

STATE OF TEXAS

(Minutes conducted via electronic voting)

COUNTY OF CAMERON

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the **6th day May of 2025**, 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:

Daniella Lopez Valdez	President
Minerva Pena	Secretary
Carlos Elizondo	Board Member (via zoom 6:02 p.m.)
Denise Garza	Member
Jessica Gonzalez	Member
Frank Ortiz	Member (arrived at 6:55 p.m.)

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT:

Dr. Jesus H. Chavez	Superintendent of Schools
Shellie Smith	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. Meeting called to order by Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board President at 5:30 p.m.**
- II. Moment of Silence led by Dr. Jesus H. Chavez, Superintendent.**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance led by Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board President.**
- IV. Roll Call. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board President** announced that Mr. Frank Ortiz will be arriving a bit late and Mr. Carlos Elizondo will participate via zoom, all other Trustees are present.
- V. Recommend approving the agenda of the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, May 6, 2025 with any corrections/deletions.**
 - VII. A. Add Student Recognition:**
 - Recognition of BISD Early College High Schools Presentation of the Valedictorian Salutatorian and Third Honor Student For the 2024-2025 School Year.**
 - Recognition of Oliveira Middle School Greenpower Racing Team**
 - X. A. 9 General Function item(s). Remove from agenda and backup**

XII. A. Personnel Matters Item 12 Delete from agenda and backup

Handout 1 Added to Official Minutes

Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Denise Garza, and unanimously carried to recommend approving the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, May 6, 2025, inclusive of the corrections/deletions as stated by administration. (4-0-0)

Change Order of the Day

Amendment:

Recognition of BISD Early College High Schools Presentation of the Valedictorian Salutatorian and Third Honor Student For the 2024-2025 School Year.

Dr. Norma Ibarra Cantu, Executive Director/Secondary stated, good evening Board President Daniela Lopez-Valdez, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jesus Chavez, esteemed members of Board of Trustees, and distinguished audience. Today we gather to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our outstanding students who have exemplified academic excellence, dedication, and leadership throughout their journeys at our Early College High Schools. These students have shown unparalleled commitment to their studies, earning this prestigious academic award. They have not only excelled in their academics, but they have also made significant contributions to our school community through their extensive community service and volunteer work across our city. Their passion for learning and drive to succeed continue to inspire many other students in our community. We are confident that they will shine brightly in all their future endeavors. It is with immense pride that we recognize the valedictorian, salutatorian, and third honors student of the class of 2025. Please join me in congratulating these exceptional students and wishing them all the best as they embark on their next chapter of their academic journeys.

Recognition of Oliveira Middle School Greenpower Racing Team

Ms. Rose Longoria, Assistant Superintendent/Middle Schools stated, we are thrilled to proudly recognize and congratulate the remarkable all-girls team from Oliveira Middle School Green Power Racing. Their performance at the national competition was nothing short of a spectacular earning them a well-deserved third place out of a field of 163 teams across the nation. What makes their achievement truly stand out is the fact that they were the only all-girls team competing at this level. This speaks volumes about their skill, dedication, and ability to excel in a traditionally male-dominated field. From the ground up, they built their Green Power car, showcasing their technical powers in teamwork. They didn't just compete, they proudly represented BISD and shattered expectations. They are undeniable a powerhouse. Brownsville ISD celebrates the success of these brilliant students and their inspiring teachers, coaches. Their achievement is a source of great pride for our entire district and a shining example of what our students can accomplish. Way to represent Olivera Middle School Green Power Racing. We're deeply grateful to everyone who provided support and encouragement on their path to this incredible achievement. We're going to recognize we're going to begin with our sponsors coaches Mr. Jorge Jasso and Nancy Jalas. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member interjected, if Mr. Jasso could, if I can have your attention Rose, Ms. Rose. Mr. Jasso could you explain what happened with the tire otherwise, even

with that, you came in third, could you explain what happened? **Mr. Jorge Jasso, Educator/Sponsor** explained, hi, again, good afternoon. This week was an emotional roller coaster. The shock and awe, this journey has been an eight-year journey in the making, and with your support we were able to attend this year. The shock and awe of walking into Talladega the first day, it was amazing. It was something that we had dreamed about but it was something else. The girls were practiced. They had to drive over Talladega, it's on a 36-degree bank. There's no way to simulate that here in the valley. And they had to face that against students who have been there multiple times over and over. Once the shock and awe where they knew what they had to do. And that's when they turned it on. But to the incident that occurred during the first heat, the competition is divided into two heats. And the team has to perform for 90 minutes each heat. During the first lap, it's an all go. You see it in Indy, you see it in F1. Everybody's going, and it's one of those where either you move out of the way if you don't have the power, or they're going to move you out of the way. Because of our ranking, our car was positioned at starting grid four, which is at the front. As we were, as Chloe was making the first turn, a car ran into our car and broke off three, four spokes from the rim. How physics, I'm a science teacher. How that car and how these young ladies, and this speaks volumes to their amazing talent, how they were able to keep that car running for, at that point, 89 minutes. And for it to perform at the level it did, I like again, I'm a science teacher and I still can't explain it to today. So during the first heat we ended up tied for second. We were at the winning team which has won the national title seven times back to back. They're basically a junior NASCAR team. They had 35 laps. We completed 34, so at that point we were tied at second. Going into the Saturday heat, on the Saturday heat we had a misfortune of being involved in a wreck. And this is where the emotional roller coaster began, because at that point we thought we were out of the running. But long and behold, the rest of the teams didn't perform as well as we thought they did. So as we're sitting at the award ceremony, one of the things was we're gone show up out of respect, no matter what, because that's who we are. So we're going to show and congratulate everybody else. Doesn't matter what place we are in, we're going to show out of respect, we're going to show up to the award ceremony and congratulate the winners. Never in our wildest mind, I was actually sitting down thinking, contemplating, what do I tell my girls of adversity and overcoming it? And then long and behold, we are named. And it's just, you know, a feeling. And I'll end it with this, as we're, as the girls and I, and both of us are going up to get the award, there was a comment made, who's Oliveira? Where are they from? Well, I'm glad to say that they know who Olivera is. They know who Brownsville is, were Brownsville is at. And the questions have already started. You know, are you coming back next year? And the answer is we will. And the National Championship coach came up to me and he's like, Hey, we love competition and nobody's been able to give it to us like you guys did. So, and the fact that, you know, these girls, they just went out there and performed to their best. And we had them, we had them. When I say we had them, they were on the ropes and they knew it and he knew that. So he knows that we're coming. You know, unfortunately I'm losing Chloe, Valeria, and Edellin to the high schools, but they know that if I can take them with me, I'll take them because what they bring to this team, and there's a picture that I took when we were flying back last night. They didn't know I took the picture, but they're holding

hands as we're about to depart. That speaks volumes to the bond that these young ladies have. Without that bond, none of this is possible. My job and our job is just to guide them. I mean, we're not allowed to touch the car or anything like while they're racing. They'd have to do all that. But it speaks volume to who they are, their character, their parents, the values that they have instilled, the district, you know. I had requested a banner for the Brownsville ISD and we took it up there and when people walked by the district, we proudly displayed Brownsville ISD, you know, and we had the opportunity to meet Mr. Beto O'Rourke and as we were flying into Birmingham and we were like we're here representing the district and he said he actually made a correction he's like no girls you're here representing the state of Texas keep that in mind. Thank you. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, Ms. Rose, before you go on, if I could just add, especially Mr. Jasso, of course, thank you for all that you do. Let me just say that you have some of us up here in tears. I can see the audience. You have some of the audience in tears. That's not an easy task to do here in the boardroom, first and foremost. But just a message to the families, not only of these girls, but every single family. I've been on the Board, this is my fifth year already, and since I started, Mr. Jasso, first and foremost, it's what about Green Power? And what about Green Power? And what about Green Power? And yes, he has other issues that he advocates for, but it is always what about Green Power? And he has advocated for this group day in and day out. And look at where that voice took you, Mr. Jasso, took you guys. So don't ever underestimate the power of you guys' voice, because amazing things happen, and all you do need to do is just make your voice heard it's that simple so congratulations to you and your team sir don't make us cry anymore. Ms. Pena stated, and if I may also I'd like for us to give this team a standing ovation considering they had a wreck they came in third place and that shows the power, the ability, and the energy. Thank you, ladies. Thank you, sir. Thank you, everyone. You all are outstanding.

Resume Order of the Day

VI. Recommend approving the minutes with any corrections:

- A. Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, February 4, 2025.
- B. Special Called Board Meeting of Thursday, February 13, 2025.
- C. Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, March 4, 2025.

Motion made by Denise Garza, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, and unanimously carried to recommend approving the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, February 4, 2025, Special Called Board Meeting of Thursday, February 13, 2025, and Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, March 4, 2025. (4-0-0)

VII. Superintendent's Report: * SB1566

A. Conference Presentations:

Carlos Elizondo signed on via zoom at 6:02 p.m.

