AGENDA ITEM 9.C.

RE: Annual Update on General Education (Core Curriculum)

STAFF RECOMMENDATON: To inform the Board of Trustees of the existing and any changes to Laredo College's General Education (CORE Curriculum) in accordance with the reporting requirements established by Senate Bill 37 (89th Legislature).

BACKGROUND: During the 89th Texas Legislative Session, Senate Bill 37 was enacted to enhance transparency and institutional accountability in higher education. This legislation requires all public institutions of higher education in Texas to provide an annual report to their governing board regarding any updates, revisions, or changes made to the institution's core curriculum and general education requirements.

Laredo College, in compliance with this legislative mandate, reviews its General Education (CORE Curriculum) on an ongoing basis to ensure alignment with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB**)** standards, state learning outcomes, and institutional goals for student success and transfer readiness. The core curriculum serves as the foundational component of all academic programs, emphasizing essential skills such as communication, critical thinking, empirical and quantitative reasoning, teamwork, and social responsibility.

This annual update provides the Board of Trustees with a summary of any modifications implemented during the current academic year, including updates to course offerings, learning outcomes alignment, or assessment processes. It also outlines upcoming plans for review or revision to ensure continued compliance with THECB guidelines and responsiveness to the educational needs of Laredo College students and the regional workforce.

No changes were made to Laredo College's CORE Curriculum for the 2026–2027 academic year. However, a proposal to remove COSC 1301 – Introduction to Computing from the Component Area Option of the CORE Curriculum is anticipated for submission to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) during Summer 2027, with a proposed effective date of Fall 2027.

The intent of this agenda item is to inform the Board of Trustees of the existing and any changes to Laredo College's General Education (CORE Curriculum) in accordance with the reporting requirements established by Senate Bill 37 (89th Legislature)**.** This presentation ensures the Board remains apprised of curricular developments and institutional strategies designed to maintain academic excellence, promote seamless student transferability, and uphold the College's mission of fostering student success and lifelong learning.

An attachment is included listing all the current General Education/CORE Curriculum courses in our LC catalog.

BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS: None.

CONTACT PERSONS:
Dr. Minita Ramirez, President
Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs