Ms. Pena interjected, my question is, so you work for the state to come and audit us here? Ms. Ocañas stated, no, I was hired as a

consultant. Ms. Pena stated, okay, you're a consultant for the district, so the district will decide if you continue or. Ms. Ocañas stated, right, right. Ms. Pena stated, so be careful with that. I know you're saying we" a lot, but it's not we"; it's you, it's us. And the reason I'm very cautious about that, and like I'm, like Ms. Jessica said, it's very different because let me ask you this: How many years did you work in a cafeteria or serving people in your life?" Ms. Ocañas replied, thirty-four. Ms. Pena stated, okay, the times have changed from back then. Have you not? Have you seen how different things are right now? My question is this, how many people do you recommend per student, or give me an example of a school that has, elementary has 500 kids, how many do you recommend to be in the kitchen when it comes to serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner? How many do you see is fair? Ms. Ocañas replied, a quick and dirty would be one person. Ms. Pena interjected, a quick and what? Ms. Ocañas stated, quick and dirty, like quick. Ms. Pena stated, what dirty? What's dirty? Ms. Ocañas stated, it's just the saying. Ms. Pena stated, okay, I'm sorry, I don't know any of that kind because I was raised without that. So just speak natural, please, because you'll throw me off. Ms. Ocañas stated, okay so quickly, it's for every 100 students, you should have one staff member there. It doesn't always work because economies of scale, you need to analyze how many breakfasts were served, how many lunches, and a breakfast doesn't equal a one to one. So, there's like, you have to analyze all these different numbers. Ms. Pena stated, so, if a school has 500 students, it would be safe to say you have five more. Ms. Ocañas stated, more or less. Ms. Pena stated, I'm sorry? Ms. Ocañas stated, more or less. MS. Pena stated, but five would be the average to have that? Ms. Ocañas stated, yep, if they're going through the line, now if you can have 500 enrolled and 300 are going through the line, then that's not enough meals to keep you in business. Mr. Elizondo stated, correct, thank you so much, ma'am. Ms. Grantland. Ms. Neida Ruth Grantland, Board Member stated, thank you, Mr. President. I'm reminded of the phrase, don't kill the messenger. I appreciate what you've done. I appreciate the depth of what you have brought to us. And I also appreciate the fact that this is a real dilemma because 100 people is a lot of people, and to not continue hiring them not only affects the district, it affects the community because these are people depending on paychecks to pay mortgage, buy groceries, and whatever. So it has a trickledown effect, and that's why I think we're so passionate about not letting go of anybody. I think that probably many of them could fit into other positions in the school campus, and we could probably look at solving that through there. Now, the you coming back, is that still within the, hold on, hold on, is that still within the cost that we approved for your contract to come in and do it? So it's part of what's already planned and paid for. That's what I thought. I just wanted to clarify that. Ms. Ocañas stated, yes, thank you. It's a project. The project entailed, you know, all of the summer and then one visit a month just to mentor and train up the new Finance Coordinator to make sure that, you know, food service is very complex, it's very unique. It is very similar to running a large franchise. And I can tell you, and I had this conversation with Dr. Cuff about child nutrition, it is the largest franchise probably in your town. I don't think that a McDonald's or a Burger King serves the number of meals that your program serves on a daily basis. Ms. Grantland stated, exactly. Ms. Ocañas continued, and with a time allotment as well. Because any restaurant's going to have a drive through going around and hours, and they have two employees inside. But yours is feeding 2,000 kids in a span of 20 minutes. So nobody, nobody here can do that, just keep that in mind. Ms. Grantland stated, right. Well, so then I think the package that you brought to us with the price that we paid and the

service you're giving, I think it's a pretty commendable thing, and I'm appreciative of that with you coming back to follow up. You know, I heard of a district that quit doing the universal feeding, and that's an issue because for so many years everyone has gotten into that mode, and now they're having to make tough decisions. I'm not suggesting that we do that. But I'm just saying if we don't get a handle on this, we may even have more difficult things to have to consider than just letting go of a hundred people, and that's not a small thing. So, thank you for your report, and I think we're just going to have to get very, very creative about how we do this without hurting anyone. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, Ms. Grantland, Ms. Lopez. Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board Member stated, again, thank you for the report. I also wanted to thank, I know we talked about 2021, 2021, and really the FNS was our first responders. They were the ones who came into work no matter what. They would continue to feed our kids when others had to be at home, and I just think that it was a very tough time, and I appreciate that everybody came together. I also want to thank Ms. Jackie Cruz and your team because you've been very innovative on finding solutions for healthy eating plans. And going out and getting that grant with BBC and getting that documentary and creating those innovative programs that also bring in different dollars to the district that aren't just, you know, there aren't just what we generate federally. So I hope that we continue to do these types of things, especially, I mean, in the presentation today on the CDC bringing eight million. I don't know what that is attributed to, but maybe it is jobs. I don't know, maybe we'll have to explore that grant and see, but maybe that's some funding that could come for there. Specifically, I know that at Perez Elementary, when I saw the principal and the initiative that she took to make sure that the kids were getting in line and taking, you know, and actually getting the meals, right? It took an effort from the FNS team and the principal to make sure that the kids were getting in line and getting those meals served. So I think that type of initiative, like Ms. Gonzalez had said, in partnering with the principal and the FNS Department and everybody coming together to really make sure that the kids get the best meals. In terms of the actual coming before the Board and the budget, I know that usually we do always approve at some point, we know when we're overstaffed, and TASB usually presents that to us. And so, I just want to make sure that we don't overstep that process, that we continue to have that come before the Board, because it is ultimately a Board decision to make these tough decisions. I don't think any of us want to be in this situation. No one wants to make this tough decision, but we all know that public education has been under attack, whether we say this is self-funded, federally funded, all types of education from federal down has been, especially in meals and child nutrition. And so I think that thinking innovatively, which I know Ms. Cruz does, is important. I appreciate you pointing out these facts. I know that none of us want to make these tough decisions, but I like that you pointed out step by step what like what actions that we can take. And I think that it's very apparent. So thank you for pointing this out. And it's also a relief to know that this is coming from staffing and not on any other place. So thank you. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, Ms. Lopez. Ms. Ortiz? Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, yes, just a couple of questions and of course, listening to your presentation. First of all, I do want to say that, yeah, I'm against letting employees go. I certainly believe that we can find placements for them. You know, I think that's the best way to go. We don't want to take anybody's job away, their livelihood, you know, so I'm totally against that, but like I said, I am for the placement of these employees in other departments or in other campuses. I think that that's the best way to go. As far as figuring out how many students are being fed, I know some of my colleagues asked that. How many students are coming in for lunch or in the morning or after hours? We do keep count of that, do we not? Ms.

Ocañas stated, yes. Mr. Ortiz stated, as they go through the line? Yeah, I remember that at the campuses that I was at, students were going by they used to have clickers. They'd be clicking the students as they were going by. Ms. Pena stated, old school was the best school. Ms. Ocañas stated, I'm hoping they're using their ID number. Mr. Ortiz stated, it wasn't that long ago. Okay. Okay. Now, and that's good data because you have the numbers, then you can go back and look at attendance. How many students were actually in attendance that actually went through the line as opposed to well, we don't know, and that's just the way to find that data. You know, you figure out how many students went through the line, then you figure out what your attendance was. Is there a match? Are the kids actually going or not? Or are there a lot of students that are not going through the line and getting their meals? I mean, that's just a suggestion to find out, you know, how that can be done. The other thing that I have, and I know it was brought up a little while ago, and Dr. Cuff, I don't know if this can be done. Or not. I'm pretty sure it can. One of my colleagues basically said that we don't see the hourly employees that come to us, okay, basically just certified. And if we have a campus or we have a department and they're having staffing issues, would it be a possibility that for those departments or those campuses, when they are employing or recommended a hire, even though they're hourly people, can they come to us? *Mr. Eden Ramirez, Board Attorney stated, I can answer that for legal.* Mr. Elizondo stated, Yeah, exactly, I was going to.. *Mr. Ramirez continued, so, right now, the way Board policy is, no, we would have to amend Board policy. What can be provided to you is just a report of hires of who was hired, but not under an authority capacity unless we change Board policy.* Mr. Ortiz stated, and that's fine then, just so that we can have an idea. You know, we don't need to change board policy or anything, but if there's a way that you just mentioned right now, legal, then you know, it can be done. I would like that just to keep track. Numbers would suffice, yeah. Just to keep numbers would suffice, yeah. The position and the number. Yeah. *Mr. Ramirez stated, it can be included as a report of your personnel for every meeting and it just shows you their recent hires.* Mr. Ortiz stated, yeah. And I don't mean for the whole district, just areas that we need to keep an eye on. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you. Any further questions? Mr. Ortiz stated, no, that's it, sir. Mr. Elizondo stated, go ahead, Ma'am. Ms. Pena stated, and Dr. Cuff, and I know that, you know, please forgive me I don't mean to step on toes, but I do that constantly because I want to get things done. In today's years, people get offended easily. Long story short, Dr. Cuff, I know that Ms. Jackie is here. She does a wonderful job. And I know it's really easy to come in from the outside and look at stuff at the time and the place, but unless you spend literally behind the wall, behind the doors, like a whole week doing everything to realize what's going on. So, with me, that would be Jackie because she's here all the time. So, could you please touch base with her to make sure that if we do have to have cuts in certain areas, like this lady's recommending over 100, I know statistics, but statistics don't work for the whole world. That's why the world is falling apart. Because we forget to do the basic things and we go on statistics. And then the statistics don't apply to us the way they do on the person who wrote them. Because everything's the power of the pen, the mind is doing it and thinking it. I'm okay with that, but I like to do research. And the only one that could tell us that would be Ms. Jackie, who is here and has been here and will continue to be here, praise God, to help us serve our children. So, before we decide, let's take this, let's take that, that's what the report says. No, this is just a suggestion, that's it. Let's talk. I want to know if you can please talk to her to see how many they actually need and if they are overstaffed and what is going on, because no one knows that information and that stuff except that lady that's working in the front lines every day,

for the last couple of years here and hopefully in the future. Can you touch base with her before we touch anything? Mr. Elizondo stated, sure, I'm sure. And not only that, you can always address it to us in the Friday letter as well and answer your questions. Ms. Pena stated, yes, because I want to make sure, because I think it's really easy for me to go to your house and do this and do that. Mr. Elizondo stated, of course. Ms. Pena stated, wait a minute, I don't live there. Yeah, but this is what I think. No. Mr. Elizondo stated, I agree. I think he wrote down your question, Ms. Pena. Ms. Pena stated, yes. Thank you. Please look into that. Mr. Elizondo stated, Okay thank you. Anybody else? Go ahead, Ms. Pat

6. Reporting of Fees Paid to Purchasing Cooperatives, which includes Membership, Management, and Transaction Fees for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Dr. Timothy E. Cuff, Superintendent stated, thank you be turning this over to Ms. Pena along with Ms. Rodriguez. Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated, and just real quick, our pillar, one of our pillars is leaving, thank you so much, **Dr. Tim Cuff, Superintendent stated, okay, I was just saying that we'll have Ms. Pena address this with Ms. Rodriguez.** Ms. Rosario Pena, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Finance stated, yes, sir. Thank you, Dr. Cuff. This is following Texas Education Code 44.031 that states that we need to report all the fees paid to our participating cooperatives. In other words, the membership that we hold with the cooperatives, we are to report the annual fees paid. Now, there is your backup and your agenda item. If there are any questions regarding the fees that we have paid and/or the transactions, that we have done in the 2025-2026 school year, please let us know. Mr. Elizondo stated, any of my colleagues have any questions? No? Go ahead. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, no, I had one, but I have to open the page because it's backwards. Hold on. Okay, I guess on page three, you have the totals, am I correct? **Ms. R. Pena replied, yes, ma'am.** Ms. M. Pena continued, on page three, and on the right side, it says transactions 2025-2026 school years, and it has the totals going up and down. Am I correct? **Ms. R. Pena stated, yes, ma'am.** Ms. M. Pena stated, and Region One nutritional, Region One child Nutrition Program, 60 million. Is that correct? **Ms. R. Pena stated, yes, ma'am.** Ms. M. Pena stated, and then Region what? 9? 8, I'm sorry. 6? Is it Region? 81 million. Do you see that? **Ms. R. Pena stated, 81,000.** Ms. M. Pena stated, I'm sorry, is it 81,000 my mistake. That's Region 6. Am I reading that right? **Ms. R. Pena stated, 11.** Ms. M. Pena stated, I'm sorry, I'm bad at that with the numbers. Okay, what and exactly do we go out, like, what are we actually getting? Is that something that's mandated or something that we've already contracted to give Region 1 the 16 million and Region 11 the 81,000. **Ms. R. Pena stated, no, ma'am, it depends on the products and services that each of the regions provide to us. And I can tell you that Region 1 Child Nutrition Program, that's mostly our food items. And so that would be the 16 million. Now in Region 11, we can get you a listing I am not familiar with, what was purchased or serviced from that region, but we can surely get you an itemized list for each of those amounts in a weekly letter.** Ms. M. Pena stated, okay, so in Region One, just nutrition or they do do other stuff? **Ms. R. Pena stated, they do do other stuff.** Ms. M. Pena stated, but for other stuff but for this particular one, it's a total of, yeah, I'd just like to know what we're getting for the 16 million. **Ms. R. Pena stated, yes ma'am, of course.** Ms. M. Pena stated, whenever you get a chance, no rush, just what are we getting for 16 million from, that we're paying region one for the child nutrition service? **Ms. R. Pena stated, yes ma'am, and we'll do that aside from the rest of them, we can also provide that listing.**

Mr. Elizondo stated, Ms. Pena, just in future references, just for the, sheer sense of time, maybe you can just include it that way because Ms. Pena is probably going to ask the same question over and over. I do, I'm going to go, I want to know as well so maybe just include it and then we can just read it ourselves. **Mr. R. Pena stated, certainly, sir. We will make a note.** Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, ma'am. Anybody else? Ms. Pat?