1. Recognition of National Police Week from May 11-17, 2025.
National Police Week, taking place from May 11-17, 2025, is a time to honor, remember, and support law enforcement officers, survivors, and citizens. This annual observance brings people together to pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Brownsville ISD proudly recognizes our Police and Security Services

Department for their dedication and service. We honor and thank you for your unwavering commitment to keeping our schools and community safe.

2. Recognition of National School Nurse Week (May 6-12, 2025) and Day (May 7, 2025).
National School Nurse Week (May 6-12, 2025) and National School Nurse Day (May 7, 2025)

Since 1972, National School Nurse Day has been set aside to recognize school nurses. National School Nurse Day was established to foster a better understanding of the role of school nurses in the educational setting and is celebrated on the Wednesday within National Nurses Week.

Brownsville ISD celebrates and acknowledges the accomplishments of our school nurses and their efforts of meeting the needs of today's students by improving the delivery of healthcare in our schools. Also, who contribute to our local communities by helping students stay healthy, in school, and ready to learn, and keeping parents and guardians at work, not just on this National School Nurse Day, but at every opportunity throughout the year. Brownsville ISD is very proud to recognize our nurses and staff from our Health Services Department. Our school nurses are a critical hub for our students and an excellent investment especially during these times.

3. Recognition of South Texas Athletic Administrator of the Year.

The Texas High School Athletic Directors Association (THSADA) is an organization that advocates for all athletic administrators in the State of Texas. Their goal is to promote, facilitate, and recognize all athletic administrators and is one of the largest state associations of its type in the country. The Texas High School Athletic Directors Association was founded in 1971 by a group of Texas athletic administrators who decided that the issues and challenges facing school athletic administrators could best be addressed by forming their own Association in order to collaborate and network with each other on a year-round basis. Membership is at 1,700 along with a 10-member Board of Directors. 8-Committee Chairs, 2-ISD Superintendents and various ad hoc groups. The main event hosted by THSADA is the annual THSADA State Conference. Every year, an Athletic Administrator of the Year is selected by fellow peers from South Texas. This year, we are proud to recognize Coach Gilbert Leal for earning two awards:

- 1) South Texas Athletic Administrator of the Year and
- 2) In addition to this recognition, A regional director for each Region in Texas is selected.
Coach Leal earned the Region 7 Regional Director award for the next two years.

4. Recognition of RGV Band Program Distinction Middle School Division – Filemon B. Vela Middle School Band.

The Filemon B. Vela Middle School Band was selected as a RGV Middle School Band Program of Distinction for the 2024-2025 school year. This award is given to an exceptional middle school band program who has consistently maintained a high tradition of excellence and success. The Filemon B. Vela Middle School band program exemplifies the gold standard in music education throughout the Rio Grande Valley and the state of Texas. Directors for the Filemon B. Vela Band are:

Head Director -Mario Sarmiento
Assistant Directors -Miguel Garza, Jimmy Cantu, Erica Casanova
Principal - Michelle Garcia

5. Recognition of RGV Band Program Distinction High School Division – Veterans Memorial Early College High School Band.

The Veterans Memorial ECHS Band was selected as a RGV High School Band Program of Distinction for the 2024-2025 school year. This award is given to an exceptional high school band program who has consistently maintained a high tradition of excellence and success. The Veterans Memorial ECHS band program exemplifies the gold standard in music education throughout the Rio Grande Valley and the state of Texas. Directors for the Veterans Memorial ECHS Band are:

Head Director - Elizabeth Stone
Assistant Directors - Ryan Clark, Edna Sierra, Julio Salinas, Eduardo Ontiveros III,
Erica Casanova
Principal Norma J. Canales

6. RGV Band Directors Hall of Fame - Arcadio "Art" Guajardo 2025 Young Bandmaster of the Year.

Moises Garza, Band Director at Lopez Early College High School, was selected as the 2025 Arcadio "Art" Guajardo Young Bandmaster of the year by the RGV Band Directors Hall of Fame. This award is bestowed upon band directors with 10 or less years of teaching experience who have shown tremendous skills in the field of music and have earned several accolades in their early teaching career. This individual has earned the respect of colleagues in the field of music education and has already set the bar high for other music educators to follow. The award was named posthumously, in honor of longtime Hanna High School band director, Arcadio "Art" Guajardo.

7. Recognition of School Lunch Hero Day.

May 2, 2025, is School Lunch Hero Day, which was initiated in 2013 with the purpose of honoring and showing appreciation for devoted school nutrition program staff. These professionals include not only those who design and implement the strict nutrition standards required in schools but also the cafeteria professionals who ensure that all students have healthy meals to fuel their learning and growing. At Brownsville ISD, we proudly recognize their commitment to scratch cooking, preparing fresh, wholesome meals made with care and love every day. All these individuals are true heroes, and this day is designed to show them the appreciation they deserve. Therefore, let us extend a heartfelt thanks on School Lunch Hero Day for all that they do for the Brownsville ISD school community.

8. Presentation of the 2023 TEA A - F Accountability Ratings and 2024 projected A-F Accountability Ratings.

Dr. Jesus H. Chavez, Superintendent stated, let me just make some introductions as we get to this item. One of the things that I had the ability to do, and actually it was a

privilege when I was assistant principal to be in charge of the testing piece. But in addition to that, you know, as I went through my career, I was always very supportive of helping our teachers, our principals implement the state testing. And of course, as I think of the state testing, people out in the community I know may take different views of it. I know for some folks, they may say, no, we don't need any testing. For me personally, I'm going to say that I am supportive of the state test. I've been from the very beginning before we had state testing, and I began actually as a teacher giving out the TABS test. I've seen about six different versions of our testing system, and I've always supported it. I think here, as you look at our testing system, one of the things that I would suggest that we change as a state is the number of tests that we give our students. And so that is something that I am supportive of. Now, we need to test, but we don't need to test as much as we do. The other thing that I'm going to go ahead and mention, because I really have taken a position on testing throughout my career. And as I think of the testing that we currently have under the state, I'll tell you that the thing that I have not liked, that I don't think is appropriate, that I do not support, is the testing requirements that the state takes. And change tests every year. Back when I started as an administrator, and yes, I was responsible for the school testing and then later on central office testing, we would keep the same test from the state at least five years without changes. But when you have a state that brings changes and increases the responsibility to our students and our teachers on a yearly basis, it doesn't work very well. I'm not supportive of that. If you look at the last three years, that is what has happened. We started with this level test. We've added these changes and improved the challenges to our students and our teachers. Oh, by the way, let's do a third year of additions and further challenges for our students. Oh, and by the way, we're going to compare the tests over the last three years. I think that it's unfair for the state. I think that it's unfair for our teachers and our principals and our students mainly. So I just wanted to make those comments as we begin talking about the testing system that we have. Let me finish with this and then we'll get on to the presentation. I am very supportive and very thankful to our teachers and the work that they do. I'm also very thankful to our administrators because they are focused on improving our education and improving our test results. As you look at the last three years performances, our teachers, our principals, and our schools have done really well. Is there room for improvement? Certainly, and we're going to continue working on that. So I wanted to make those introductory comments as we get to this next presentation. Ms. Hernandez. Ms. Beatriz Hernandez, Chief Academic Officer stated, thank you, Dr. Chavez. Good evening, Board President, Ms. Daniela Lopez-Valdez, Dr. Chavez, members of the Board. So tonight, I will be presenting the 2023 Accountability Ratings for Brownsville ISD, as well as the projected 2024 Accountability Rating for Brownsville ISD. As we all know, the 2023 ratings had been on hold since the summer of 2023 due to litigation. However, that has been resolved and the 2023 ratings were recently published. As we all also know, this litigation came about, there was a lot of buzz and a lot of talks about the changes and the dramatic changes that districts were seeing in their preliminary data as they were capturing it from the state. And not only was there evident changes in the performance, but also dramatic changes in the actual assessment in the accountability framework. So, prior to showing you where we stand as a school district, I want to give you some context as to all the buzz and all the noise that was out there across the state with these scores from 2023. So, let's go back and here we have, if you can help me show this first slide,

we have a timeline. And so, we went back to 2019-2020, in which at the end of that school year, in the spring, we did not have a STAAR. That was COVID. Schools, students were learning from home. There was no STAAR. Come the 2020-2021 school year, as students were coming into the schools, states did not require students to take the assessments. Doors were open, but it was not required. So only the number of students that walked into our doors to take that assessment, we got a score, but there were no accountability ratings at the end of that 2021 school year. Additionally, that was the last school year that fourth grade and seventh grade had an independent writing assessment based on a prompt. Come the 21-22 school year, districts were told, we understand we have some data from 2021. We know that not all the students came in, but we do have some data and we're going to be administering the 22 STAAR assessment. And during this assessment, we were advised that any campus across the state that scored a D or an F was not going to be rated. They were not going to be penalized for this. However, if you had A through C, that was going to be showing up on your report card for that school district. Additionally, this was the last time that the STAAR test was 100% multiple choice. And this was the first year that they removed the writing from the STAAR test. So again, the previous year, we had fourth and seventh graders testing with writing, but in just in an independent prompt in 21-22, 100% of that assessment was multiple choice. They removed the writing from that assessment. At the end of that school year, our performance grade, our score, our accountability rating came from growth using the 2021 scores in comparison to the 22 and our score came out with an extraordinary 91, which was an A in 2022. Now that was the last year of STAAR 1.0. Because in 2023, the state kept the name STAAR but introduced a STAAR refresh. What in the educational world is known as STAAR 2.0. And what does that mean? In 22-23, which are the accountability ratings that we're going to be displaying later on, 100% of the assessment now went online. The prior year, school still had a choice to do paper assessments. 22-23 completely online. The test was no longer 100% multiple choice. 70% of the test was multiple choice and 30% now became what we're calling technology enhanced items where students had to manipulate the mouse and engage with dragging, dropping, filling in the blank, no longer just selecting A, B, C, or D. 22-23 was also the year, the first year, that the state moved and implemented writing, short constructed responses implemented writing, and extended constructed responses for writing, not only in reading, but also in science and in social studies, from third all the way to our end of course assessments. Another big shift and another big change. Additionally, the scoring was also starting to be not only graded by people, but also started to be graded by an automated system. In 23-24, which is that that's the preliminary data that we have so far, we continue to get updates and changes from the state on this assessment. They changed our cut points, meaning for some of these subject areas, you need a higher score to achieve a passing standard. They include hybrid scoring. The majority of the scoring is done through an automated system. Only 10% is done by a human. The testing window opened two weeks earlier, meaning schools, teachers, students have two weeks less to prepare for the test. There were major changes to CCMR, College Career and Military Ready, which is a component that is evaluated at the high school level. Every single high school teacher, student, and administrator will tell you how important this is to make sure we're preparing our students for life, for what their life is after high school. Changes in this College Career and Military Readiness included that in the prior year, in order for a school to get an A under CCMR, they only needed 60 points.

In 23-24, in order for you to get a minimum of an A under CCMR, you needed an 88. So the change was significant in that area for CCMR. Our graduation rate scored, the scale score was raised as well for our high schools. And additionally, the eligibility for special education students taking the STAAR Alternate Assessment came under more rigorous requirements, making it more difficult for students to qualify for the STAAR Alternate 2 assessments. So as you can see, these are just some of the superficial changes and updates and adjustments that Texas Education Agency made to the STAAR assessment and to the accountability framework that I mean, whether we like it or not, does have an impact and factors in into the overall accountability rating. But despite all that, and you'll see in a minute, BISD, just the same way the previous presentations from tonight tell you, we're soaring. And so, following with that context that we're talking about, I have some statewide A through F accountability data. And so what you see on the chart there on the left, this is information from across the state for the 21-22 school year. This is a year where our school district had that 91 that A. And across the state, they had 1,190 school districts that were rated here. 395 districts with an A, 642 with a B, and 112 with a C. No Ds or Fs, just because, remember, we had the Senate Bill 1365, and nobody was rated, even if you received the D or F, that was not showing on your report card. All the noise are the commotion. You can see in the year 22-23, there's a dramatic change. Across the state, those 395 As, there was a loss of 22%. Now, in 22-23 school year, you only have 128 schools across the state with an A, 479 with a B, and 382 with a C. In 22-23, Ds and Fs are rated as well. So that opened up to 168 campuses with a D and 41 campuses with an F. So this is statewide accountability data. What about our region? There're 44 districts across our region, Region One. So in 21-22, the year where the Ds and the Fs were not rated and not posted, across the region we had 20 schools with an A, 22 with a B, and one with a C. If we come over to the 22-23 school year, A's, the region dropped to three schools with an A, three school districts with an A, 24 school districts with a B, and 14 school districts with a C, three with a D for a total again of 44 school districts in Region One. So once again, taking you back to the updates, changes, adaptations that the, not only the framework has undergone, but the actual assessment has undergone, and those changes have impacted instruction, have impacted interventions and have impacted supports. Even then, our school district still sitting in the top quartile of our Region One and across the state with an 87% in overall grade of a B. So congratulations to all the teachers, the principals. Thank you to the School Board because a lot of our interventions and the principals that are here, the specialists, the curriculum departments, the campus staff, you know, we need resources to implement these interventions from professional learning sessions, whether they're in-house, they're external software devices. We mentioned that one of the biggest changes was 100% online testing. These devices, just like our phones, just like our devices at home, they only have a certain lifespan. And after a while, we've got to upgrade those and we've got to be keeping up with the changes and that requires resources, that requires funds. And so, thank you, thank you for all the support. Now that's 2023. As we can see there, just to brief you in and how we're evaluated, 70% of our score is coming from school progress, it's at 89. And in closing the gaps, which is all of our students in comparison to our subpopulations, we're at a B within 86, and that's 30% of our overall score. You will also see a C there in academic growth. And that's the famous academic growth that we were so high, not only BISD, but across the state in 2022, because we were coming

from that COVID year where kids had missed out on a lot of content. And so, the measuring growth was from 21 to 22 was extremely high, making a score very high in our academic growth that once you reach a certain level in your academic growth by student, it becomes very challenging for that teacher, for that student to continue growing. And the state continues to set the bar for that growth higher and higher every year. So again, the score is coming from that relative performance, that 89, that 70%, and that 30% from closing the gap. Now 2024 is still under litigation, but we do have preliminary data. And so, interventions that we're talking about, the thanking and being very grateful to the Board, the Superintendent for their support with all the resources that are needed out at the campuses. Campuses continue to move the bar. We continue, do we want to go back to that A? Absolutely, every day, every moment that we discuss, the goal continues to be that A. Are we moving the bar? Right now, our preliminary score shows us one point higher. This is not one student and every single person in this room knows that that percentage is a lot of students that we're talking about that they're moving from one year to the next. Meaning students are walking in and the expectation is making sure that they're rising to that whole grade level or above. So once again, congratulations to our teachers, to our campus staff, to our support staff. Right now, preliminary scores for 2024 puts us one point higher than the 2023.

Frank Ortiz arrived at 6:55 p.m.

So once again, later on tonight, we will explain a lot of the in detail a little bit more on the interventions, a lot of the resources that we're utilizing, but we continue to work collaboratively across departments and not just curriculum and instruction but with business and operation, with our human resources, with our finance, campus, district, making sure that there's an alignment, a coherence, so that we can continue moving the needle and making sure that what we produce are equitable outcomes for all of our students. All students, our subgroups, every single student, we owe it to them. So once again, these were our scores for 2023 and our preliminary 2024 accountability ratings. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, if I may, Daniela? Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board President stated, Ms. Garza first. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, thank you, Ms. Lopez-Valdez and thank you Ms. Hernandez. First and foremost, I want to congratulate our amazing teachers for always educating our students and always going above and beyond and not just our teachers, but I know our teachers couldn't have done this without the amazing principals we have at the campuses. I don't want to leave anybody out, but even to our curriculum department, thank you for everything that you all do going out to the campuses, being that extra resource to our teachers, guiding them, what they need to do to get these students where they need to be. Thank you so much. This is still a win for BISD. You know, our students went in there not knowing what they were going to take, right? Even our teachers, nobody knew. They just knew it was a new version and that was it. So being that we are still a high B, it is a win for BISD, and so thank you again to those amazing teachers we have out there. And, you know, thank you to our students. This shows that the hard work that you all put and that effort, our students are resilient and amazing. So thank you again. And I know we're going to get back to that A, so thank you, congratulations, and I hope I left nobody out, but if I did, I'm sorry, I'm thanking the entire team at BISD. Thank you. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated Ms. Pena. Ms. Pena stated, I also want to thank the teachers. I want to piggyback with what Dr. Chavez said. They keep changing the test. Why? Money, money. The problem and what causes things to go wrong is the love of money. And I want to thank the teachers because they are struggling to be able to teach

