

UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Bill Johnson Student Activity Complex, Auditorium,
5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, Texas 78043

MINUTES – REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, August 19, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: *Ramiro Veliz, Javier Montemayor, Gilbert Aguilar and Rudy Gonzalez. Michelle Molina arrived at approximately 6:10 PM and Aliza F. Oliveros and Dianelle Martinez at 6:13 PM*

DISTRICT STAFF: *Dr. Gerardo Cruz, Rebecca Morales, David Canales, Laida Benavidez, and Mike Garza*

AGENDA ITEM 1: Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

Board President calls roll. Quorum is established at 6:02 PM

AGENDA ITEM 2:

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/HONOR THE TEXAS FLAG

AGENDA ITEM 3: Public Comments

Jonathan Cortazo: Mr. Cortazo is an Athletic Trainer for UISD and is here today to speak on Agenda Item 7A: Adoption of Official Budget for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year. Mr. Cortazo states that he understands the current issues the District is going through but he is here to speak openly about how these financial constraints are directly impacting student safety on fields and courts. He states that with the current shortage of Athletic Trainers (AT) the remaining ATs are being stretched beyond a safe capacity. Mr. Cortazo respectfully requests that significant consideration be given to addressing this wage and workload imbalance as the budget is finalized.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Informational Items

A. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cruz reports on the following items:

- Exceeding the District's student enrollment projections. The District's strategic planning set an initial target of 38,250 students for this current year and as of August 19th UISD has 38,608 students in classrooms.
- Maintaining top tier academic standing with the Texas Education Agency, United ISD has officially maintained it's 7th A for the seventh year

AGENDA ITEM 5: Consent Agenda

- A. Budget Amendments
- B. Monthly Disbursements
- C. Awarding Bids, Proposals, Qualifications, and Extensions
- D. Submission of Appraisal Roll to the Governing Body
- E. Submission of the 2025 Certified Excess Dept Taxes Collected and the 2026 Anticipated Collection Rate
- F. Additions/Revisions/Deletions of Local Policies resulting from the Policy Review Session conducted on June 23-24, 2026, with drafts prepared by TASB Policy Service
- G. List of Proposed Library Books for Acquisition
- H. Overview and possible approval of the Laredo College and United ISD Dual Enrollment MOU (2026-2031)
- I. Consideration and possible action to rename United High School's Technical School to Andy Rosas School of Diesel Technology

Motion to approve Agenda Items A-I with the exception of Item C: RFP-2026-19 (Financial Advisor Services) be set for the September 2nd presentations. Motioned Second by Ramiro Veliz. All in favor, motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Public Hearing regarding the 2026-2027 Budget and Proposed 2026 Tax Rate

Motion to open the Public Hearing made by Michelle Molina and second by Ramiro Veliz, all in favor, motion passes.

The Public Hearing is now open, there are no public comments.

Motion to close the Public Hearing made by Michelle Molina and second by Gilbert Aguilar, all in favor, motion carries.

For the record, the Public Hearing is now closed.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Items for Individual Consideration

A. Adoption of Official Budget for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year

Motion for discussion made by Michelle Molina and second by Rudy Gonzalez, all in favor, motion carries.

B. Resolution to Adopt 2026 Tax Rate

Motion to approve made by Aliza F. Oliveros and second by Gilbert Aguilar and Rudy Gonzalez, all in favor, motion passes.

C. Consider the approval for the 2026-2027 school year to delegate contractual authority to obligate the District under Texas Education Code (TEC) 11.1511 (c) (4) to the Superintendent, solely for the purpose of obligating the District under TEC 48.257 and TEC, Chapter 49, Subchapters A and D, and the rules adopted by the Commissioner of Education as authorized under TEC 49.006 and approval of the agreement for the purchase of attendance credit

For the 2026-2027 school year, we delegated contractual authority to obligate the school district under Texas Education Code (TEC) §11.1511(c)(4) to the superintendent, solely for the purpose of obligating the district under TEC, §48.257 and TEC, Chapter 49, Subchapters A and D, and the rules adopted by the commissioner of education as authorized under TEC, 49.006. This included approval of the Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit (Netting Chapter 48 Funding).

Motion to approve made by Aliza F. Oliveros and second by Gilbert Aguilar for discussion. All in favor, motion carries.

D. Approval of Board Minutes for the Month of July 2026

Motion to approve made by Michelle Molina and second by Gilbert Aguilar. Aliza F. Oliveros abstains from voting, motion carries.

E. Approval of Donations

Motion to approve made by Aliza F. Oliveros and second by Michelle Molina. All in favor, motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM 8: The Board will adjourn into Closed Session pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act

The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 6:24 PM

A. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney; Closed Meeting

1. Superintendent's Duties and Responsibilities

B. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney; Closed Meeting TGC 551.074 Personnel Matters; Closed Meeting

1. Discussion regarding the appointment of Director of Alternative Education Program

2. Conduct Superintendent's annual evaluation with discussion regarding Superintendent's employment contract and matters incidental thereto

C. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney; Closed Meeting
TGC 551.072 Deliberation regarding Real Property; Closed Meeting