7. Brownsville Independent School District Financial Report for the period ended July 31, 2026.

Dr. Timothy E. Cuff, Superintendent stated, yes, Ms. Pena, you could you address this, please, or Ms. Alaffa. Ms. Rosario Pena, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Finance stated, thank you, Dr. Cuff, Board President, Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Superintendent Dr. Cuff, members of the board, and audience. I will walk the Board through the district's financial position cumulatively as of July 2026. Tonight, I am presenting the district's financial report for the beginning of fiscal year 26-27. As a reminder, we're only four weeks into the new fiscal year, and several of our major revenue sources have not yet been received or recorded due to the timing of state funding and our month end procedures. Beginning with the general fund, total revenues received are approximately stating at 390,000 while expenditures total approximately \$14 million. It is important to note that the state revenues are not reflected in this report. All revenues earned through June 30th, along with final year in activity, will be reflected in the district's annual financial and compliance report for the fiscal year. That and after all has been closed and revenues have been accounted for properly. Additionally, revenues generated during the month of July, will not begin to be reflected until September as the state of Texas operates on a fiscal year that runs from September 1 through August 31st, that does not coincide with our school year, which is July 1 through June 30th. As a result, there is always a timing difference between when revenues are earned and when they are actually recognized by the state. I would also like to clarify that the 17.9 million in proceeds from the sale of Cummings and Longoria remain separate and are apart from normal operating funds. On your special revenue no revenues have been received as of the report date. Current expenditures total approximately \$1.3 million. As with prior years, these programs operate on a reimbursement basis, meaning expenditures are incurred first and reimbursement requests are submitted to the granting agencies. We anticipate receiving these reimbursements as the fiscal year progresses. On our debt service fund Revenues received to date approximately 24,000 while expenditures total approximately \$4.3 million. This expenditure represents the district's final debt service payment, which was made in the month of July. It is currently estimated that the debt service fund will close fiscal year 25-26 with an estimated fund balance of approximately \$3.7 million. Since the district has no remaining outstanding debt obligation, administration is currently consulting with our financial advisors to determine the appropriate disposition of the remaining debt service fund in accordance with applicable state law and financial regulations. Lastly, our self-Insurance fund reflects approximately \$2,500 in revenue dollars. Please keep in mind that the employee benefit contributions and payroll related liabilities are posted at the end of each month. Because this financial report was prepared using financial activity through July 27 in order to meet agenda timelines, the normal monthly entries that would have been posted on July 31st are not reflected as of this report date. And those entries will be included in the next month's financial report. Overall,

financial activity presented this evening reflects the normal timing differences that occur at the beginning of each new fiscal year. Administration will continue to monitor all funds closely and will provide updated financial information as additional state revenues are received, as grant reimbursements are processed, and month end closing entries are completed. This concludes the financial report presentation. Mr. Elizondo, Board President stated, thank you, Ms. Pena. Any questions? Go ahead, Ms. Pena. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, you said the state revenues were \$390,000? **Ms. R. Pena stated, yes, ma'am. Keeping in mind that our school year does not coincide with the state payments, they run from September 1 through August 1. So the July payments will be recognized until either we are near final with our state or final, which happens around September. That's when you're going to see all the revenues posted.** Ms. M. Pena stated, so, right now, that's what the balance that we have, and that's what we're going on. **Ms. R. Pena stated, that's correct.** Ms. M. Pena stated, okay. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, ma'am. Any further questions? Thank you, ma'am. Miss Pat,

8. Brownsville Independent School District Quarterly Investment Report for the period ended June 30, 2026.

Dr. Timothy E. Cuff, Superintendent stated, thank you, Pat. We'll turn it over to Ms. Pena for this, please. Ms. Rosario Pena, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Finance stated, thank you, Dr. Cuff, President, Mr. Elizondo, Dr. Cuff, and members of the board and audience. This is the district's quarterly investment report for the period ending June 30th. As of the quarter end, the district held \$2.8 million in cash in bank accounts, which supports our day-to-day operations needs, such as payroll, vendor payments, and other short-term obligations. In addition, the district held \$190 million dollars in investments across various approved investment instruments bringing total investment district investments to approximately \$192.7 million dollars as of June 30th, 2026. For the quarter ending June 30th, the district earned \$1.4 million dollars in interest income with total interest earnings of \$9.7 million for the fiscal year to date. This reflects strong investment performance while maintaining safety and liquidity as our primary objectives. From a liquidity perspective, approximately 74% of the district's portfolio is invested in highly liquid accounts, ensuring funds are readily available for daily operations. The remaining portion is invested in longer term maturity instruments to enhance returns in a controlled and strategic manner. Interest rates remain relatively stable during the quarter ending June 30th as the Federal Reserve continued to evaluate inflation and overall economic conditions before making any additional adjustments to the monetary policy. Given the uncertainty surrounding future interest rate movements, the district has continued to structure its investment portfolio to balance liquidity needs with the opportunity to secure favorable yields on long term investments when appropriate. This strategy is intended to maximize investment earnings while ensuring that sufficient funds remain available to meet the district's ongoing operational and cash flow requirements. As a follow up regarding the Proceeds from the sale of Cummings Middle School and Longoria Elementary, I would like to provide the following update. As of June 30th, 2026, the proceeds from the sale of Cummings Middle School reflect an ending book value of \$17 million, while the proceeds from the sale of Longoria reflect an ending book value of \$1.3 million for a

total of \$18.3 million. Year to date interest earnings total \$674,626.77 for Cummings and \$50,123.72 for Longoria. These are interest earns. The fund remains fully segregated, as mentioned before, and all interest earned year to date continues to be reinvested in the same accounts, preserving the integrity and traceability of these proceeds. I would also like to confirm that all district investments are in full compliance with the Texas Public Funds Investment Act, district investment policy, and board approved investment strategies. Overall, the district's investment portfolio remains well-balanced liquid, and strategically positioned to support Brownsville ISD's operational and long-term financial needs. This concludes the presentation for the quarterly investment report. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, Ms. Pena, any questions? Go ahead, Ms. Pat

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Veronica Borrego. Good evening, Board President, Mr. Elizondo, esteemed board members, Superintendent Dr. Cuff, and all watching this evening here in the Boardroom and home. My name is Veronica Borrego. I currently serve BISD as an educational diagnostician. I am the former president and now proud vice president of AOBEB, the Association of Brownsville Educators, the largest and longest serving association in BISD. I would like to first extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Elizondo on your well-deserved appointment as president of our school board. We look forward to working with you and supporting your leadership as you guide our district forward. I would also like to extend my congratulations and welcome to Dr. Cuff. It has been my privilege to work with you previously, and I look forward to continuing our professional relationship as you assume your new role. I am confident that your experience and dedication will greatly benefit our schools and community, and we are here to support you along the way. As we welcome educators back for a new school year, I want to reaffirm our association's unwavering commitment to advocating for better pay, smaller class sizes, and improved working conditions for all educators. Our teachers deserve the resources, support, and respect necessary to succeed in the classroom. We remain dedicated to ensuring that every educator has a safe, positive, and productive work environment that allows both teachers and students to thrive. I would like to wish each of you a productive, successful, and rewarding school year filled with opportunities for growth, collaboration, and achievement. Your efforts make a lasting difference in the lives of our students, and we're grateful for all that you do. Thank you for your time and attention. Have an amazing school year and a wonderful evening.

Lazar Cardenas. Good evening, Board President, Mr. Elizondo, members of the board, Dr. Cuff, Superintendent Dr. Cuff, my name is Lázaro Cárdenas and I am the proud president of AOBEB, the largest and longest serving union in our district. I now want to take this time to congratulate Mr. Elizondo. Thank you for working with our organization in helping to promote and ensure the quality of our workplace. We acknowledge that every day presents itself with new challenges. And that the duties of our educational responsibilities is on a day-to-day basis. We look forward to working with you and other members of the board to ensure, sorry lost my place here, we acknowledge that every day presents itself right education we look forward to working with you and other members of the board to ensure employees at BISD are treated with respect equity, and dignity. We also want to extend our congratulations to newly board appointed Superintendent Dr. Cuff. Our organization looks forward to working with you so that we can help our members with any issues that may arise. Congratulations. As we begin the new school year, the Association of Brownsville Educators AOBEB proudly welcomes back every member of the Brownsville ISD family. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every BISD employee for your dedication hard work, and commitment to our student and community. Thank you for being an essential part of what makes our district such a wonderful place to learn, grow, and

succeed. We wish you all a rewarding, inspiring, and successful year. We especially want to thank those employees who have been with our district 30, 40, and someone special like Ms. Lopez was here today 50 years of service to our students, which we have no doubt changed the lives of future generations and through your dedication to education. I want to present a quote by William Arthur Ward The mediocre teacher tells, the good teacher explains, the superior teacher demonstrates, and the great teacher inspires. Thank you, teachers, for your inspiration in not only molding our future, but also for your dedication to excellence. Have a wonderful evening.

Patrick Hammes. Good evening, Dr. Cuff, President Elizondo, members of the board. Patrick Hammes speaking for myself and for the union. I want to congratulate Dr. Cuff on becoming our new superintendent. Dr. Cuff, at a recent meeting, reminded me that we've known each other for 40 years. Two Yankees that came down from the upper Midwest, he from Wisconsin, me from Minnesota. Dr. Cuff preceded me by about seven years, and I don't know if he recollects, but he taught with my wife. You would have known her as Donna Miller. So, again, congratulations. President Elizondo, Carlos, known you about 20 years. We have agreed at times and we have disagreed at times, but I believe your presidency and Dr. Cuff's superintendency, we have the same goal going forward, and that is to provide the best education for our students. To provide the best working conditions for all workers where they are treated with respect and dignity. And if we do that, I think this district will continue to accelerate and be the very best. I also want to go back just a moment to on the personal side. Is I want to thank you for recognizing Rose Melendez at the beginning, she is the mother of one of our members, she is a dedicated and good person, and some of you may have known her through her profession. So thank you for recognize her. We look forward to a wonderful year working together. Again, our goal as always to try to work with administration and with the board. On the business side agenda item X. A. 19, okay. We want to thank the board and the administration for approving tonight, we hope you're approving it sets us on the agenda the stipend for the employees on the professional support and for the administrators who did not get the raise last year. It is deserved. We're sorry that the state overlooked them, but thank you for doing the right thing by then. We know that the budget is still in a crunch. Mr. Elizondo mentioned that to the auditors, the people who collect the property taxes. Any millions they can find would be appreciated. If money comes in and the district can find it in its heart or the district can afford it. And I don't know if that's going to be doable this year or not. There were two groups that were overlooked, not intentionally, but because of the budget crunch. One was the classified workers with 20 years or more getting that additional 2%. The other group is our police officers. Every time I request a public information request on who is resigned or retired from the after a board meeting, I am seeing a flood of police officers who are submitting their resignation and or and or retirement and they're going to areas that they can be better compensated. We have a great police department We have a great chief and we knew we need to do our best to retain the people that we're training and so hopefully if not possible this year next year, but if something comes up where We hit the lottery and some Fashion or form, if you can find it in your heart to look after these people. We want to thank you very much, have the best evening possible, and we'll see you next month.

Cynthia Perez. Muy buenas noches, Dr. Cuff, Superintendente del Distrito Escolar de Brownsville, Presidente Carlos Elizondo, y distinguidos miembros de la Mesa Directiva. Es un honor dar la más cordial bienvenida al Dr. Cuff como nuevo superintendente del distrito escolar independiente de Brownsville. En nombre de TVEA queremos expresarle nuestro entusiasmo por esta nueva etapa. Nos llena de esperanza saber que contamos con un líder dispuesto a escuchar, colaborar y trabajar de la mano con nuestra comunidad educativa. Antes de asumir el cargo de superintendente tuvimos la oportunidad de conversar con usted y compartir nuestras inquietudes y necesidades. Agradecemos sinceramente, que nos halla brindando su tiempo, sobre todo, que allá escuchado nuestras

preocupaciones con respecto. Atención y apertura, ese gesto nos dios confianza, y nos hiso sentir que nuestras voces son importantes. Sabemos que dirigir nuestro distrito, n distrito tan grande representar, un gran compromiso. Pero también sabemos que el éxito se a logra cuando todos trabajamos unidos. con un mismo prepósito. Ofrecer lo mejor educación, posible para nuestras estudiantes. Como educadores padres de familia, miembros de esta comunidad, estamos listos para colaborar con usted y apoyar los esfuerzos que benefician a nuestras escuelas. Confiamos en que bajo su liderazgo, podemos enfrentar los retos y construir un futuro lleno de oportunidades para nuestros niños. Dr. Cuff, le deseamos mucho éxito en esta nueva responsabilidad. Gracias por aceptar este gran desafío y por su disposición para servir a nuestra comunidad. Le damos la más cordial bienvenida a Brownsville ISD y esperamos trabajar juntos por el bienestar y el éxito de nuestra comunidad. Bienvenido, Dr. Cuff, y muchas felicidades al Señor presidente, Carlos Elizondo, y éxito en esta nueva etapa. Muchas gracias.

Nancy Beltran. Good evening, Board President, Mr. Elizondo, members of the board. Superintendent Doctor Cuff. My name is Nancy Beltran. I am the president of Texas Valley Educators Association and proud Kinder teacher at Peña Elementary. I wanted to give a warm welcome to BISD to our new Superintendent Dr. Cuff, and we look forward to working together to make our district more better than we left it last year. Tonight, I would like to speak on the agenda items that were recommended for approval in buying programs for the new school year 2026-27. I know that this district is in a fiscal burden starting the school with buying the items needed, but school districts, our parents, and honestly, our teachers are also in this. As a district prepares to buy programs, supplies and other items, Texas parents are gearing up to buy new school supplies right alongside our teachers. On the average, our parents are spending \$560 per child and according to East Texas News Station, many of the teachers are reaching into their own pockets to buy supplies needed by our students. The average Texas teacher spends close to \$935 of their own money to supply school supplies for our students. Some spent even more. Many new teachers start the school year already in debt, buying pencils, papers, notebooks, class materials, and other essentials that our students need to even get started before our first paycheck. Meanwhile, Texas is spending a billion dollars on private schools' voucher programs. Instead of asking teachers to fund their own classrooms or lean into their parents to fill in the gaps, our state should be investing the money where 90% of Texas students are educated in our public schools. I mentioned this because I wanted the board to understand the burden that teachers are carrying for many years. I have taught at BISD for more than 20 years, and I know this firsthand. My first year as a school teacher, I received 2,000 to supply my new classroom. My second year it went down to 800, then 200. And for the past 17 years, I've received zero dollars for my classroom. This past school year, some teachers got 250 from their principals. Some, not all. So, I must ask why was this money given to some teachers by their principals and not all? Why are principals allowed to give something to one classroom teacher and nothing to others? I am asking this board to make the funding available for all teachers equally. Every teacher spends their own money in their classrooms. Giving everyone the same amount would go a long way towards helping us do our jobs and keep our classroom running smoothly. I have requested a pencil sharpener first year that I've started school and to this day I've yet to receive a pencil sharpener. Over the years I have personally bought fans because the AC units keep going out, sharpeners, tape, tape dispenser, my own personal laminator, laminator pouches, scissors, hot glue sticks, sharpies, a colored printer because I do teach kinder, a portable voice amplifier, because my voice is going out by the end of the day, and I even buy birthday gifts for each of my students every year. Countless supplies that our students need. Please consider giving every teacher the same amount to purchase the items that are needed every day to run their classroom. And lastly, I would like to remind you that some of our schools still don't have their AC units in their gyms. In May, I spent half of my day in the gym with my students doing field day, and I'm letting you know that it was over 102 degrees in the gym without fans. So please consider looking back to see which is the gyms that don't

have it, because in Texas, an air conditioner is a necessity, not a luxury. May God bless you. Have a wonderful school year.

The Board may deliberate or take action regarding the following agenda items.

Board policy BE (Local) and Robert's Rules limits debate to two opportunities. A Trustee may debate a motion for three minutes on the first speaking opportunity and two minutes on the second opportunity.

Note: The Board of Trustees may go into Closed/Executive Session to deliberate any item on this agenda as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

IX. Recommend approving the Consent Agenda. The Board has agreed to discuss the following items. All of the items below that are not called out will be approved by consent.

Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board President stated Ms. Pat would you include #13 as well please, page 4 and Ms. Pena wants X. A. Mr. Elizondo stated hold on ma'am, is there a couple more missing, Ms. Pena did you circle on page 5 number 4. **Ms. Patricia Perez, Executive Assistant stated, yes sir I did call that one out.**

Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, just for the record, I will abstain from item X. D. 9 and X. D 10.

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|----|--------------------------|--|
| A. | General Function Items | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 |
| B. | Payments | |
| C. | Budget Amendments | 2 |
| D. | Contracts/Agreements | 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16 |
| E. | Bids/Proposals/Purchases | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 |

Motion was made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Carlos Elizondo, and unanimously carried for approval of the General Function Items as reflected on the Consent Agenda. (7-0-0)

(All presentations limited to five (5) minutes)

X. Consent Agenda:

A. Recommend approval of the following General Function Item(s):

1. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 001/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of the Omnia Partners for fiscal year 2026-2027.

Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, okay on that one, it's a kind of a large amount, but it's what exactly do we get for that? It's like detail, this is how long? Because if you see it, it's a lot of money. So, I was just wondering. How long have we been doing this and has the price gone up? That's my question. **Dr. Timothy E. Cuff, Superintendent stated that question would be directed to Mrs. Pena.**

Ms. Denise Garza stepped out at 8:16 p.m.

Ms. Rosario Pena, Assistant Superintendent for Administration/Finance stated, Mrs. Pena, are we looking at Page 3A1? Ms. M. Pena stated, I'm sorry, yes, the Omnia Partners. Ms. R. Pena stated, okay, so that's one of our approved cooperatives and what these items are simply stating is that it's the agreement to participate for this

year. Are you looking at the amount spent in previous years? Ms. M. Pena stated, yeah, the 9 million. **Ms. R. Pena stated, I'm sorry, in previous 12 months?** Ms. M. Pena stated yeah, we spent 9 million, it says. **Ms. R. Pena stated, yes, ma'am. If I may call on Ms. Delia Rodriguez, she may have some items that we bought through there. Ms. Delia Rodriguez, Purchasing Director stated, hi, good evening, Board President, Mr. Elizondo, Dr. Cuff, Board members. To answer your question, ma'am, this year, not this year, but 25-26 school year, the reason why the amount went up is that now Dell is being under the Omnia contract. When before it was under the Texas State Comptroller's Office. That's why you see an increase. And that's why it's 9 million. It was mostly because of the Dell contract.** Ms. M. Pena stated, so Dell moved over to charge us more? To make more money? **Ms. Rodriguez stated, well, no, they just, because previously Texas Comptroller's Office was the one that we spent the most, but since they don't have Dell under there anymore. Dell moved into the Omnia to give us a better discount per se. That's why Omnia now is increased.** Ms. M. Pena stated, how much was Dell before they moved into Omnia? **Ms. Rodriguez replied, under the Texas Comptroller's Office, I believe before it was like 12 million. I can double check for you on that.**

Ms. M. Pena stated, okay, 12 million is more than 9 million. **Ms. Rodriguez stated, right, that's the way it was under the Texas Comptroller's Office.** Ms. M. Pena stated, so, but you're, I'm sorry, I misunderstood. I thought you said that now Dell charges more on. **Ms. Rodriguez stated, no, it's actually less, ma'am. It's nine million with Omnia.** Ms. M. Pena stated, we get a bigger discount when they come through this group. **Ms. Rodriguez stated, yes, ma'am that's correct.**

Ms. Denise Garza returned at 8:17 p.m.

Ms. M. Pena stated, okay, but the majority of that charge is because of Dell. **Ms. Rodriguez stated, yes.** Ms. M. Pena continued; we've always paid a lot to Dell anyway. **Ms. Rodriguez stated, yes Ma'am.** Ms. M. Pena stated, correct thank you. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you Ma'am, Mr. Ortiz has a question as well.

Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez stepped out at 8:17 p.m.

Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, yeah, I specifically don't have questions on that particular item. I have questions, basically, and maybe recommendation on all these resolutions. I know there's quite a bit of them, and I did go through them. And the majority of these resolutions were for volume purchasing, is that correct? **Ms. R. Pena replied, yes sir that is correct.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay I do see how much was spent in the last 12 months and then what is the estimated cost for this coming year with a 7% increase and the only thing is that you know it goes back to I don't know what we're buying some of these resolutions a very few of them will say small engines or big engines, and so forth but the rest of the resolutions that I did see here, I just see the number of the amount of money that we're spending. Maybe in the future just give us a list of what we're buying for these amounts of money. I would like to know, for the amounts of money that we're paying, what is it that we are buying? **Ms. R. Pena replied yes, of course. And we will take Mr. Elizondo's recommendation to give you, when we present these resolutions, exactly the items that we bought, and possibly what department bought them. Also, we can update you this in a weekly letter so that we can tie it and you'll have it more accurate reflection of this year's purchases or I'm sorry, 25-26.** Mr. Ortiz stated, yeah, thank you, ma'am. It's just for transparency purposes, and of course, under the fiscal situation that we're in, you know, I think that I'd like to know, and certainly I'm sure that our community and our taxpayers would like to know as well. **Ms. R. Pena stated, of course, sir.** Mr.

Ortiz stated, thank you. Mr. Elizondo stated if Mr. Ortiz is okay as they added to the Friday letter? Thank you, ma'am. Appreciate it. Thank you, doc. **Ms. Patricia C. Perez, Executive Assistant stated for the record Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez stepped out.**

Motion made by Carlos Elizondo, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, and unanimously carried to recommend approval of Resolution No. 001/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of the Omnia Partners for fiscal year 2026-2027. (6-0-0)

2. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 002/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of The Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (TASB) for fiscal year 2026-2027. **(Consent Agenda)**
3. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 003/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts for fiscal year 2026-2027. **(Consent Agenda)**
4. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 004/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of the Houston-Galveston Area Council Cooperative for fiscal year 2026-2027. **(Consent Agenda)**
5. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 005/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of Region 16 ESC Statewide Cooperative for fiscal year 2026-2027. **(Consent Agenda)**
6. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 006/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of Region One-Purchasing Cooperative for fiscal year 2026-2027. **(Consent Agenda)**
7. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 007/26-27 for Brownsville ISD to participate in the described purchasing program of Region One ESC, Library Services and Instructional Resources Cooperative for the 2026-2027 school year. **(Consent Agenda)**
8. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 008/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the describe programs of Region One Education Service Center Child Nutrition Program-South Texas Cooperative (CNP-STC) for fiscal year 2026-2027. **(Consent Agenda)**
9. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 009/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of Region VIII Education Service Center (ESC8) (TIPS) for fiscal year 2026-2027. **(Consent Agenda)**
10. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 010/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of the Harris County Department of Education Cooperative Programs for fiscal year 2026-2027.**(Consent Agenda)**

11. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 012/26-27 for Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of Region XI Education Service Center, Technology Resources Education Consortium (TREC), Fort Worth, Texas, for fiscal year 2026-2027. **(Consent Agenda)**
12. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 013/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of TASB Energy Cooperative for fiscal year 2026-2027. **(Consent Agenda)**
13. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 014/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of Sourcewell for fiscal year 2026-2027.

Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez returned at 8:21 p.m.

Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board President stated I circled that item Ma'am. Just a real quick presentation, I know that it's probably the same thing that's happened with the other ones. Can you just tell us what Sourcewell is for this community? **Mr. Rosario Pena, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Finance stated, Yes, ma'am. Yes, sir. I'm sorry. May I call on Ms. Delia Rodriguez once again? Ms. Delia Rodriguez, Purchasing Director stated, yes. Sir. Good evening. So Sourcewell is another cooperative that we commonly use every year. The main company that we use through there is TMobile. TMobile is what we currently use not only for cell services, but also for the hotspots. And also, I believe that it's GPS tracking for some of the white fleet. And yeah, they also have some other vendors that we use. But not as much as T Mobile.** Mr. Elizondo stated, and just real quick, I know that T Mobile is a very big company. Is there any way that we reached out? Maybe we can get a discount. And if we haven't, maybe we should. Because I know that the amount of money that we pay them is a substantial amount. Just reaching out to as many people as you can. Hey. You know what? We've been very, very good clients of yours. If there's any discounts that are readily available to the school district, I would love to hear that. And if not then the reasons why. And maybe we can make a conclusion next time they come around see if there's a better option out there for our school district. If you can please look into that that would really appreciate that. **Ms. R. Pena stated, yes, sir of course.** Ms. Pena stated question. Mr. Elizondo stated, go ahead miss me. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, and I agree with Mr. Elizondo because sometimes you go and ask or the people that oh, no you're not going to get a cheaper price. We need to really go and ask because it's happening out there where the company doesn't want to lose you prime example progressive says they have the best insurance and blah nobody's cheaper and I go to another insurance and it's 200 less a month. What? But they're trained to tell you we're the cheapest. So, make sure that we actually go out and look at this ourselves because they're not going to tell you that you're going to say we're the best. So, can we make sure we go out and look at it so we can make sure we got the best deal, please? **Ms. D. Rodriguez stated, yes, ma'am.** Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, ma'am.

Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Carlos Elizondo, and unanimously carried to recommend approval of Resolution No. 014/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of Sourcewell for fiscal year 2026-2027. (7-0-0)

14. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 015/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of the Education Service Center Region 19 (ESC19) for fiscal year 2026-2027. **(Consent Agenda)**
15. Recommend approval of Resolution No. 016/26-27 for the Brownsville Independent School District to participate in the described purchasing programs of the Education Service Center, Region 20 and the Pace Purchasing Cooperative for fiscal year 2026-2027.
16. Recommend approval of Resolution #017/2026-2027 recognizing the Texas 4-H Organization as an approved extracurricular organization eligible for extracurricular status consideration under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 76.1.
17. Recommend approval of Resolution #018/2026-2027 for the nomination of an individual to serve on the Cameron County Appraisal District Board of Directors.

Amendment: Page 1 will be replaced with Page 1a
Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a

Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, I'd like to recommend Mr. Carlos Elizondo. Mr. Carlos Elizondo stated, I'll accept the nomination. Thank you, Ms. Ortiz. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, I'll second it.

Motion made by Frank Ortiz, seconded by Minerva Pena, for the nomination of Carlos Elizondo to serve on the Cameron County Appraisal District Board of Directors.

The following vote was recorded

Yea: Mr. Elizondo, Ms. Garza, Mr. Ortiz, Ms. Gonzalez, Ms. Pena, Ms. Grantland
Nay: Ms. Lopez
Abstain:

Motion Carried: 6-1-0

Ms. Pena stated, please go out there and do a good job. The community is counting on you, buddy. Mr. Elizondo stated, I'll be your sandpaper, ma'am.

18. Discussion and possible action on Resolution #019/2026-2027 authorizing the Resale of Foreclosed Real Estate Properties for failure to pay ad valorem taxes. **(Consent Agenda)**

Amendment: Page 19 will be replaced with Page 19a
Page 37 will be replaced with page 37a

19. Recommend approval to revise pages 12 and 15 of the 2026-2027 Employee Compensation Plan.

Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, Motion to approve. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, Second. Mr. Elizondo stated, Mr. Ortiz, you had a question on this or

comments? Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated yes, just for clarification purposes. I see that we're moving an intern from pay grade two to pay grade four. The speech language pathologist intern, but then I also see the school psychologist that's also an intern, and that one stayed in level pay grade two and did not go to pay grade four. I see the number of days also that they're having to report. But what is the reason of moving one intern to four and not the other one. **Dr. Timothy Cuff stated, I'll have Ms. Zarate take a peek at that. Ms. Maricela Zarate Puente, Administrator for Human Resources stated, good evening, Board President Elizondo, Dr. Cuff, members of the board, and audience. So, specifically, the speech language pathologist pay grade, it's originally placed this last compensation round that we had in the spring. It was placed at level two but that's for intern. Okay. The other one is the actual speech language pathologist. And so we're asking or special services is requesting that it be moved from a pay grade two to a pay grade four. So here today is Mr. Felipe Barrera to shed a little more light as to the reasoning for competitive reasons to bump that up.** Mr. Ortiz stated, yeah and that's what I'm asking for the reason. **Mr. Felipe Barrera, Administrator stated, good evening Board President Dr. Cuff and Board Members. The reason is the speech language pathologist and the school psychologist, they both have a master's degree already and they're only working on their certification. So, for pay wise, it's a little bit low to what they are earning on the outside, outside the school district. So. It's really difficult to retain them or to encourage them to apply and to stay with the district. So, that's why it's a little bit low to what they're making. So we wanted to bump them up to a pay grade four at least. They're still not sort of fully certified. So that's one of the reasons why they're not at a pay grade six where the other fully licensed speech language pathologists and school psychologists are.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay, and I guess my question is why did we move one intern to a four and we left the other intern at a two? **Mr. Barrera replied, well, we recommend both of them be at a pay grade four to be consistent because they both require a master's degree and require that certification.** Mr. Ortiz stated, I agree with you but I don't see it here. I see the school psychologist. I'm looking at page four or four. I'm looking at the school psychologist staying at a pay grade two, and I only see the speech language pathologist going to pay grade four. **Mr. Barrera stated, yes, I believe that was an outside recommendation, I'm not sure who made it. The outside recommendation to move them to a four. But when we were notified on that, we really would like for both of them to be at a four. We really agree with you.** Mr. Ortiz stated, yeah, I would think so, especially like you said, these interns, the psychologists and the pathologists are hard to find. So for retainment purposes, yeah I would like to see the other intern go up to pay grade four as well. I just didn't see it here. **Mr. Barrera stated, yes, sir.** Mr. Elizondo stated, so just real quick, that recommendation, too. Mr. Ortiz stated, well, that would be my recommendation is that your recommendation as well? **Mr. Barrera replied, yes, sir.** Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, we can amend it. Mr. Elizondo stated, okay. Mr. Ortiz stated, yeah. Mr. Elizondo stated, Ms. Garza, you have a question or a comment. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, yeah well. I have a concern because I know that during the summer, I met with some of the speech staff, and I understand that you want to reclassify an intern, but we also have to remember that an intern is under an SLP. So, they cannot evaluate because they're under an SLP. They can only provide the therapy and all of that. I was under the impression that we were going to evaluate our speech language assistants because they're the same thing. Most of these were teachers before becoming speech assistants, yet their starting pay is below a first-year teacher. So that was my

impression that we were going to reclassify our speech assistants before interns only because interns they're practically like students still. You know, they cannot provide a full blown evaluation, and so that's just my concern. You know, let's take care of our current assistants because, and then when they finish their internship, then I think they'll go up, you know. **Mr. Barrera stated, if I may, the one of the biggest reasons is that the speech language pathologist interns they already hold the master's degree versus the assistants do not.** Ms. Garza stated, but when it comes to documenting for SHARS, they cannot evaluate or anything like that. They can only document under the supervision of an SLP. So pretty much they're like assistants at the moment because they're in an internship. **Mr. Barrera stated, yes, ma'am.** Mr. Elizondo stated, anybody else? Mr. Ortiz stated, I'm just asking, we'll go ahead and then we'll ask for the recommendation. Mr. Elizondo stated, okay, go ahead, Ms. Pena. Go ahead, Ms. Grantland. Ms. Neida Ruth Grantland stated, thank you, Mr. President. I was at that meeting that you were at also. And I totally agree with what you're saying. The other question I have is we've already approved a budget this was not in that budget approval, so you're asking us to bring more money into the budget that we've already approved with a deficit budget in the district. And I'm not sure that that's something, if we do that for this then we have to do it for anyone else that comes up. We're setting a precedent for anyone else that comes up with a request for an assessment or a review. As much as I would want to give everybody a review, we've already established a budget for this year. And I don't think that we can come and add all year long. To me it just doesn't make good sense. And correct me if I'm wrong, but it has nothing to do with this, although I do understand what you're saying. The evaluation piece is what sets them apart. And so I just was this in the budget already, Ms. Pena? **Ms. R. Pena replied, no. Ma'am.** Ms. Grantland stated, why didn't y'all come at the time that we were reviewing things? **Mr. Barrera replied, we submitted the recommendation based on what we saw that other districts were offering.** Ms. Grantland stated, at this point, you're submitting. **Mr. Barrera replied, yes, no, no. Ma'am. We submitted it before it was presented to the Board for approval for the compensation plan. We submitted it as a pay grade two because that's what was equivalent to other districts across the state and here locally in the valley. We submitted it as a pay grade two. I believe somebody wanted to make sure that they went up to a pay grade four just because it's hard to retain these positions. As a matter of fact, right now we recommended one of the ones that's difficult to also hire as a physical therapist, which we hired, we recommended one out, and then they declined at the last minute.** Ms. Grantland stated, no. I understand. I'm not arguing that point at all. I'm just so you submitted this very same request at the budget cycle when we were preparing the budget. **Mr. Barrera stated, we did submit it as a pay grade two, but then there were concerns from other people, not from our department. That it was a little bit low and it was going to be very hard to fill these positions because we had several people that retired at the end of the last school year, and that's why the recommendation was made to move to a pay rate four.** Ms. Grantland stated, I would like for to encourage everyone in our district that if you're going to submit these things, please bring them to us in the correct format that you want, in the final format that you want, and I'm not picking on you all. I'm. I'm just in general stating this so that we can consider it at that time. And when we finalize the budget, because here's the thing: we've had several emergencies in this district just within the last few days. And that's money that was not allocated for that. And so here we are having to visit this, having to take care of these emergencies that affect the students directly. And so it makes it very difficult for the board to just, I mean, we can't come up with money out of thin air.