them and at the same time, give them the common sense and the basics they need to survive in life the way we did. There's a little joke that the kids say. You know, we can pass the test, but we can't cross the street. Why? Because it didn't say on the STAAR test they had to look right and left before crossing, so we get run over. And I go, that's not funny. But man, think about it. Why are they testing and testing? And one child told me this, too, because there's money involved. And that's always been the root of our problem, where you value money more than human life and daily activity. So, I want to thank the teachers, because it is so difficult right now to teach. Because they're finding and making sure that that child makes it in life. Because passing the STAAR test doesn't guarantee you're going to go out and do your best. Learning from your teacher, that guarantees you're going to go out and do your best. So thank you, thank you, thank you to the teachers. And one day, dear God, I pray we get it right and get back on track to teaching. So thank you everyone. Thank you ma'am. Ms. Lopez stated Mr. Ortiz. Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, yes, I'd just like to say it's appropriate, you know, that it is Teacher Appreciation Week and I certainly want to take the opportunity to thank our teachers and our principals and everyone that, you know, at the campus level because teaching is not an easy job. You know, a lot of people think, well, if you can't do anything else, go into teaching. Whenever I heard that, I would say, you know what, come on in. I'll give you half a day. As a matter of fact, I'll give you a couple of hours and then see what you think what teaching is. Teaching is a very, very tough profession. It really is. We've got 23, 25 different bodies in there. They all have their own attitude, their own character. They all have their special needs. They all have their needs. And our teachers are the ones that take care of them. Talking about differentiation of instruction, that's what it is nowadays, to make sure that we touch all the different learning styles of learning that we have out there, that our students are, that they're in the classroom with the different needs. So I do want to thank all of our teachers, like I said, our principals for the great job that they do on campus. I do have a question just for Ms. Hernandez here. I know that the Curriculum and Instruction department, they're in partnership with our schools to make sure that our students are successful. I know that campuses have a campus improvement plan on which they develop, you know, at the end of every year for the following year. And they address certainly all aspects of education, but certainly they focus in on instruction as well. So, my question is, the principals get their staff together, they look at data, they know their needs, they know what they need to do, they know what direction they need to go. How much autonomy do the schools get? In other words, we're not going to the schools and saying, okay, this is what you need to do and you can't deviate. Let's say the principal, teacher say, I understand that y'all want us to implement these programs, but I think that we think that as a school, we need to go in this direction. Are they given that opportunity or are they just being told, this is what you have to do no matter what? **Ms. Hernandez replied, thank you for that question. And just to give some information on that, in terms of the autonomy, each teacher has their own teaching style, not just necessarily from BISD, but the state does require for every student to have access to the adopted curriculum. So as it relates to the core content areas, math, reading, science, any of the content areas that as a school district we've adopted a set curriculum that we have to implement that curriculum. There are supplemental materials where at certain grade levels, the administrators, the campus team, through their SBDM, they place it on their campus improvement plan, they decide to go with a certain supplemental material to use either after school, during their response to intervention, they are given that flexibility alongside that the internalization and the planning that goes along with the execution**

and the delivery, Mr. Ortiz. Mr. Ortiz stated, yes, I understand that. We all know the TEKS, I mean, they're not negotiable. That needs to be done. There are adopted materials that the district has adopted for use in the classroom. But in addition to that, if teachers feel, you know, in addition to this, I would like to use these (inaudible) resources in addition to what is being done. I am meeting the requirements, but we think as a school that maybe if we are able to enhance our instruction by using these other resources in addition to what is being required? Are schools being allowed to do that? **Ms. Hernandez replied, yes and no. The autonomy is there, however, because at the forefront is equity. What we start doing is collaborating with Region One in making sure that the materials and resources, if they are not part of the adoption or part of the supplemental materials that are on our list, that they are vetted by Region One to see if they meet the qualification for high-quality instructional materials that will make sure that our students are not missing out on any of the key components.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay, thank you. I just wanted to make sure that they were given the opportunity, because every school is different, we all know that, okay? And we just wanted to, I just wanted to make sure that schools are given the opportunity to become innovative and creative, because ultimately if the school is not successful, it's the principal, the buck stops there. But then again, if they are being dictated what to do and what not to do, then where does the buck stop? The principal or the person dictating? I just want to make sure that they're given that autonomy. **Ms. Hernandez replied yes, sir. Again, just to clarify one of, we want to make sure compliance is there, but that the flexibility of and creativity are still part of the equation without forgetting that equity remains at the forefront and making sure that we have high quality materials that are backed up by research and that are labeled high quality that are going to be presented to our students.** Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, Ms. Gonzalez. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, thank you. Ms. Hernandez, thank you for highlighting all that information. It's just so important as we're constantly having to share with the community and reminding them of the facts. I think one thing that we don't pay attention to, which we should, and it's a huge factor, is what also separates us from these other school districts. And I'm talking about our economically disadvantaged students, our SPED percentage that we have here at BISD, because we do have a very high percentage of SPED students. Our chronic absences, which Dr. Cantu, you're doing great, by the way, with the Everyday Matters, but we're still struggling as a district with that. Obviously, the student allotment. I'm just going to say I saw South Texas ISD is at the very top of the list, but guess what guys, South Texas ISD gets \$12,000 a student and BISD gets 6,000. So in reality to me, take them off the list, but that's just me. It needs to be a fair playing ground. And what worries me is, I get it. You know, we also go talk to the students, we also go talk to the staff about, you know, building up, you can do this, and I know they can do it, and they know they can do it, and the staff knows they can do it. But when the playing field isn't fair, you have all these factors against you and then the state is constantly changing the rules in the middle of the game. We just have to keep on doing what it is that we're already doing, is continuing to support our students, our staff. And everybody is doing so amazing and just continuing keeping the message out. But just keep in mind that there are other factors besides, like I said, what you just highlighted right now, which is especially, for example, what's our disadvantaged student rate right now? **Ms. Hernandez replied, our economically disadvantaged student for 2023, it's I believe 89.1%. It's very high in comparison to many of the districts in our region and across the state, especially for the enrollment that we have in BISD, over 35,000 students. So again, you're economically disadvantaged percentage of students, the name says it, they're**

already at a disadvantage. Aside from that, in the closing the gaps, there's also an area where as school districts, we get evaluated on the performance of these students as a subpopulation. We continue to work again in alignment with other departments, mentioning the attendance piece. I mean, students have to be in school in order for that teaching and that learning to continue in the cycle. So yes, thank you to Dr. Cantu and her department and all the efforts that are going on in collaboration with the campuses. Every day, you know, campus continue to communicate with their assistant superintendents, executive directors, and Dr. Cantu's team on, you know, yes, you know, we're moving the attendance percentage in the right direction. But yes, there's the subpopulations, 40% or a little bit more of our students are bilingual. Then we're 19%, or a little bit over 19% with a merge of dyslexia into special education of students labeled special education in Brownsville ISD, which is very high. And that means going back to what Mr. Ortiz was saying about being a challenging job for our teachers, it is. And earlier, we were talking about how, despite all the challenges, we continue to move forward and outperform the districts around the area and across the state. So yes, those are challenges that are faced by the campuses each and every day, as a district when the scores come in. But once again, we're very grateful and thankful for the supports that you approve because with those supplemental supports, whether it be professional learning, software, materials, devices, those are supports that are needed at the campus level to execute and make sure that we deliver and continue with great teaching and learning and improvement of course. Ms. Gonzalez stated, thank you for also reminding me about the bilingual. That's also a huge factor. The year when we changed all 100% online, that's a huge factor. There's just so, so many other factors, but please, if there's anything that your department needs from us in how that we can help these students, because at the end of the day, that is what it's about, them, please don't hesitate to ask us. Ms. Pena stated, yes, and just to make note, and Dr. Chavez, when we have students that take the test like in third grade, if they fail, that doesn't necessarily mean they're going to be left and have to repeat the third grade, am I correct? **Ms. Hernandez stated, you are correct, ma'am, they cannot...** Ms. Pena interjected, and the reason I want to bring this up, and it's very notable, because not everyone's great at taking tests. I know a child who went all his life, all his life to try and pass it, never passed it, never. Until his senior year, by one point, he passed. They almost threw a party for him and the guys that made 100, like how come you're not celebrating me? He didn't understand what this child's gone through. He was now making \$150,000 a year. So that test doesn't dictate what you're going to be. It's what you do with what you get that dictates what you're going to be. I'm very, very thankful that we look at that. And just because they didn't do well in this test, we still continue to further their education. And the thing is, there's like millions and millions and millions. So I want to make sure that our Congress, people are fair to our public school system. What other country has a public-school system where the child goes in to register that day and he gets put in a classroom right away. Charter schools, we'll put you on a list, call you when we have room. Private schools, you don't have enough money today, come back when you get the money. This is the only country that still has that education where you walk in that door, you register your child, and we put you in a classroom. So, I see this, how do you take down the United States? You take down their education system. And no one's paying attention to that. Please, I'm talking to everyone that knows someone in Congress, take care of the public education system. This is the only country I know and I've been researching, where you can come into this country from a foreign country in nine years, become a U.S. citizen and run for Congress. No other country

allows that. You have to be born and raised and know the values of what you're going to run. So we're trying to be very hospitable, but let's make sure that we're not so hospitable that they cut our necks off. So please pay attention, everyone. Public education system is the best. And like my colleague said, how come we only get 6,000 and others get 12,000? We're just as valuable as they are. Somebody behind the scenes is doing something and the smart people at the top aren't paying attention. And I want them to please pay attention. And thank you for all you do because our teachers are outstanding. Thank you, thank you for choosing this career. Thank you. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, and just to wrap it up, thank you so much, Ms. Hernandez. Thank you for all that you do. Thank you for all the teachers in our classrooms. You all are truly outstanding. Just to echo all my colleagues. Also, you know, every time I'm up there testifying, asking for more resources because despite all of, everything that you mentioned, we also haven't received an increase to the basic allotment since 2019. And we're still outperforming so many other districts. We're still the top and I know that 70% of the accountability system is determined on one day on one test but when you see the teams come in here like the Green Power Racing Team and not only are they doing amazing things but they're also being the first to lead our district in the nation. That's when you know the quality of education that we have and despite the rating and it being a win, it takes so much more to get to this level and also thank you Dr. Chavez for instilling this One Team One Dream because it truly takes a team to be here and I'm very grateful for you all and we're always going to keep striving for more but I'm grateful for the work, because there certainly have been a lot of challenges. And we've continued to overcome. Thank you all. **Ms. Hernandez stated, and before I close Dr. Chavez thank you so much for the opportunity, I do want to thank the entire C& I team from our Assistant Superintendents, our Executive Directors, our C& I Directors, our fabulous Curriculum Specialists that day in and out, we've been working on Early Childhood to content areas. We have our Special Education team, our supervisors. I mean, everybody out there helping out, Bilingual, CTE. And again, I'm mentioning everybody in C& I, it's a team effort, but we can't do it with the support of our Superintendent, of our School Board, of our Human Resources Department, collaborating with FTEs, Business and Operation. Hey, help us out, making sure we have more attendance support initiatives. And the list goes on, making sure that like Ms. Cruz was up here, a good lunch, a good breakfast, a smile, the Maintenance Department. So, thank you, everyone. Thank you for everything that you all do each and every day. And later on, we're hoping to share with you a little bit more, a peek at what happens in our classrooms and our campuses as it relates to accountability and instruction. So thank you.**

9. Presentation of the structural report of Sams Memorial Stadium.

Mr. Alonso Guerrero, Director/Health Services/Facilities stated, good evening Board President, Mr. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Superintendent Dr. Chavez and Board Members. Tonight, we have a presentation by Mr. Green, Rubiano and Associates. Mr. Rolando Rubiano, Structural Engineer is here to give us a presentation on Sams Memorial Stadium. We conducted this over several months and we didn't do justice of it if we didn't bring Mr. Rubiano to come explain to you all the status of Sam's Memorial Stadium. So, without further ado, Mr. Rubiano. Mr. Rubiano stated, good evening. Dr. Chavez, Madam Board President, and BISD Board Trustees. My name is Rolando Rubiano. I'm a Structural Engineer, Licensed Professional

Engineer, and I'm the Senior Partner of Green, Rubiano & Associates. We were asked by BISD facility staff to do a structural assessment of Sams Stadium. We appreciate the opportunity of service to the school district and, quite honestly, beyond the school district, to the community. We know how important such a focal point Sams Stadium is to Brownsville and the broader South Rio Grande Valley, and we appreciate this opportunity. I don't want to ruin the presentation by jumping to the end but Sams Stadium is safe, it's stable, it has plenty of service life to continue to contribute to your programmatic needs. It needs some maintenance and it needs some capital expenditure but your students, your staff, your public is safe to continue to occupy Sam Stadium. If I may, we were asked to perform a comprehensive structural assessment of Sams Stadium. With the help of your facilities personnel, we were able to go element by element. There wasn't a concrete beam, there wasn't a concrete slab, there wasn't a concrete girder, there wasn't a concrete column that we were not able to look at. We feel comfortable that we can represent to BISD the current condition of Sams Stadium. We were asked not only to evaluate the existing status of Sams Stadium, but start presenting an opportunity to manage any of its current needs. So we looked at the stadium, as we mentioned, element by element, managing the size of the stadium by dividing it into units, east stand, west stand, press box, looking, as I said, at every single element, including the railings. So, we did, we found some needs, we found some immediate needs for repairs, we found some moderate needs to get managed in the short term, and predominantly, we found some suggestions to offer to the School Board to start planning for proper planning so that we can continue to extend the service life of Sams Stadium for your curriculum. The non-exciting stuff, we've got surface cracks all throughout the stadium. These are starting fairly simple, but fairly important. As these cracks continue to exist, we are continuing to let moisture and salts from the air enter into our stadium structure, causing further damage as we can see beyond. We start corroding reinforcement. We start spalling concrete. We start creating more of the visually concerning and, quite honestly, debilitating damage that a concrete structure can go through. I do remind everybody this was built in the early 50s. And so Sams Stadium is a trooper. It truly is not only approaching its historical lifespan, but has the ability with proper maintenance to continue to be of service to the school district until quite honestly, I think the school district will continue with your success and outgrow the venue size of Sams Stadium. But the structure itself is not going to give up on you anytime soon. We're finding some overhead spalling. These are the more problematic issues, and I commend Mr. Guerrero's staff. They, the school district jumped immediately and ensured Mr. Guerrero's staff. The school district jumped immediately and ensured that the majority, if not every single overhead falling debris concern has been removed. It's the current concern that you as stewards of Sams Stadium might have at the moment, which is the stadium's not going to go anywhere, it's not going to cause any concern, but you still don't want any falling debris while somebody's walking to their seat or enjoying Sams Stadium for many of the reasons that you guys offer the stadium as a venue. We did have one immediate concern. There is a guardrail at the very top of both the west and east side of the stands. The guardrail has corroded. We've lost connection and the maintenance staff is coming up with solutions to provide temporary repairs and potentially move forward with a more permanent modification and alteration so that

there's other additional protections. Right behind this wall is the City of Brownsville's hike and bike trail, and there's probably a need to manage an alteration, trying to be respectful to the aesthetic of Sams Stadium, what it's always looked like to all of us from Brownsville, but also try to prevent falling debris, falling food concessions, and things of that nature because right beyond this wall on the visitor side is outside of BISD property and now in the public right of way. We have some areas of previous repair. Some of the previous repairs perhaps were exhausted, incorrectly installed, or were not installed in a fashion to manage the root cause of the damage, and so we're seeing some poor adhesion. That's a problem. It's always a problem with concrete repair, but we think with proper direction, specification, and contractor technique, these repairs can easily have a 10 to 15-year lifespan, continuing to be the extending serviceability of Sam Stadium. Conclusions. We don't have major structural issues at Sam Stadium. Sam Stadium is ready for some capital maintenance, expenditures, and investment. The stadium is stable, structurally stable. It continues to be a wonderful focal point. There are some concerns of, I wouldn't call it immediate capital improvement, but I would like to continue to suggest that the repairs to the guardrails be executed. The overhead debris continue to be cleaned. And I think the School Board has about a three-year window to start executing plans and preparations for a capital repair. I think at the moment, understanding the importance of managing a budget, I don't think the school district needs to run in any particular direction, but you should be looking at a projected two to three-year period. And what we feel is after three years, your assessment will, if no repairs are done, your assessment should be redone, should be reassessed and then offer repair techniques and recommendations from that standpoint. But as of right now, if we could start capital expenditures, repairing the damage to the structure in an orderly fashion, we feel in working with your athletic department personnel and your programming of the venue, that the repairs can be done in phases to prioritize the functionality and schedule of the venue so that we're not interrupting your programmatic needs, but we're still looking at developing a complete repair package in approximately two years from today if we could get started quickly. So of course, we need a repair plan issuing repair details out for bidding consideration following your procurement practices. Once completed, we would strongly suggest, because of the age of the facility, that you enter the stadium into a recurring inspection program. Just like facilities gave us an opportunity to do this time, we think that after the repairs, element by element, concrete column by concrete column, Sams Stadium be looked at on a three-year cycle. Once we get that three-year cycle started, the findings can be brought most likely, if repairs are done accordingly, most likely we're starting to do repairs on a maintenance level and not going through a large cycle repair again. But we still would, because of the age of this facility, suggest to the school district that you go ahead to continue to keep Sams Stadium in service, put it on its three-year good structural health consult. Let it be looked at. I can tell you that it is not very often that we get an opportunity from facilities to come in and do what we did. We did a due diligence assessment. Unfortunately, we far too often get called in what we call a post event. Something significant happened. Instead, Mr. Guerrero, Dr. Chavez came in and said, guys, it's time we go look. These due diligence assessments are really a great planning tool and just shows the commitment of your facility staff to manage after