1. Legal Consultation and report on the status of the offer for sale of unimproved real property pursuant to BID Number 2026-014 Las Tiendas 165 Acre Tract as part of a sealed bid process pursuant to Section 11.154 of the Texas Education Code, and Section 272.001 of the Texas Local Government Code, and terms thereof, provided by the Board of Trustees of the United Independent School District, for the sale of two tracts of UISD real property totaling approximately 165.00 acres of land and easements appurtenant to such land located at the corner of Las Tiendas Road and Rancho Peñitas Road, 2.5 miles north of Mines Road and 7.5 miles north-west of Loop 20
2. Legal consultation and report on the status of the offer for sale of unimproved real property pursuant to BID Number 2026-015 Las Blancas 20.0647 Acre Tract as part of a sealed bid process under Section 11.154 of the Texas Education Code, and Section 272.001 of the Texas Local Government Code, the terms thereof, provided by the Board of Trustees of the United Independent School District, for the offer for sale of Lot Number TWO-A (2A), in Block Number ONE (1), Las Blancas Subdivision, Unit 2, and surrounding 16.87 Acre Tract in Las Blancas Subdivision
3. Legal Consultation and report regarding the possible issuance of a resolution by the Board of Trustees to initiate the process to offer for sale the surface only of Lots 1A and 2A, in Block Number One (1), in the James Haynes Industrial Park, Unit 1, a subdivision situated in the City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas as per Replat recorded in Volume 28, page 65, Webb County Plat records as well as an appurtenant sign lease
4. Legal consultation and report with respect to the process of selling improved real property by the United Independent School District

D. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney; Closed Meeting
TGC 551.076 Deliberation regarding Security Devices or Security Audits

1. Discussion regarding the annual review of the District Multi-hazard Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
2. Discussion regarding the Safety and Security Audit Final Report and the District Audit Survey, Audit Cycle 2023-2026

AGENDA ITEM 9: Reconvened from Closed Session, the Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session

*The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 7:24 PM.
For the record, no action was taken during Closed Session.*

AGENDA ITEM 9A: Possible action regarding Superintendent's evaluation and modification to Superintendent's employment contract

Recommendation by legal counsel is to approve as discussed in Closed Session and to modify the Superintendent's employment contract by amending it to add an additional one-year extension, to run through the end of August 2029. Motion to approve made by Aliza F. Oliveros, second by Rudy Gonzalez, all in favor, motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM 9B: Possible action regarding the appointment of Director of Alternative Education Program

Recommendation by Superintendent is Angel Ramos. Motion to approve made by Michelle Molina and second by Gilbert Aguilar, Dianelle Martinez opposed, motion passes.

AGENDA ITEM 9C: Possible action with respect to the offer for sale of unimproved real property pursuant to BID Number 2026.014 Las Tiendas 165 Acre Tract as part of a sealed bid process pursuant to Section 11.1542 of the Texas Education Code, and Section 272.001 of the Texas Local Government Code, and the terms thereof, provided by the Board of Trustees of the United Independent School District, for the sale of two tracks of UISD property totaling approximately 165.00 acres of land and easements appurtenant thereto, located at the corner of Las Tiendas Road and Rancho Peñitas Road, 2.5 miles north of Mines Road and 7.5 miles north-west of Loop 20, more particularly described in deed files of record in Vol. 3121, page 193 and deed filed in Vol. 3121, page 174 of the Official Public Records of Webb County, Texas

Recommendation by legal counsel is to reject the bid that was received as discussed in Closed Session. Motion moved by Aliza F. Oliveros, second by Gilbert Aguilar and Rudy Gonzalez, all in favor, motion passes.

AGENDA ITEM 9D: Possible action with respect to the offer for sale of unimproved real property pursuant to BID Number 2026-015 Las Blancas 20.0647 Acre Tract as part of a sealed bid process under Section 11.1542 of the Texas Education Code, and Section 272.001 of the Texas Local Government Code under terms provided by the Board of Trustees of the United Independent School District for the offer for sale of Lot Number TWO-A (2A) in Block Number One (1), Las Blancas Subdivision, Unit 2, and surrounding 16.87 Acre Tract in the Las Blancas Subdivision

Recommendation by legal counsel is to move take no action as discussed in Closed Session. Motion to approve made by Michelle Molina and second by Gilbert Aguilar, all in favor, motion passes.

AGENDA ITEM 9E: Possible action with respect to issuing a resolution to initiate the process to offer for sale the surface only of Lots 1A and 2A, in Block Number One (1), in the James Haynes Industrial Park, Unit 1, a subdivision situated in the City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas as per Replat recorded in Volume 28, page 65, Webb County Plat Records as well as an appurtenant sign lease

Recommendation by legal is to proceed with the resolution as discussed in Closed Session. Motion moved by Aliza F. Oliveros and second by Michelle Molina, all in favor, motion passes.

AGENDA ITEM 9F: Discussion and possible action regarding the annual review of the District Multi-hazard Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

Motion to approve made by Gilbert Aguilar and second by Rudy Gonzalez, all in favor, motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM 9G: Discussion and possible action regarding the Safety and Security Audit Final Report and the District Audit Survey, Audit Cycle 2023-2026

Motion to approve made by Michelle Molina, second by Javier Montemayor, all in favor, motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Regular Board Meeting of August 19, 2026 was adjourned at 7:31 P.M.

Javier Montemayor, Jr., President

Michelle Molina, Secretary

Minutes presented for approval on 10/21/2026

Minutes submitted by Maribel Villarreal, Secretary to Superintendent