And I'm just, I guess I'm just voicing my frustration over the fiscal problems that we have. We'll get better, it'll come together. I just would like for all of us to be more timely, I guess I'm saying, and more accurate in what we want to begin with. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, Ms. Grantland, Ms. Pena. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, and I concur with Ms. Grantland and I'd like to pay everybody what they're worth, but when you're opening this door, I've had a lot of people that already called that they're getting paid below a lot. So, are they going to come knock at the door? And are we going to be able to say no to them when we say yes to this? And this is something that I think, Ms. Pena it needs to be considered and brought to you because if you change this, all the other ones that want to move up and have brought valid concerns to me and have showed them to us, and we showed them to the Superintendent, and I did anyway. And he said, well, right now the budget constraint is holding us where we can look at this and so when we do our next budget, we can correct that, or maybe we can help with that. So how is approving this, for these particular positions and right now it's just this one and now he's mentioning it should have been the other one also. How is this possible when we have a budget that is not in a great shape of our life? Do you understand what I'm saying Ms. Pena? **Ms. R. Pena replied, yes, yes ma'am. Totally agree.** Ms. M. Pena continued, okay so and it bothers me that the people didn't bring it to them until after the budget and now we want to jump in do this and I have a problem because if we do it with this you don't know how many people have shown me this compensation plan and they're not getting paid properly. I'm sure you all know, I'm sure they brought it. We can't pick and choose, let's do it for this one, and then this one we're going to say, no we can't do that one. And then why did you do the other? It makes us look real bad. So, how do we keep the district from going bankrupt if we keep making decisions that are not in a timely fashion right now because of our budget constraints? Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, Ms. Pena, anybody else, go ahead. *Mr. Eden Ramirez, Board Attorney stated, well, yeah the question is what is the recommendation from administration then? Is it still to present this as you presented it?* **Dr. Timothy E. Cuff (inaudible). Based on what I'm hearing right now, is maybe we should table it and bring it back if we can do that for further information to get further information.** *Mr. Ramirez stated, okay, so admin's recommendation is to table it, that's what the board may vote on.* Mr. Elizondo stated, yes, go ahead, Ms. Garza. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, thank you, Mr. Elizondo. And just a comment here because I know when Ms. Grantland and I met with our speech staff, it was probably about two weeks before we approved our budget. And I did tell the staff that if it didn't come through this current budget because of the timing that it was presented to us that definitely we would include it in the next budget. If that Ends up being the case, that we look at it for the next budget cycle, our Budget Chair committee, I do recommend we place this as a priority, not just looking at one position as an intern, but reevaluating the speech assistant and our intern, and also like our school psychologist, the intern. Only because these are some of these positions are less than what a first year teacher makes, and a lot of these individuals were teachers before. So that is my comment out there. So-- But thank you Dr. Cuff for looking into this and we'll see what administration decides first. Mr. Elizondo stated, you can withdraw your motion right or does she-- she doesn't have to? *Mr. Ramirez stated, did you have a motion?* **Ms. Patricia Perez, Executive Assistant stated, I have a motion and a second.** Mr. Elizondo stated, so then we'll withdraw the motion. *Mr. Ramirez stated, okay, so yeah let's withdraw your motion because it was based on a different recommendation. The recommendation has changed, withdraw.* Ms. Gonzalez stated, so I will withdraw my original motion and motion to table. **Ms. Perez stated, and a second by Ms. Garza, okay.**

Ms. Garza stated yes. Mr. Elizondo stated, I still have a question for the attorney. Ms. Grantland stated, I just wanted to say I totally agree with Ms. Garza's recommendation to make them a priority at the next budget cycle and I would encourage our HR people to not forget this priority. That they would jot it down somewhere so that it's for sure a priority. Mr. Elizondo stated, I can include Mr. Arroyo back there. He's trying to hide over there underneath his coat, huh? Go ahead, Ms. Peña. Ms. M. Pena stated, yes oh, just real quick before you and this is not in any way, shape, or form to hurt anyone, but we need to be fair. What we do for the goose we do for the gander. That's the only quote I know. Mr. Elizondo stated, go ahead, sir yes, you had something to say. **Mr. Barrera stated, sure, if I may just to Ms. Garza, we did recommend originally for the compensation plan a 3,000 stipend for the assistance.** Ms. Garza stated, which was approved. **Mr. Barrera which was approved yes.**

Motion was made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Denise Garza, and unanimously carried to recommend approval, tabling agenda Item X. A. 19, to revise pages 12 and 15 of the 2026-2027 Employee Compensation Plan. (7-0-0)

20. Recommend approval to renew annual 2026-2027 District Membership Fees for Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) \$11,000.00 and TASB Legal Assistant Fund \$500.00 for an approximate amount of \$11,500.00.
21. Recommend approval of the Communities Foundation of Texas-Educate Texas P-TECH Support Subgrant in an amount of up to \$65,000.00. *
22. Recommend approval to authorize the Benavides Elementary School Parking Lot Lighting Project as substantially complete.
23. Recommend approval to authorize the Lopez Early College High School Intercom Upgrades under CSP#25-081, as substantially complete.
24. Recommend approval of the SpaceX scholarship donation in the amount of \$100,000.00 to award ten scholarships in the amount of \$10,000.00 per student as selected by SpaceX. No cost to the District. *

B. Recommend approval of the following Payment(s):

1. Recommend the approval of payments for construction services and/or engineering services throughout the District in the total amount of ~~\$1,823,887.55~~ \$1,730,387.55.

Amendment: **Page 1 will be replaced with Page 1a**
 Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a
 Pages 101 – 106 will be deleted from agenda backup

Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, Motion to approve. Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board Member stated second. Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board President stated, Ma'am, real quick, this is mine. Like always, I always want the public just to be aware of what we're paying and it could be very brief. **Ms. Rosario Pena, Assistant Superintendent for Administration/Finance stated, yes sir I'm going to go through**

each of the vendors and with the dollar amounts that we're paying for each. Green Rubiano Associates, \$140,000 Gomez Mendez Saenz, \$6,635.05, Hellas Construction, \$110,122.81, Hellas Construction, again, \$511,495.20, Texas Chiller Systems, I have two payments, one for \$28,674.89 and another one for \$22,177.95, Texas Chillers, two more payments. The previous was for Pullum now it's for Hanna. One for \$130,827.35, \$36,347.38; Arnold Refrigeration Incorporated, \$251,006.02; ERO Architects, I have two payments, one for \$20,748.65 another one for \$28,800; Scoggins Construction, I have two payments, \$175,769 and another one for \$221,003.25; Two payments to RZB incorporating doing business as Global Electric. One for \$43,324.75; and the last payment is for \$3,455.25. Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board President stated, thank you anybody have any questions? Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, yes. You mentioned the 93,500 on the Carrier, the last one, commercial. **Ms. R. Pena stated, that was replacement, we took off that payment.** Ms. M. Pena stated, okay, so that one is not. **Ms. R. Pena stated, that was that's a replacement page.** Ms. M. Pena stated, okay, so but all of this is for projects for schools, for chillers, and the Sams Stadium. Everything that is very necessary to keep our schools up to par and safe for our students and our staff, am I correct. **Ms. R. Pena stated, that is correct, ma'am.** Ms. M. Pena stated, thank you.

Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Daniella Lopez Valdez, and unanimously carried to recommend the approval of payments for construction services and/or engineering services throughout the District in the total amount of \$1,730,387.55. (7-0-0)

C. Recommend approval of Budget Amendment(s):

1. Recommend approval of Budget Amendment #001 in the amount of \$524,066.00 for Fund 167 - Teacher Incentive Allotment. (Carryover Budget)

Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, Motion to approve. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated second. Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board President stated, Ms. Grantland, this is your item. Ms. Neida Ruth Grantland, Board Member stated, no. I had my question answered already.

Motion made by Denise Garza, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, and unanimously carried to recommend approval of Budget Amendment #001 in the amount of \$524,066.00 for Fund 167 - Teacher Incentive Allotment. (Carryover Budget)

2. Recommend approval of Budget Amendment #002 in the amount of \$7,099,001.00 for Local Funds E-Rate. (Carryover Purchase Order Budget – Assigned Fund Balance)
3. Recommend approval of Budget Amendment #003 in the amount of \$29,832,400.00 for Fund 197 – Projects. (Unassigned Fund Balance of \$8,702,400.00 and Assigned Fund Balance of \$21,130,000.00)

Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated Motion to approve. Ms. Neida Ruth Grantland, Board Member stated, no I had a question and got it answered already (inaudible). Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board Member stated second. Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board President stated, Mr. Ortiz has a question has a question. Go ahead. Mr.

Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, just a question here. The unassigned fund balance from \$8.8 million, where's it coming from? **Mr. R. Pena stated, your unassigned fund balance, which for discussion purposes, we're going to go back to the budgeted, remember, we adopted a budget with a \$23 million deficit, bringing down our total fund balance to right about \$90 million when we adopted the budget. These projects, the \$8 million, sir were from a list that we provided during the budget workshop that totaled about \$21 million. We were able to find some money already assigned to do the major projects. Two projects we could not complete using the assigned fund balance. So, of the \$21 million that we had presented during the Budget Workshop, \$8 million now has to come from unassigned rather than the entire \$21 million. Because we had already assigned some monies in previous years for the projects. So, the two projects that were left over to be completed were the Ortiz Chiller systems and the Rivera. HVAC system for a total of \$8.7. So if I take that from the unassigned, that would leave us roughly with \$81 million. Now. We haven't closed our year, we haven't closed the books. We have not received the entire state payments. I will be coming to the Board, and if I may, Dr. Cuff, mention what we had talked about. What I want to do is present not only budget time, sir, but I would like to have budget workshops throughout the year so that I can give you an overview of how the district currently stands. If we're going to be able to recoup some of that money through the state payments, or what other direction we need to go prior to adopting the budget for the following year. I would like to keep the board informed. And so I cannot state right now that it's going to be exactly \$81 million because as of today, we don't know. How the year is going to end. What we do know is that these two projects will need to come from the assigned fund balance, the unassigned fund balance, I am sorry. Now, we would also, and what we're doing right now, Mr. Ortiz, as well is we're bringing the budget amendments prior to these projects getting started. Previous administration would bring the budget amendments after the projects had been approved, and that would take longer for us to get started. So, what we're doing here is trying to do all the projects, bring them over to the budget side, and have them ready. When the time comes to start working on these projects the budget already exists, and we don't have to wait to come to the Board and delay the project. Yes, the \$8.7 will need to come out of the Unassigned Fund Balance sir.** Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, now that worries me, especially with the number you threw out there puts us at about \$81 million and that's pretty scary. It concerns me a lot. **Dr. Timothy Cuff, Superintendent stated, may I add something? Mrs. Pena and I, it's an expression, have been joined at the hip since I started because I'm very concerned about our budget. But with that said, I want to make sure everything is tried to be as seamless as we can in this endeavor. Two things, we want to keep the Board up to speed on what we're doing and we want to be transparent and that's my goal for not only the Board but the community because we're talking a lot of money and we're talking this, the cameras are on, the TV is on and people are watching and I want to make sure that we're very transparent to not only you but to our community to know where our money is going and to what it's being spent on everybody has a right to know. And I want to thank Ms. Pena because she's working hand in hand with me as the new Superintendent. We're both kind of new here, you know. And so we want this to be very, very open to all of you. And like Mr. Ortiz said, some of these numbers are scary. And we want to make sure that we're all on the same page moving forward into 26-27. So that's Ms. Pena thank you for bringing that to our attention and thank you**

to the Board for listening to where we're at. And we'll continue to do this under my watch as Superintendent. Mr. Elizondo stated, well, thank you, Dr. Cuff. you've taken a big burden and thank you, Ms. Pena as well. Hold on. I just want to let you guys know thank you for being here transparent. The public deserves this okay and our community deserves this. **Ms. R. Pena state yes sir of course.** Mr. Elizondo stated, Ms. Pena go ahead. Ms. Grantland stated I was next. Mr. Elizondo stated, Ms. Grantland why do I keep bypassing you? Ms. Grantland stated, sorry you're not noticing me because I am to far away. Mr. Elizondo stated, it's because you're black and black. Ms. Grantland stated, I just want to point out that what you're proposing to do with that money is not frivolous. It's necessary and it's essential for our district and that puts us all in a very scary position. I get that. I just want to point out that we're trying to be very frugal. We're trying to be good stewards of the budget we have. And it is very, very thin ice. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, Ms. Grantland, Ms. Pena. Ms. M. Pena stated, and one thing that I wanted to mention, and I know we need, there's funds that we have to use because the job has to get done. And I want to make sure that, because I've heard this for many, many, many, years, we have grants in the grants department that can turn around and take care of this project and not cost nothing from our fund balance, but it kind of gets overlooked where the people, because I asked why, and the people that were doing too much paperwork. Excuse me. I want to write and fill out every paper I need to. I want to get a grant in the millions to help my students. So, can we make sure that we at that, and where the grants can cover all these expenses that we're doing for our schools and our teachers, that we go the grant route, and if someone says, "Well I don't want to fill out all that paperwork." Then can you please find another job, no offense. I need someone that can fill out this paperwork again. **Dr. Cuff stated, may I address Ms. Pena?** Mr. Elizondo stated, did you want to say something, Ms. Lopez? Or do you want Mr. Cuff to answer? Go ahead, sir, and then. **Dr. Cuff stated, I haven't been to the Grants Department yet 'because I've been at schools. But rest assured, Thursday or Friday the Grants Department and I will meet and we'll have a try to have a game plan moving forward. Because I'm very familiar with grants and I know that grants can be very helpful to a district, but we have to watch what kind of grant we're writing because just because we're writing it, there are matching funds that we have to do. So there's all different kinds of grants. But we'll look at the grants that will improve BISD without having us to go forward and pay anything for the grant or put money into the (inaudible). Because obviously we're, like she said, we're tight, you know, we're thin ice, but we'll do what we can. So, I'll be at grants Thursday or Friday.** Ms. M. Pena stated, thank you because the Woodlands, I have friends there and they do a lot of grants that we miss, and they have a lot more money than we do in our community. So please look in it. Mr. Elizondo stated, point taken. Thank you, Ms. Lopez. Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board Member stated, thank you. Again, obviously, these are very important renovations. I mean, this is just to make sure that our kids have a roof over their heads, and we don't want any emergencies to happen. Especially with HVACs. Dr. Cantu, can you just please refresh me? This was all part of the bond, right? These were all projects on the bond that were immediate that needed to be done, and these were the ones that were of most need. **Dr. Nellie Cantu, Assistant Superintendent for Operations stated, are you talking? It's not working. So are you talking about the ones that are assigned or unassigned?** Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, I think right here I'm seeing HVAC modifications, PACE, I know PACE was for sure on the bond. You know, all of these, Ortiz replacement project, HVAC project, roof replacement (inaudible). **Dr. Cantu stated there are some in here, you are correct ma'am, in the sense that they**

were discussed during the bond and there was a need already identified during that time. However, I know that there were some projects that had assigned budgets. For example, the Pace Gym floor, that's something that just came out. And so there's some, you've got a combination here, but you are correct in the sense that there are some that were included during the bond process. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, thank you. Mr. Elizondo stated, Ms. Garza, go ahead, ma'am. Ms. Garza stated, thank you Mr. Elizondo and I just wanted to just mention out their Dr. Cuff I know I have brought some ideas to you right we're thinking outside the box you know to try to find like monies out there that don't impact our budget. Dr. Cuff was you know he listened and we're going to look for other ways that we can find money. That does not impact our budget again so thank you, Dr. Cuff for sitting with me and seeing what route we can take moving forward.

Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Daniella Lopez Valdez, and unanimously carried to recommend approval of Budget Amendment #003 in the amount of \$29,832,400.00 for Fund 197 – Projects. (Unassigned Fund Balance of \$8,702,400.00 and Assigned Fund Balance of \$21,130,000.00) (7-0-0)

D. Recommend approval of the following Contract(s)/Agreement(s):

1. Recommended approval to enter into Inter-Local Cooperation Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding between the Cameron County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program and the Brownsville Independent School District for 2026-2027 school year. A total estimated fiscal implication not to exceed \$40,000.00 for the 2026-2027 school year is anticipated. * **(Consent Agenda)**
2. Recommend approval to enter into Agreement with Cameron County Community Service Centers and School Districts to provide Adult Basic Education/Adult Secondary Education, High School Equivalency, English as Second Language and, certification for in demand occupations classes for the 2026-2027 school year at no cost to the District. **(Consent Agenda)**
3. Recommend approval of the ratification for the AEFLA Federal Adult Education funds in the amount of \$1,429,412.00 for BISD Fund 309/TWC Fund 231 - AEFLA Federal Adult Education Fund for the 2026-2027 school year at no cost to the district. Any subsequent funding amendments received during the remainder of the grant cycle will be accepted and incorporated as appropriate. **(Consent Agenda)**
4. Recommend approval of the ratification of Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE) funds in the amount of \$553,399.00 for BISD Fund 220/TWC Fund 243 for the 2026–2027 school year, at no cost to the district. Any subsequent funding amendments received during the remainder of the grant cycle will be accepted and incorporated as appropriate. *

Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, Motion to approve. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, Second. Mr. Elizondo stated, Ms. Pena, that was yours. Ms. Pena stated I got the question answered.

Motion made by Denise Garza, seconded by Minerva Pena, and unanimously carried to recommend approval of the Recommend approval of the ratification of Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE) funds in the amount of \$553,399.00 for BISD Fund 220/TWC Fund 243 for the 2026–2027 school year, at no cost to the district. Any subsequent funding amendments received during the remainder of the grant cycle will be accepted and incorporated as appropriate. * (7-0-0)

5. Recommend approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between Brownsville Independent School District and the Brownsville Wellness Coalition to support school vegetable garden initiatives for the period of August 2026 through July 2027, unless terminated earlier as provided in the agreement. No cost to the District. * **(Consent Agenda)**
6. Recommend approval to renew a Memorandum of Understanding between Texas A& M University and Brownsville ISD to implement the Advise TX College Advising Corps at all BISD high school and ECHS campuses for 2026-2027 school year. The total cost to the District is \$105,000.00. ***(Consent Agenda)**
7. Recommend approval to renew a Memorandum of Understanding between the Brownsville Independent School District and Behavioral Health Solutions of South Texas Your Prevention Program for implementation of their educational programs for reducing alcohol and substance abuse among youth in secondary schools during 2026-2027 school year. No cost to the District. * **(Consent Agenda)**

Discussion – X. A. 7 & 8 on agenda item X. A. 13

8. Recommend approval to renew the Memorandum of Understanding between the Brownsville Independent School District and Tropical Texas Behavioral Health for student mental health services for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years. No cost to the District. ***(Consent Agenda)**

Discussion – X. A. 7 & 8 on agenda item X. A. 13

9. Recommend approval to renew the Memorandum of Understanding between the Brownsville Independent School District and the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Department of Counseling to provide practicum/internship sites on BISD school campuses for students pursuing a graduate degree in Guidance and Counseling for the 2026-2027 school year with automatic renewal for subsequent years unless a written notice of termination of the agreement is provided by either party. No cost to the District. * **(Consent Agenda) 6-0-1**

Note: Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member abstained

10. Recommend approval to renew the Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley AmeriCorps and Brownsville Independent School District for the purpose of providing AmeriCorps access to BISD campuses to assist students with the college planning and enrollment services for the 2026-2027 school year. No cost to the District. ***(Consent Agenda) 6-0-1**

Note: Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member abstained

11. Recommend approval to renew the Memorandum of Understanding between the Childrens Advocacy Centers of Cameron & Willacy Counties and Brownsville ISD to provide educational services to students in PreK to 12th grades for the 2026-2027 school year with an automatic annual renewal unless terminated in writing by either party. No cost to the District. * **(Consent Agenda)**
12. Recommend approval to renew the Memorandum of Understanding between Brownsville ISD and the Cameron County Juvenile Justice Department to provide court-ordered counseling to BISD secondary students on BISD campuses during the school day for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years. No cost to the District. * **(Consent Agenda)**
13. Recommend approval of the Interest Free Bona Fide Loan in the amount of \$5,000,000.00 to be repaid over a three (3) year term beginning with Payment #1 - \$1,667,000.00 on August 4, 2027, Payment #2 - \$1,667,000.00 on August 4, 2028 and Payment #3 - \$1,666,000.00 on August 4, 2029 (Final Installment). Indirect costs will not be charged during the loan period in order to maximize available resources.

Discussion – X. A. 7 & 8

Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated, real quick were seven and eight also circled by, I'm sorry, just. **Ms. Patricia Perez, Executive Assistant stated, I didn't have that one, sir.** Ms. Neida Ruth Grantland, Board Member stated, yes sir. Mr. Elizondo stated, right. Ms. Grantland stated, and it is basically just a question because I don't have necessarily a question. Mr. Elizondo stated, hold on, just reframe, just to make sure that-- Okay. Legal? *Mr. Eden Ramirez, Board Attorney stated, I didn't have-- I was going with Ms. Pat circles.* **Ms. Perez stated, I didn't have them but we'll circle them.** *Mr. Ramirez stated, but if we voted on it--* Mr. Elizondo stated, yes, I had seven with Ms. Grantland I had 7 with Ms. Grantland and 8 I think also Ms. Grantland. Ms. Grantland stated, my question won't affect the vote. *Mr. Ramirez stated, okay, so it's already voted on but we can still bring it up if you all just wanted to address.* Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, and that's what he said, you missed some and she said-- Mr. Elizondo stated, that's okay, let me see if we can get this taken care of. Go ahead Ms. Grantland, if you don't have any questions on the vote. Go ahead and state your statement. Ms. Grantland stated, no, the vote is fine. At the moment, I wanted to ask this question because I think these are very good programs. I just wonder do we get any feedback from these agencies on trends that they find I know that HIPPA, you know, keeps them from giving us details. But trends that they find in the people they serve in our district so that we can be supportive of whatever needs to happen in terms of counseling or in terms of other services that we may have that we can, you know, partner up with, because I think this is a really good thing. But I don't know that we're using it as powerfully as we could. Mr. Elizondo stated, this is a great program and by just voting on it, you've already empowered them to do great things for our kids and I'll let you know why because I see it on the other end just so you know, how impactful this kind of program is for our students. Ms. Grantland stated, yeah. I recognize that. Mr. Elizondo stated, so just by voting for it, you've already done a great job. Ms. Grantland stated, I recognize that but I just wondered because I see so many things in our campuses and so I just wondered it would give us better insights as to where we need to support our campuses. That was just a comment. Mr. Elizondo stated, and one of the advocates will tell you, you're doing a great job by allowing these programs to continue

being. Ms. Grantland stated, yeah, they're great. Mr. Elizondo stated, any other questions? Thank you.

Mr. Elizondo stated, we'll be on 13. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, Motion to approve. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, second so we can get information then, like Ms. Grantland would like? Mr. Elizondo stated, 100% they can always refer to you and maybe give you an update of how this program is working for us. (inaudible). Mr. Elizondo stated, perfect Thank you. We have a question here, Ms. Ortiz. Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, yeah, 13 is mine. I know that we all heard the presentation that was made earlier and some of the recommendations that were made earlier as well. So, Ms. Pena what is it? This is a three-year loan. It's going to take three years before we get the 5 million back. So, do we have a three-year plan on how we're going to closely monitor this, and what do we have a plan to ensure that this doesn't happen again? **Ms. Rosario Pena, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Finance stated, Mr. Ortiz, if I may, we are going to be, like Ms. Ocañas Lerma mentioned, she's going to be coming back on a monthly basis to guide us in the right direction, meaning to make recommendations. I know that Ms. Cruz and her team are actively working right now to ensure that those recommendations that she has provided to us are being followed. Again, on the staffing portion, we are going to accommodate the staff. We also want them to know that we are not going to RIF anybody and we're not going to take away any jobs. We're going to do everything in our power to be able to move them around. We are confident, Ms. Ortiz that Ms. Cruz and her team will be able to perform to the degree that the consultant will be recommending and, on our end, on the Finance end, I know that we have directed one of our coordinators and of course together with our Finance Director, they will be also monitoring their activity. Unfortunately, I don't think that was done in the past, but we are ensuring that moving forward we are going to monitor them at least on a monthly basis to ensure that the reimbursements are being done on time and that they're at par with the MPLH program that Ms. Ocañas Lerma has recommended as market standards. Mr. Ortiz stated, and that was my question besides following the consultant's recommendation what is it that we as a district are doing on top of that? Ms. R. Pena stated, and we just also hired for Ms. Cruz a Finance Coordinator. Welcome. And so she is already actively working with the team to ensure that this gets resolved. And does not happen again. Mr. Elizondo stated, beautiful. Mr. Ortiz stated, that is all of the questions that I have. Dr. Timothy Cuff, Superintendent stated, can I add something sir. We have been meeting already. We've met already in the two weeks I've been here, three times, I think. And so, Food Service is very high on my priority list. And so, we're going to set up a two-week every two weeks. I know she's mentioning a month but I'm going to make it two weeks because this is very serious. We're talking \$1.6 million per year for three years, right? So we're going to be watching everything as far as the number of personnel we have. We'll be watching any resignations we may have. We'll be watching indirect costs, everything that goes with food service. And Jackie's on board. And so we're going to be meeting. In doing so, then we need to bring you back our checks and balances of what we're doing. You know, I don't want to let this go. I don't want you to come back in December and say, where are we? We haven't heard from you. So,**

we're going to come back. And I'd like come back each month. Put something on the agenda. We'll figure that out with Pat and with y'all to make sure that you understand and you know where we're coming from in this area. Because \$5 million is a lot of money over three years. And they're paying us back, you know? So, I want to make sure we stay on target. I don't want us to deviate. Mr. Ortiz stated, I like that sir, I like that, sir, that you're going to bring it down to two weeks instead of every month as well. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you. Yes, go ahead we'll start on my left. Ms. Gonzalez. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, just to kind of piggyback on what Dr. Cuff was just saying, my concern continues to be participation and what are we doing to increase it. So if we're going to get biweekly updates, weekly updates or monthly updates, whenever it is that we get those updates, I would like to see participation charts per campus. Because I want to see which campuses are growing, which campuses are going down, and I'd be curious as far as how attendance and obviously attendance is going to matter, testing, all that. So I would really like in those updates, if you could please include participation per campus, I would really appreciate it. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you, Ms. Garza. Mr. Ortiz stated, just something real quick they don't use clickers anymore, they use the student IDs. Okay. All right. I knew that. I just wanted to go there. Ms. Garza stated, thank you Mr. Garza. Ms. Pena just a recommendation as you mentioned, right, about no RIFs. And I'm pretty sure you have all heard every Board member up here say we don't want a RIF. So, as we're speaking about that and we're talking about reassigning some of our staff to other locations, I just want to make sure that the communication is clear with our staff members, right? That they understand that of course they have a job, but due to, you know, the financial situation of the department, this is happening, right? So I just want to make sure that when that time comes to meet with our staff, there is that clear, compassionate, empathetic communication. **Ms. R. Pena stated, yes, ma'am. Of course.** Mr. Elizondo stated, Mr. Garza? Mr. Ortiz do you have anything to say; Ms. Pena go ahead. Ms. M. Pena stated, yes and I know it was difficult because everything went up in price. The food we needed; without food we don't have the need for a cafeteria. That really hurt us. And I was going to ask I know that they have breakfast and see how many kids go to breakfast but I saw that at some schools they're looking at feeding the children in the classroom as opposed to waking up in the morning like for example junior high as time doesn't start I don't know about you but I'm not hungry at 7 o'clock in the morning well that's you but not me so that means that half of the people here's 50% will get up to go eat, while the other 50 is going to go to first period and not eat, but going to be starving by second period because they want to eat something. So I know some programs are being implemented to see that we get the same credit if we feed the students in the classroom as opposed to them getting in line in the cafeteria. **Ms. R. Pena stated, Ms. Pena if I may confirm with Ms. Cruz, there is something called second chance breakfast. Ms. Cruz, if you'd like to elaborate.** Mr. Elizondo stated, Ms. Cruz, yes, come on up. I know that you were, it looked like a kindergarten over there jiggling. I got to say something. **Ms. Jackie Cruz, Director of Food & Nutrition Services stated, yes, no, that is correct thank you, President Elizondo, Dr. Cuff, and Board members, that is something that we're looking at as dieticians. We have realized that evidence-based research does indicate that children in the middle school and the high school grade levels do not want to eat as much in the first thing in the morning. So, I will give props to Ms. Benita Villarreal at Garcia**

Middle School. We tried the second period breakfast during the SEL period and our participation probably increased by 300 meals per day. So that is something at the high schools, because they don't start until about 8:45, we're going to be able to then feed them in the classroom. We're hoping if everybody agrees to that, and we can meet with Dr. Rubio on that with the secondary schools, and Ms. Longoria did support this over at Garcia. And we've tried that at other campuses, so I think you'll see that. And because now they will be getting to work a little bit later, that is also going to have a domino effect on the fact that we're not going to be having to pay maybe as much overtime for the supper. But that is something that we are looking to do and so I really appreciate your confidence in this. We have already been working closely with the Human Resources Department. I want to thank them. We have started to reassign some custodians to the campuses. And I think that you can see by the 50 vacancies that we have, which is about \$1.8 million in savings that we have done as much as we can to not hire. We are going to go back to run a report because. I'd like to see, you know, have we hired in the, but that I know of we haven't been hiring lately. So we are looking at that. We are going to also make sure that we utilize staff. But I think the fact that we're also, I want to thank the Purchasing Department procurement because we are now moving over to Choice Partners and that's going to, we've already put, we conducted a top 20, including a 3 to 4 inflation on food and we're probably going to save anywhere from three quarters to a million dollars just on that alone. So I think you're going to see that there are going to be savings. That are realized and hopefully we'll be able to-- just with the increase at the high schools and the middle schools that we will also be able to increase productivity and therefore the number of excess staff should reduce. Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you ma'am; Ms. Grantland. Ms. M. Pena stated question. Mr. Elizondo stated, Ms. Grantland was next. Ms. Pena stated, I'm not finished, I have two-- please. Mr. Elizondo stated, you'll comment after her question. Ms. M. Pena stated, no, it's not a comment it's a question for her. I'm not finished. Thank you. And here's my concern, and I want to make sure that we do this, because is this something that a principal has to approve for you to do it or is it something that the superintendent can ask to please do it because you know every principal has a different mindset and that is, that I want to eat in the morning that's their problem no no no no no, we're going to do the benefit for the students. So my question is to you this is a great idea and like they're doing it Garcia if this is implemented does the principal have the authority say no I don't want that. **Dr. Cuff stated, I will just say that if it's good for kids, number one, and we're doing what's right we will implement it everywhere that we need to implement it. We need to think out of the box. And this is exactly what we need to do to bring this money back and work with the kids. And the second chance does that. So this is all that boils down to. Sometimes we can't just keep doing what we've been doing. Because we're going to get the same results. And so now it's time that we look out of the box. And if feeding them at second period works, then we'll do it. And we'll just tell our staff and our campuses, This works, we need to do it.** Ms. Pena stated, thank you for that, that's what I am looking for. Mr. Elizondo stated, Ms. Grantland. Mr. Elizondo stated, Ms. Grantland. **Dr. Cuff stated across the board.** Ms. Grantland stated, thank you Mr. President. I just would like to request that HR be very, very vigilant that whoever gets moved is moved with the procedures established in our

district, and that people are not moved just because. There is a process that's used and I would respectfully request that you stick to the process. Thank you.

Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Minerva Pena, and unanimously carried to recommend approval of the Interest Free Bona Fide Loan in the amount of \$5,000,000.00 to be repaid over a three (3) year term beginning with Payment #1 - \$1,667,000.00 on August 4, 2027, Payment #2 - \$1,667,000.00 on August 4, 2028 and Payment #3 - \$1,666,000.00 on August 4, 2029 (Final Installment). Indirect costs will not be charged during the loan period in order to maximize available resources. (7-0-0)

Ms. Gonzalez stated, Can I, Mr. Elizondo stated, can I just add, Dr. Cuff, on the report that we were talking about weekly, monthly, bi weekly, whenever it is. I'm really interested also in the numbers of the a la carte menu. I know cookies are a big hit and I believe they dwindle down even though they're not 25 cents anymore. That's a story for another day. But I would really be interested also per campus how their a la carte menus, I mean, money is coming in. **Dr. Cuff stated, what number of participants are on it?** Ms. Gonzalez stated, I guess dollar wise because. Because they come in dollar wise. Mr. Elizondo stated, maybe she has the answer for you right now. **Ms. Cruz stated, so just to let you know in terms of the participation this is something that Ms. Pena and I have discussed and we've worked on is that the meal participation that you will be getting will also compare last year to this year in terms of adjusted participation and enrollment and as far as the a la carte sales are concerned we do have that monetary money wise and as it is we have been looking at that too and you do see that there are some campuses where for the annual the whole year it's \$800 versus maybe \$11,000 for other campuses. We are working on offering more a la carte items, making sure that these items are also free of ingredients of concern because that is something that we are committing ourselves to with Senate Bill 314. You now see that the hot Cheetos are no longer containing the red 40. They're now having paprika. So all of that we're also taking into account. We're working with our vendors, our partners, manufacturers, yes we actually are looking for a cookie that is inexpensive because the kids do like that but we're trying to do as much as we can to also increase those sales.** Ms. Gonzalez stated, and that's what I was looking for who's selling 800 obviously I get enrollment numbers but who's selling 800 who's selling 11,000. **Ms. Cruz stated, we can provide that.**

14. Recommend approval to renew the Memorandum with Communities in Schools Cameron County, Brownsville, Texas, for Case Management Services for At-Risk and Economically Disadvantaged students for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years in the amount not to exceed \$480,000.00 from categorical funds. ***(Consent Agenda)**
15. Recommend approval to renew the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of Texas at Austin, The Language Learners at the University of Texas at Austin's Center for Hispanic Achievement (LUCHA) Program online courses, in the amount of \$130,000.00 for the 2026-2027 school year. Services to be rendered to the District's needs and funding. *** (Consent Agenda)**

16. Recommend approval to renew the AVID Memorandum of Agreement for the amount of \$42,220.00 from budgeted local and categorical funds for the 2026-2027 school year. Services and items to be purchased are subject to the District's needs and funding.
***(Consent Agenda)**

E. Recommend approval of the following Bid(s)/Proposal(s)/Purchase(s):

1. Recommend awarding RFP #27-001 General Merchandise Supplies, Services and Groceries District-wide to several vendors. The contract period will be in effect from August 04, 2026, through August 04, 2027. (Annual Proposal) **(Consent Agenda)**
2. Recommend awarding RFP #27-003 Achievement Awards and Incentives District-wide to several vendors. The contract period will be in effect from August 04, 2026, through August 04, 2027. (Annual Proposal) **(Consent Agenda)**
3. Recommend awarding RFP #27-005 Training Supplies and Equipment District-wide to several vendors. The contract period will be in effect from August 04, 2026, through August 04, 2027. (Annual Proposal) **(Consent Agenda)**
4. Recommend awarding RFP #27-010 Graduation and Honor District-wide to several vendors. The contract period will be in effect from August 04, 2026, through August 04, 2027. (Annual Proposal) **(Consent Agenda)**
5. Recommend awarding RFP #27-024 High School Marching Band Show Writing Services and Supplies District-wide to several vendors. The contract period will be in effect from August 04, 2026, through August 04, 2027. (Annual Proposal) **(Consent Agenda)**
6. Recommend awarding RFP #27-027 Special Education Services District-wide to several vendors. The contract period will be in effect from August 04, 2026, though August 04, 2027. (Annual Proposal) **(Consent Agenda)**
7. Recommend awarding RFP #27-046 Two Way Portable Radios, Supplies and Accessories District-wide to several vendors. The contract period will be in effect from August 04, 2026, through August 04, 2027. (Annual Proposal) **(Consent Agenda)**
8. Recommend awarding RFP #27-062 Motor Oil and Automotive Fluids District-wide to several vendors. The term of this contract is effective, from August 04, 2026 thru August 04, 2027, with the option to renew up to two (2) additional one (1) year periods if all parties are in agreement. Year one (1) of a three (3) year contract. **(Consent Agenda)**
9. Recommend awarding RFP #27-065 Fire Extinguisher Materials and Fire Suppressant System District-wide to several vendors. The term of this contract is effective, from August 04, 2026 thru August 04, 2027, with the option to renew up to two (2) additional one (1) year periods if all parties are in agreement. Year one (1) of a three (3) year contract. **(Consent Agenda)**

10. Recommend awarding RFP #27-068 Fumigation/Extermination and Herbicide Services District-wide to several vendors. The term of this contract is effective, from August 04, 2026 thru August 04, 2027, with the option to renew up to two (2) additional one (1) year periods if all parties are in agreement. Year one (1) of a three (3) year contract. **(Consent Agenda)**
11. Recommend awarding RFP #27-069 Asbestos and Mold Abatement Contract Services District-wide to several vendors. The term of this contract is effective, from August 04, 2026 thru August 04, 2027, with the option to renew up to two (2) additional one (1) year periods if all parties are in agreement. Year one (1) of a three (3) year contract. **(Consent Agenda)**
12. Recommend awarding RFP #27-070 Electrical Supplies and Materials District-wide to several vendors. The term of this contract is effective, from August 04, 2026 thru August 04, 2027, with the option to renew up to two (2) additional one (1) year periods if all parties are in agreement. Year one (1) of a three (3) year contract. **(Consent Agenda)**
13. Recommend awarding RFP #27-071 Electrical Contractor Services District-wide to several vendors. The term of this contract is effective, from August 04, 2026 thru August 04, 2027, with the option to renew up to two (2) additional one (1) year periods if all parties are in agreement. Year one (1) of a three (3) year contract. **(Consent Agenda)**

XI. Board Member Request(s)

A. Action Item(s)

1. Discussion and possible action in engaging Board Counsel in leading the BISD Board of Trustees in the development of required Board goals for the 2026-2027 scholastic year. (Board Agenda Request Neida Ruth Grantland/Board Support Minerva Pena)

Ms. Neida Ruth Grantland, Board Member stated, thank you, Mr. President. I think that it is imperative that with this new momentum that we have as a Board that we go ahead and focus on our goals in tandem with our Superintendent's Goals so that we can move forward in a very concerted way and with the same momentum that we seem to be developing at this point. Now I do, I am aware that our council has someone on staff that does that training and we actually have received training from that person before and he's an excellent, excellent person for the job. And so, I would like to see us get started on that as soon as possible. Mr. Elizondo stated, sure, I think you can bring up some names. And maybe we can figure out what a day is good for all of us. *Mr. Eden Ramirez, Board Attorney stated, sure. So we have three on staff that are all TEA certified. I think the one you're talking about, trustee, is Cinto Ramos, Dr. Ramos. I'll coordinate with him and coordinate with the Superintendent and the Board President on available dates and stuff so we can have a workshop for that.* Mr. Elizondo stated, then if each member can put a date and then we can pick the best one for all of us. Okay. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, and the date should be in the afternoon, right? Not during the day. *Mr. Ramirez stated, yeah whenever you all are available.* Mr. Elizondo whatever we agree to. Ms. Pena stated for those that work. *Mr. Ramirez stated, yeah and plus your meetings have to be after business hours. So it will be afternoon or weekends.* Mr. Elizondo stated, mine is at 4 in the morning. *Mr. Ramirez stated, we don't need a vote on it. I mean—*Mr. Elizondo stated, thank you.