your assets. So thank you. That's it. We were told we had just a quick presentation. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, yes, I know you said that three-year assessment. And the way things are now, I would like to see that that's shortened, because a lot more stuff can happen in three years. It's like saying, well, I'm not going to check to see what my house needs. I'll wait three years. You check it every year. It's going to be a lot less expensive to keep up with it and look at stuff. And one thing that I've always been asked, and this is going to be addressed to Dr. Chavez in reference to the stadium. You know how you have the section in the middle where people pay extra so they can sit in the chairs? And they've asked about putting a railing in the middle so people can grab onto the railing when you're walking up the stairs? Because I witnessed a young lady trip and fall. She was carrying her nachos and she fell. And I tried to grab her and I couldn't. But do you know that she struggled, landed on the stairs, and held up that nachos and they didn't fall. She worked so hard. I don't know what kind of bruises you have, but she saved her nachos. And I was like so you know how my son well my son's always told me when you're going to fall and this works I'm living proof it works when you fall go with the flow go with the flow don't fight the fall just tuck and roll that's why when people say and I'm going to say this because I as a police officer you have people that drive intoxicated they're not supposed to, that's against the law. But they go, how come nothing happens to them? Because they go with the flow in the car when the car is bouncing around. And when people are not intoxicated, you fight the move and you accidentally snap your neck. So, my question is, can we do something and put that little rail in the middle to help people where they won't interfere with anyone? If anything happens, they trip, they have something to grab onto. And they've been asking for that for years and years. Can we look into something like that, sir? For the safety? **Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent replied, we'll certainly look into it. Now, I'm afraid part of the answer may be, well, you have to eliminate these seats here. So we'll take a look at it and report on that and give you back some information.** Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, maybe that's something we can do in facilities. Ms. Pena stated, yeah, let me follow up. No, you don't have to eliminate not one seat. My father was in construction. My family's electricians also. No sir, you do not. That little thing, it can go every other step. You know what I'm talking about. Mr. Rubiano replied yes ma'am. Ms. Pena continued, no seat needs to be eliminated. Am I correct sir? Mr. Rubiano replied, well, we'll take a look at it. Ms. Pena interjected, I've been looking at it for 30 years, so trust me. Mr. Rubiano continued, and we'd be happy to help. My apologies. We were focused on the concrete structural elements, but we understand the importance of safety and most importantly the nachos and you know. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, thank you, Ms. Pena, Ms. Garza. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, thank you Mr. Rubiano for this presentation. I know you mentioned that the stadium is safe and stable but does need maintenance and you said with proper maintenance you know everything should be okay. Now my concern is I know there's certain things we can and cannot do with Sams Stadium due to it being a historic site and through the Sams Foundation. Have you may be gone with him and discussed any of these current repairs that we need? Although you say it's safe and stable, just seeing some of the pictures on there, you know, with the exposed rebar and the corrosion, I'm a bit concerned. I don't know. Let's just say we were not to repair this. What is the lifespan of our stadium? Mr. Rubiano stated, well, I think if the school district doesn't take actionable efforts in the next two to three years, sections like this will get lost. We're not trying to only communicate concern. So what you're seeing here is a, it looks extensive, but it's an isolated section of a bleacher slab member. You have 50 feet of good concrete

beyond it, 30 feet of good concrete before it. This needs to be repaired, and we would like the school district to consider going into proper planning, but we also understand that you have a budget cycle. What we're trying to communicate, ma'am, is it's ready for your consideration in the next budget cycle. And if those cost considerations aren't there, then we're ready and able to start helping with a phasing plan so that you can manage your multiple priorities. Sams Stadium should be one of your priorities, it really should be. But our immediate request from the school district is can we continue to function at Sams Stadium? Today, yes ma'am. Tomorrow, of course. Next year, yes. But if you don't have in your mindset a repair plan for the following year, that answer is going to quickly start changing. All I'm trying to do is when there have been serious structural considerations that have come to my attention, we bring them up. This is serious because of its size. It's serious because of how focal Sams Stadium is to the Brownsville community, but it's not what we would call a structurally unstable situation. You're fine. I'm trying to make sure that the school board gets the most clear understanding of the structural condition of Sams Stadium. It's ready for some repairs. But respectfully, of all the priorities and all the wonderful opportunities you guys bring to the community, this one needs to get on the list. Hopefully it gets on your list next year. If not, definitely hopefully it gets on your list the following year. If not, hopefully we can have a conversation again and at that point start pressing the prioritization of Sams Stadium. So it's a large structure and the repairs that are needed are intrusive. So we'll have to manage that in a phased fashion to meet your programmatic needs and your scheduling of Sams Stadium. And that will bring to bear some cost considerations and some timing considerations. And so we chose these pictures to accurately represent what's out there. We don't want to come in and tell you everything's just fine, and then you take the occasion to visit Sams Stadium and you see this. So, we're trying to be as transparent as we can be to show you what we found. This needs your attention, but we think it's best for us to let you know it's ready for you to engage in its prioritization. We don't need you to scramble, but we do need you to start planning. Ms. Garza stated, thank you, Mr. Rubiano, for your honest opinion. Thank you for putting it out there, especially for our viewers that are watching this through KBSD YouTube channel. The only thing that the reason I was hoping you would say stuff like this because every time we do repairs at our Sams Stadium, oftentimes we hear from our community like you're always investing in athletics, you're always investing in athletics, but no, but seriously, thank you for the honest Opinion coming from you because we do see from these pictures that you know our stadium does require some maintenance and hopefully we can put it in our budget? In the next you know budget cycle or even maybe in this current budget cycle just depending, you know depending on what happens at the state level. But thank you so much for this presentation. Mr. Ortiz stated, yes, I agree as well. I'm always one to be saying we need to be proactive instead of reactive. I think you mentioned something a little while ago that said we want to avoid something significant to happen there. See, that's being reactive, okay? Being proactive. It's not waiting two to three years from now, okay? Obviously, the photos that you showed us here, they didn't happen overnight. You know, it happened in time, maybe in years. And what I would like to see is the same thing as my colleagues are saying here, two, three years from now, it's just going to be more expensive, more things are going to happen to the stadium, even though it's structurally safe, as you've said. But I think that we need to be proactive. I think that maybe what we can do, maybe with your

assistance, you know, with the Maintenance Department, with the Athletic Department, you've already done a study here, so you know pretty much what would be priority and what would be second priorities. So, if possible, I'd like to see some of these things start getting addressed instead of waiting two, three years from now. So, would it be possible to have the priorities done? And then of course we look at our budget, and like Ms. Garza said, hopefully maybe we can put some of these things in through this budget, so that we don't have to wait until, as you said, something significant happens. Mr. Rubiano replied, we can, and in preparation for this discussion, working with Mr. Alonso Guerrero, he's asked us to start being prepared to present a phasing effort so that we can come back and present to Dr. Chavez and the board how to start taking these proactive steps. Mr. Ortiz stated, but it wouldn't be two or three years from now, right? Mr. Rubiano replied, well, we work at the speed and request of the school district. They've asked us to start putting together a plan, but they needed us to present to you today first. Mr. Ortiz stated, good and I would say come up with this plan, you know, beginning this coming year. Mr. Rubiano stated, understood. Mr. Ortiz continued, even if we have to address one or two things, I mean, that's better than letting them go for two or three years. Mr. Rubiano stated, agreed. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, thank you Mr. Ortiz and thank you Mr. Rubiano for your work and I know that Ms. Gonzalez is the Facilities Chair so I know that this has been something that she's been working on so hopefully you know Dr. Chavez, we can continue this and we appreciate your work. Thank you.

10. Brownsville Independent School District Financial Report for the period ended April 30, 2025.

Ms. Mary Garza, Interim Chief Financial Officer stated, yes, good evening, Madam Chair, Ms. Lopez-Valdez, Dr. Chavez, and Members of the Board and the community. Our financial report for the period ending June 30th for our general fund, which is funds 100 through 199, our revenues are \$347.5 million, expenditures \$414.6 million for a shortfall of \$67 million. Please keep in mind, April is one of the months that the state does not send us any state funding. Okay? Our special revenues, which are funds 206 to 499, our revenues are \$32 million, expenditures \$44.2 with a shortfall of \$12.2 million. Federal funds are on a reimbursement basis. So you will always see us in the negative until the end of June when we close on our books. Our next report is our debt service. We have revenues of \$20.6 million, expenditures of \$13.2. We have a excess of \$7.3. This excess is due to the planning of the district of doing the defeasance of a bond payment that we're going to be paying early. And that payment's going to take place in, at the end of, no, the first week of June. Our next report is the self-insurance fund. We have \$42.6 million in revenue and expenditures of \$49.3 for a deficit of \$6.7. That concludes the financial report. No questions or concerns

11. Quarterly Investment Report for the period ended March 31, 2025.

Ms. Mary Garza, Interim Chief Financial Officer stated, our quarterly investment report for the quarter ending March 31st. We have total cash in our checking accounts of \$3.3 million. Our total investments in the different investment instruments are \$260 million for total cash and investments of \$264,220,

