**AGENDA ITEM 9.D.**

**RE:** Approval of General Education Comprehensive Report and SB 37 Compliance Review

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** That the Laredo College (LC) Board of Trustees (BOT) review and approve the General Education Comprehensive Report, confirm compliance with Texas Education Code and applicable THECB rules, and ensure the curriculum meets required educational standards. The Board will also direct administrators to implement any necessary corrective actions, maintain documentation, complete annual reporting requirements, and coordinate the required compliance certification and submissions to THECB and the appropriate legislative committees by January 1, 2027. The LC Board of Trustees are specifically being requested to conduct the following actions:

1. Review and consider the General Education Comprehensive Report and the findings regarding the institution's alignment with Texas Education Code, §51.315, and applicable THECB rules.
2. Determine whether the general education curriculum meets the statutory requirements for foundational knowledge, civic and professional preparation, workforce participation, societal betterment, and breadth of knowledge consistent with applicable accreditation standards.
3. Approve the report and the findings, subject to any revisions or corrective actions identified during the review.
4. Direct the appropriate institutional administrators to implement any approved corrective actions, maintain supporting documentation, and complete required annual core curriculum submissions to THECB.
5. Authorize the appropriate institutional officials to coordinate the required compliance certification and related documentation for submission to THECB and the applicable legislative committees and subcommittees by the January 1, 2027 deadline.

**BACKGROUND:** Senate Bill 37 (SB 37), enacted during the 89th Texas Legislature, established requirements for a comprehensive review of each institution's general education curriculum under Texas Education Code, §51.315. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) adopted amendments to Title 19, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 4, Subchapter B, including §4.28–§4.31, in January 2026 to implement these requirements.

The legislation defines the general education curriculum to include the institution's core curriculum and any other curriculum or competency that all undergraduate students must complete before receiving an undergraduate degree.

As part of the comprehensive review, the institution must ensure that its general education curriculum:

1. Is foundational and fundamental to a sound postsecondary education.
2. Prepares students for civic and professional life.
3. Equips students for workforce participation and the betterment of society.

4. Ensures a breadth of knowledge consistent with applicable accreditation standards.

The review must also consider the potential costs of the curriculum to students, including additional tuition, fees, and time required to complete an undergraduate degree.

The governing board must complete the initial comprehensive review in 2026 and certify compliance to THECB and the applicable standing legislative committees and subcommittees no later than January 1, 2027. Subsequent comprehensive reviews must occur at least once every five years.

This report presents the institution's comprehensive review of its general education curriculum, documents alignment with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, identifies any necessary revisions or follow-up actions, and supports the institution's compliance with SB 37.

The General Education Comprehensive Report will be distributed to the LC Board of Trustees during the meeting for review and consideration.

**BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS:** None.

**CONTACT PERSONS:**
Dr. Minita Ramirez, President
Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs
Ms. Norma E. Hachar, Mathematics Department Chair