Anybody else? Okay. Go ahead ma'am. **Ms. Patricia Perez, Executive Assistant stated, there'll be no action on this item?** Mr. Elizondo stated, yeah. No action.

XII. CLOSED MEETING: as pursuant to the Texas Government Code Sections: 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.082, and 551.084. (Action taken after Executive Session) 9:11 p.m.

A. LEVEL III GRIEVANCE(S):

1. Level III Grievance No.001/26-27 on E.S.

B. PERSONNEL MATTER(S):

1. Presentation of Retirements. (5)
2. Presentation Resignations. (11)
3. Personnel Update with Superintendent (Dr. Timothy E. Cuff)
- Item 3 Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a**
4. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Educational Diagnostician. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (6)
5. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year - Supervisor, Special Services. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (2)
6. Contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Assistant Band Director. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1)
7. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Athletic Coordinator. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1)
8. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Career Placement Officer. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)
9. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Counselor. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(4)
10. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Principal. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)
11. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Specialist, Curriculum At Risk. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)
12. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Assistant Director, Childcare. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)
13. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s)- Coordinator, Finance. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)

14. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s)- Coordinator, Support Programs. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)
Amendment: Page 20 will be replaced with Page 20a
Page 20b will be added to agenda backup
15. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s)- Director, Health Services. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)
Amendment: Will be deleted from agenda and back-up
16. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s)- Director, PEIMS. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)
17. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s)- Emergency Management Coordinator. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)
18. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - School Psychologist. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)
19. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - School Psychologist Intern. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)
20. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s)- Speech Language Pathologist Assistant. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(3)
21. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Speech Language Pathologist Intern. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(2)
22. Department professional staff for Chapter 21-Term contracts for the 2026-2027 School Year.
23. Compensation for Professional Employee (E.M.) on temporary assignment to be commensurate with the Elementary School Principal salary.
24. Campus Professional Employee (A.G.) for change in days and salary for the 2026-**2027** Fiscal School Year.
25. Campus Professional Employee (A.S.) for change in days and salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year.
26. Campus Professional Employee (G.M.L) for change in days and salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year.
27. Campus Professional Employee (L.D.M.) for change in days and salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year.
28. Campus Professional Employee (M.E.) for change in contract and salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year.

- 29. Campus Professional Employee (N.L.) for change in days and salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year.
- 30. Campus Professional Employee (N.S.) for change in days, change in salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year.
- 31. Campus Professional Employee (D.Y.) for change in salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year.
- 32. Campus Professional Employee (M.S.) for change in salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year.
- 33. Campus Professional Employee (S.D.) for change in salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year.
- 34. Campus Professional Employee (T.P.) for change in salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year.

C. ATTORNEY CONSULTATION

1. Staff Attorney

- a. Discussion regarding the University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley's signage for the former Longoria Elementary site.
- b. Discussion regarding TEA Docket No. 100-R1-05-2026; Vanessa Chavez vs. Brownsville Independent School District.
- c. Discussion regarding TEA Docket No. 225-LH-07-2026; Jose Vasquez vs. Brownsville Independent School District.
- d. Discussion regarding Civil Action No.1:26-cv-00658; Leonel Zuniga vs. Brownsville Independent School District.

2. Board Attorney:

- a. **Legal Update with Board Counsel.**

D. INTERNAL AUDITOR CONSULTATION

- 1. Consultation with Director of Internal Audit.

E. DISTRICT VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AUDIT REPORT:

- 1. Discussion of the findings of the District Vulnerability Assessment Audit Report.

F. REAL ESTATE:

- 1. Discussion of lease or sale of vacant District Facilities.

XIII. BOARD RECONVENES - Board action on agenda items discussed in Executive Session. 11:28 pm

A. LEVEL III GRIEVANCE(S):

1. Level III Grievance No.001/26-27 on E.S.

Mr. Eden Ramirez, Board Attorney stated, item XIII. A. no action needed.

B. PERSONNEL MATTER(S):

Motion made by Carlos Elizondo, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, and unanimously carried to recommend approval of agenda items XIII. B. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, as discussed in Executive Session. (7-0-0)

1. Presentation of Retirements. (5) **Diana, Castro, Mario Flores, Elsa L. Villarreal, Troy T. Whittemore, Maria I. Ybarra (G7-0-0)**
2. Presentation Resignations. (11)
Monica Alaniz, Roberto Baez, Shirley J. Blanco, Samuel DeLeon, Eva A. Gijon, Gilbert Hinojosa, Flor E. Mendiola, Tony Pineda, Elizabeth Quiones, Daniel A. Rodriguez, Ashley N. Villarreal (G7-0-0)
3. Personnel Update with Superintendent (Dr. Timothy E. Cuff) **(G7-0-0)**

Amendment: Item 3 Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a

4. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Educational Diagnostician. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (6)
Patricia Coronado, Yvette Lastra, Esmeralda Garcia-Barajas, Liliana Guajardo-Arroyo, Maria Coello, Rosemarie Hinojosa (G7-0-0)
5. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year - Supervisor, Special Services. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(2) **Linda Rodriguez, Amy Ruvalcaba (G7-0-0)**
6. Contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Assistant Band Director. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1) **Sergio Perez-Lopez ECHS (G7-0-0)**
7. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Athletic Coordinator. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1) **Jason Mendoza-Lucio MS (G7-0-0)**
8. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Career Placement Officer. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1)
Delia Anne Ramos – Lopez ECHS (G7-0-0)
9. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Counselor. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (4)
Andrew Morales-Martin Elem, Karen Guajardo-Ortiz Elementary, Alexa Tefertiller-Ortiz Elementary, Isis Perez DeRodriguez-Veterans ECHS (G7-0-0)

10. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Principal. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1)
Eduardo Martinez, Jr. – Paredes Elementary School(G7-0-0)
11. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Specialist, Curriculum At Risk. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1) **Maria Luna (G7-0-0)**
12. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Assistant Director, Childcare. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1)
Edna Ramirez-Vasquez-Lincoln Park School(G7-0-0)
13. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Coordinator, Finance. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1)
Adolfo Campos – Finance Department(G7-0-0)
14. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Coordinator, Support Programs. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1) (Dora Freeman) **(G7-0-0)**
Amendment: Item 14 Page 20 will be replaced with Page 20a
Page 20b will be added to agenda backup
15. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s)- Director, Health Services. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)
Amendment: Item 15 Will be deleted from agenda and back-up
16. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s)- Director, PEIMS. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1) **Petra Torres(G7-0-0)**
17. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s)- Emergency Management Coordinator. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)
Manuel Charles (G7-0-0)
18. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - School Psychologist. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1) **Vanessa Castillo(G7-0-0)**
19. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - School Psychologist Intern. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1) **Lisa Lucio(G7-0-0)**
20. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s)- Speech Language Pathologist Assistant. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(3)
Stefani Amador, Megan Garza, Jocelyn Jaramillo (G7-0-0)
21. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2026-2027 school year(s) - Speech Language Pathologist Intern. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(2)
Teresa Lerma, Mia Villarreal (G7-0-0)

22. Department professional staff for Chapter 21-Term contracts for the 2026-2027 School Year. **(G7-0-0)**
23. Compensation for Professional Employee (E.M.) on temporary assignment to be commensurate with the Elementary School Principal salary. **(G7-0-0)**
24. Campus Professional Employee (A.G.) for change in days and salary for the 2026-**2027** Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**
25. Campus Professional Employee (A.S.) for change in days and salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**
26. Campus Professional Employee (G.M.L) for change in days and salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**
27. Campus Professional Employee (L.D.M.) for change in days and salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**
28. Campus Professional Employee (M.E.) for change in contract and salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**
29. Campus Professional Employee (N.L.) for change in days and salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**
30. Campus Professional Employee (N.S.) for change in days, change in salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**
31. Campus Professional Employee (D.Y.) for change in salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**
32. Campus Professional Employee (M.S.) for change in salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**
33. Campus Professional Employee (S.D.) for change in salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**
34. Campus Professional Employee (T.P.) for change in salary for the 2026-2027 Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**

C. ATTORNEY CONSULTATION

1. Staff Attorney

- a. Discussion regarding the University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley's signage for the former Longoria Elementary site. **(No Action Taken)**
- b. Discussion regarding TEA Docket No. 100-R1-05-2026; Vanessa Chavez vs. Brownsville Independent School District. **(No Action Taken)**

- c. Discussion regarding TEA Docket No. 225-LH-07-2026; Jose Vasquez vs. Brownsville Independent School District. **(No Action Taken)**
- d. Discussion regarding Civil Action No.1:26-cv-00658; Leonel Zuniga vs. Brownsville Independent School District. **(No Action Taken)**

2. Board Attorney:

- a. **Legal Update with Board Counsel. (No Action Taken)**

D. INTERNAL AUDITOR CONSULTATION

- 1. Consultation with Director of Internal Audit. **(No Action Taken)**

E. DISTRICT VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AUDIT REPORT:

- 1. Discussion of the findings of the District Vulnerability Assessment Audit Report. **(No Action Taken)**

F. REAL ESTATE:

- 1. Discussion of lease or sale of vacant District Facilities. **(No Action Taken)**

XIV. Announcement(s):

Dr. Timothy Cuff, Superintendent stated, yes, I have some very important announcements. Number one, belatedly, I guess that's the word I'm making up belatedly at 11:30 at night. I would like to wish Mr. Ortiz a belated happy birthday. That was on August 2nd, Sunday. So, congratulations. Happy birthday. Now, I'm not stopping at Mr. Ortiz because I got another one coming up and that is Ms. Gonzalez, who has a birthday on August 6th. All right, for our community that is still up watching, that's great. We want to welcome you to Meet the Teacher Nights coming up on August 5th, which is tomorrow, Wednesday. Our high schools will be having our Meet the Teacher Night at 5:30. I hope all of our Board members can join us out there. On Thursday Meet the Teacher Night is elementary 5:30. Tonight is elementary, 5:30. And on Friday, meet the teacher, middle schools, 5:30. We want to also invite all of our Board members to the Back to School Fair, 8 am at CAB on Saturday. We're going to be giving out a whole bunch of stuff haircuts. The whole shebang. I think backpacks too. Don't forget, August 10th is the first day of school, guys. And on August 27th, that's a Thursday, there'll be a Meet and Greet with myself at 9:30 in the morning in the boardroom. So, we got some good activities coming up. We invite all of our parents to meet the meet the teacher night. Great time to meet the teachers and say hello. So, with that in mind, that's what I have as updates.

XV. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Minerva Pena, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, and unanimously carried to recommend approval to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 11:32 p.m. (7-0-0)

➤ **There being no further business appearing before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.**

(HANDOUTS ADDED TO OFFICIAL MINUTES)

**(AUDIO/VIDEO TAPES OF THE OPEN MEETING AND THE WRITTEN CERTIFIED AGENDA
OF THE CLOSED MEETING ARE ON FILE)**

Approved by: _____
Carlos Elizondo, President of the Board
Date

Attested by: _____
Minerva Pena, Secretary of the Board
Date

Notes: Font style designation

Board of Trustees
Administration
Board Attorney
Staff Attorney
Speaker/Presenter

(Minutes presented at Regular Board Meeting held on October 6, 2026)