\$264,220,727.44. Our quarterly interest for this quarter is a \$1.7 and for year to date we're at \$8.7 million. The revenue that we generate from our investments is already incorporated in our budget for the year as part of our revenues. One of our investment items is the proceeds of the sale of the lands that we have that invested separately to cover the renovations or the renovations or the new facility for CTE. That concludes the investment report. Mr. Frank Ortiz Board Member stated, question. The \$16 million that we have set aside that we received for the Sale of Cummings, my understanding is that money is in a CD gaining interest? **Ms. M. Garza replied, no sir, it's not a CD. It is a multi-diversified investment that is money in a money market, it's T-bills, it's different items that are listed all together.** Mr. Ortiz stated, but we are receiving interest on that? **Ms. M. Garza replied, yes.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay, do you know how much interest we've received so far? **Ms. Garza replied, cumulative right now we received, the interest is getting reinvested within the account and depending as to when the maturity item comes to maturity, like the T-bills, whenever they come to maturity, that's when we're going to recognize the investment. So right now, we're not in the report. We're not showing any interest yet because the investment instruments haven't matured yet. As of June 30th, when we close our books, we would be required to recognize whatever we've accrued up to that point in time.** Mr. Ortiz stated, when does it mature so we can have figures? **Ms. Garza stated, we have, let me see. Our money market, if you look at page 7, that one has the structure for the investment report. We have the money market matures on November 19. The Treasury bonds mature November 27, and the other cash equivalents, those are they have a different timeframe. Right now, the maturity date is 7-15-2025, but they're at different intervals. The span of the instruments for this investment range anywhere from a year to two to three years. So each one has, we only summarized it, we did not identify every single instrument.** Mr. Ortiz stated, so you're saying that by November you should be able to give us a number? **Ms. Garza stated, yes, and by June 30 when we have to do the accrual for what we've earned up to that point, we will have an amount that we would have to recognize.** Mr. Ortiz stated, yeah, because I think our community would like to know how much interest we're getting for \$16 million. **Ms. Garza stated, yes.**

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Celia Saiz-Braussard. Good evening, Board President Daniela Lopez-Valdez, Dr. Chavez, and Members of the Board. My name is Celia Saiz, and I'm speaking as the President of Best AFT Union Local 3877, and as a proud pre-K teacher at Skinner Elementary. I will be speaking on agenda item X. A. 2, the recommended approval of Resolution # 28, 2024-2025, to excuse and pay for the time missed by employees caused by the district's closure due to the inclement weather on March 28, 2025. We raised this issue with the administration when members contacted us after being docked a sick leave day and pay for submitting an absence request for that day. Some members tried to go into the system to cancel their absence, but were not allowed to. We do appreciate the district for treating its employees fairly and equitably. This is a nice teacher employee appreciation gesture. We also want to take a moment to recognize the loss of our treasure and building representative at El Jardin Elementary, Denise Garcia Day, this past Sunday. Denise was in her 29th year teaching at El Jardin Elementary. Denise loved her profession, her students, and her union, although not always into politics. She will be missed, and our hearts and condolences go out to her husband, Mike. We wish you the best evening, even though it is a bittersweet one for us. Thank you.

Adina Alegria. Good evening President Lopez Valdez, Members of the Board, Dr. Chavez, administrators and those joining the Brownsville ISD YouTube channel. My name is Adina Alegria, Executive Director of Texas Valley Educators Association, affiliated with Brownsville Unions Coalition. As we meet today, we recognize National Police Week, starting from May 11th through the 17th. TVEA would like to honor the brave men and women who wear the badge, not just as a symbol but as a commitment to serve, protect, and uphold justice as a Brownsville ISD officer. To the officers of BISD, your dedication, sacrifice, and unwavering courage do not go unnoticed. You face challenges most will never fully understand, standing as a shield between order and chaos, ensuring this district remains safe. We thank you, not just today, but every day for your service, the sacrifices you and your families make, and the integrity with which you uphold the law. And to our wonderful school nurses as we celebrate you today and through the week, you bring comfort, care, and compassion to your school community. Whether it's a scraped knee, a sour stomach, or a reassuring smile, you are always there providing medical care, kindness, and support that make all the difference. You are the quiet heroes who keep us healthy and safe. Your patient expertise and warmth touch so many lives. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for being the steady and caring presence that the students and even sometimes the employees rely on. Lastly, I am so proud of all the work our school lunch heroes do. Kudos to all the team led by amazing leader Jackie Cruz. As we heard today and during the financial report, BISD still remains in a shortfall. And as many of you may have heard, school vouchers were signed into law this past Saturday by the Governor of Texas. But not far away where that bill was signed, we heard from James Talarico, State Representative in District 50. And this is what he said. "Today, big money won and the students of Texas lost. With a stroke of his pen, Greg Abbott is betraying 6 million public school students from his billionaire mega donors who wrote him a \$6 million check. With his private school voucher scam, Greg Abbott is taking billions of dollars out of our neighborhood schools and sending those tax dollars to unaccountable private schools for the wealthy few. Remember this day next time the school closes in your neighborhood. Remember this day the next time a beloved teacher quits because they can't support their family on their salary. Remember this day the next time your local property taxes rise because the state government cannot do its fair share of school funding and if a recession comes and we're forced to make even deeper cuts to public education, remember this day. Even in this defeat, I see glimmers of hope. I see parents and teachers, Democrats and Republicans. I see rural Texans and suburban Texans coming together to fight for our students." And while he says that he sees glimmers of hope due to many coming together to fight for our students." End quote. And while he says that he sees glimmers of hope due to many coming together to fight against school vouchers, he feels we will ultimately win in the end. But that doesn't happen without change. And change doesn't happen in your homes, doesn't happen in your cars, doesn't happen while you're on the sofas. It happens when we all vote. Thank you for your attention this evening.

Veronica Borrego Good evening Board President Lopez Valdez, esteemed Board Members, Superintendent Dr. Chavez, and all those watching this evening both in the boardroom and at home. My name is Veronica Borrego and I currently serve the district as an Educational Diagnostician and I'm also the proud president of AOB, the Association of Brownsville Educators, the largest and longest-serving association in BISD. Congratulations to all the students, teachers, and staff recognized this evening. You continue to make our district shine. Next week is National Police Week and we thank all our officers for putting the safety of our students and the community first. We thank you and we honor your bravery. May 2nd was School Lunch Hero Day. To all our FNS employees, we thank you for your hard work and dedication. Your efforts in providing essential meals with a smile help to ensure our students stay nurtured and ready to learn. Thank you for contributing to their success in and out of the classroom. To our nurses, we thank you for your dedication and hard work. We celebrate and honor you not only tomorrow on School Nurses Day, but this week for National Nurses Week. Every day you touch the lives of our students with love and compassion by taking temperatures, providing band-aids,

healing stomach aches and headaches, administering medications and providing essential and emerging care. Your efforts also contribute to the success of our students. This week we celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week. To all our teachers we know you wear many hats and you do it with unwavering dedication. Your heart and compassion helps to create a safe space for our students to grow and learn. You provide them opportunities that open doors for them to dream big and reach their potential. To all our teachers we appreciate, honor, and recognize you and all your efforts. You make a difference and profound impact on our teachers, we appreciate, honor, and recognize you and all your efforts. You make a difference and profound impact on our students, our schools, and our community. Thank you for your time and attention this evening and have a wonderful night.

Christopher Cardona Good evening Board Members. My name is Christopher Cardona. I am a student at Porter Early College High School, proudly representing the Audio Video Technology Program. I am here to speak against the relocation of KBSD Spectrum Channel 1301 back to the TV studio at Porter High School and request your support in allowing us, the students, to remain in the former KBSD TV station space. This room is more than just a space. It's a hub for creativity, learning, and real-world experience. We use it to film, edit, and produce content that reflects the talents and efforts of our student body. I had the opportunity to use that space during the Technology Student Association competition. Due to the many rooms, the amount of creativity just expanded my horizon, and I genuinely believe that if it wasn't for that space, I wouldn't have advanced to state an overall winning state. So knowing how much that room helped me, it wouldn't only help my creative mind, but open up opportunities for everybody else. As you know, Brownsville is experiencing rapid growth and is becoming increasingly popular. For example, the recent naming of Starbase and the impact of us being considered the first step to the future. People will want to know more and document this major change in history. This means news broadcasting, video production, content creation, and public speaking will all be in high demand. I can proudly say that Porter has one of the best teachers and audio video classes to practice those demand jobs, including those demand jobs and knowing that many have had successful careers being in Mrs. (inaudible) class. And retaining that space will be extremely beneficial to the students. The station will be where we practice professional skills from storytelling and technical setup to collaboration and meeting deadlines. All things that directly prepare us for careers in media, film, communications and beyond. When the previous team left, the room sat unused. We saw that as an opportunity and we acted. We fought for many months to have that room not just for us, but for the future talented students that will be going through the Audio and Video Technology Program. At Porter High School, having it taken away feels like a step backwards for the program. We believe that as space students have worked hard for, improved, and used to create meaningful work, should stay with students who have proven its value. We ask for the boards to continue supporting and allowing Porter Audio Video Technology students to remain in the KBSD TV station space. Thank you for your time and for considering our perspective.

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.

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.

Motion was made by Denise Garza, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, and unanimously carried for approval of the General Function Items as reflected on the Consent Agenda. (6-0-0)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| X. A. General Function | 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11 |
| B. Payments | 1 |
| C. Budget Amendments | 1 |
| D. Contracts/Agreements | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 |
| E. Bids/Proposals/Purchases | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11 |

(All presentations limited to five (5) minutes)

X. **Consent Agenda:**

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

1. Recommend approval of Amendment #1 to increase the GEAR UP grant budget by \$400.00 to support student participation costs for the 2021-2028 cycle. No cost to the District. * **(Consent Agenda)**

2. Recommend approval of Resolution #028/2024-2025 to excuse and pay for the time missed by employees caused by the District closure due to the inclement weather on March 28, 2025.

Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, Motion to approve. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated Second. Ms. Garza stated, yes, I'd like to, just the question that was brought by one of the associations during public comment, those employees that tried to go in there to remove their absence, will they be honored or will they still have a day deducted from their personal time? **Ms. Mary Garza, Interim Chief Financial Officer stated, good afternoon Madam Chair and Members of the Board and Dr. Chavez. Since the resolution was coming to the Board until May and that absence was for March, it was reflected in the April paycheck but as soon as the agenda gets approved tonight, tomorrow the staff will be working on giving back those employees the day back if they lost a day or give them a refund if they ran out of leave and they got docked for that day.** Ms. D. Garza stated, thank you Mrs. Garza. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, that was the same question I had so it got answered. I didn't even have to circle it.

Motion made by Denise Garza, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, and unanimously carried to recommend approval of Resolution #028/2024-2025 to excuse and pay for the time missed by employees caused by the District closure due to the inclement weather on March 28, 2025. (6-0-0)

3. Recommend approval of Resolution #029/2024-2025 to extend the current depository contract with Lone Star National Bank for an additional two-year term (1st extension) beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027.

Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, Motion to approve. Denise Garza, Board Member stated Second. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, I have a question, because I remember last? Yes, I think it was last year, when some of our schools went out of state for some competition, they took a check to pay for an item. And because this is not a national bank, am I correct? It's more localized in the area? So when they, can somebody answer that question? Because the question was brought up that they were having trouble accepting that check at that national event that the students were at because they didn't recognize it as a national bank. Is that an issue, a concern? How do we see if that's something that doesn't happen again to our students? **Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent stated, Ms. Garza do we have any information on that with regards to whether this**

bank should have been denied in a different state with our students traveling, I don't know that I have heard that before. Ms. Pena stated, yes I remember hearing that and it was brought to the attention of the District, I remember really well. So my concern is, was that more of a unique situation? It depends on the hotel or the restaurant or whoever was getting that money? Or is that something that, like, I remember when that happened, I was really distraught for our students and our sponsors. So do we know that we have a solution for that in case that happens again? I've never seen them where they take a check, for some reason, somehow, they wrote a check to go pay for the hotel or for something. Like, is there something that we can do so we don't put our students in that position, maybe pay it from here and not wait for them to take the money themselves over there? **Ms. Mary Garza, Interim Chief Financial Officer stated, okay, Board Members and Ms. Pena, Lone Star National Bank is not a National Bank. It is a Texas Regional Bank. Now when it comes to student travel, the hotel, all the travel arrangements, the hotel, airfare, everything is handled through a credit card. It's not a physical check. Now, there are some circumstances where a particular school will end up taking more students than the district is paying for and they're using a campus activity check. Now we've encouraged the administration or the campuses that typically if they're going to be traveling, not to use a check, we can pay through the credit card and they can transfer the money from their activity funds to the district account so that they're not dealing with checks.** Ms. Pena stated, so can we make sure that all the schools get that information? Because that would be something that would be very helpful and not put them in a position where they don't know what to do. But what you just said, that would be, can we make sure that we put that in writing? And sometimes we think that everyone knows everything, but really and truly, they really don't. So could you put that out so we can be okay when our students happen to go and do recommend to them not to take a check especially when you're going out of the state. Can you do that? **Ms. Garza stated, yes, we'll remind the campuses because we have trainings on activity funds with them. So at the end of the year, we'll let them know and then I'll put it again in the in-services at the beginning of the year. One thing to make a note is we are renewing for the agenda says first extension. It's a typo. It should read third extension because this is the last extension that we're permitted to do with the Depository Bank. After this then the next two years we will go out for proposals.** Ms. Pena stated, so then can we read the item and make the correction to amend the item? **Ms. Patricia Perez, Executive Assistant stated, it was Ms. Gonzalez.** Ms. Gonzalez stated, so I would like to amend my motion to make sure that the wording says that it's a third extension. **Ms. M. Garza stated, yes.** Ms. Pena stated, and thank you, Ms. Garza, for taking care of that so that our students don't get in a predicament where it really frustrates them. So thank you very much.

Amended Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Denise Garza to recommend approval of resolution number 29-2425 to extend the current depository contract with Lone Star National Bank for an additional two-year term. Third extension beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027.

The following vote was recorded

Yea: Ms. Garza, Mr. Ortiz, Ms. Gonzalez, Ms. Pena, Mr. Elizondo

Nay:

Abstain: Ms. Lopez

Motion Carried: 5-0-1

4. Recommend approval to reschedule the Regular Board Meeting of June 3, 2025 to June 10, 2025, (due to graduations) and cancel the Regular Board Meeting of July 1, 2025 (due to the Summer work schedule). **(Consent Agenda)**
5. Recommend approval for Region One Education Service Center of Edinburg, Texas, to provide professional development contracted services to BISD Teachers. Categorical Fund: 167-Teacher Incentive Allotment \$151,050.00. **(Consent Agenda)**
6. Recommend approval for Region One Education Service Center of Edinburg, Texas, to provide professional development contracted services to BISD Appraisers. Categorical Fund: 167-Teacher Incentive Allotment \$59,100.00. **(Consent Agenda)**
7. Recommend approval to Change Order #002 to amend the Owner/Contractor Agreement with Scoggins Construction, Inc.-Mini Gyms Improvements Group II Project. The amount of \$23,475.00 represents unused funds in the Allowance Expenditure Authorization. Fund 188 (Credit Back to the District). **(Consent Agenda)**
8. Recommend approval to authorize the Gonzalez ES, Yturria ES, and Manzano MS HVAC Upgrades Phase I (Package 1) Project, under CSP # 22-146 as substantially complete. **(Consent Agenda)**
9. Recommend approval to authorize the BISD Burns ES, HVAC Upgrades Phase I Project, under CSP# 23-158, as substantially complete. **(Delete from agenda and backup)**
10. Recommend approval to provide consulting services for students in the Youth Connection Project for the 2024-2025 year with Dr. ET & Company, of Weslaco, Texas, using resolution number R006/24-25 Region One – Purchasing Cooperative. ***(Consent Agenda)**
11. Recommend approval to submit the 2024-2025 Allotment & TEKS Certification Form. This is at no cost to the District. * **(Consent Agenda)**

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 \$500,315.18. **(Consent Agenda)**

C. Recommend approval of Budget Amendments:

1. Recommend approval of Budget Amendment #018 in the amount of \$1,759,642.00 for Local Funds. (Reallocation of \$1,259,642.00 and Fund Balance of \$500,000.00) **(Consent Agenda)**

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

1. Recommend approval to extend contract with Workforce Solutions Cameron for an additional three months, with an end date of October 31, 2025 at no cost to the District. ***(Consent Agenda)**

2. Recommend approval to renew agreement with Studentnest Foundation for MACC to provide math support in multiple languages, seven days a week, to AEL participants working to obtain a certificate of high school equivalency (TxCHSE) and/or increase their math skills. The period of service commenced on April 1, 2025 and will end on March 31, 2026. No cost to the District. ***(Consent Agenda)**
3. Recommend approval of the data sharing agreement to allow Summit K12 to have access to TELPAS students results and also allow Summit K12 to share benchmark results with Ellevation at no cost to the District. ***(Consent Agenda)**
4. Recommend approval of the amended Texas Workforce Commission Grant Award Agreement Amendment Number 001 to the English Literacy Civics fund to increase the cost per student and decrease the number of students being served for the 2024-2025 Fiscal School Year *** (Consent Agenda)**
5. Recommend approval of the Amended Texas Workforce Commission Grant Award Agreement Amendment Number 001 in the amount of \$48,909.00 for AEFLA Federal Adult Education Fund. ***(Consent Agenda)**
6. Recommend approval to renew the agreement between Brownsville ISD and Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) in partnership with Fairbanks, LLC for participation in the Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC) program for the period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2029.

Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated Motion to approve. Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board President stated, Second. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, yes, I have a few questions. I don't know if this goes to the finance team or if it goes to special services. Just my question is, is our district getting all the proper training when it comes to the RMTS side annually? Because I know this is an annual training that needs to be done. And how is that being conducted? **Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent stated, Ms. Garza, is that something you can respond to? Ms. Mary Garza, Interim Chief Financial Officer stated, yes, good evening Board Members. The random time study, the trainings are done on a regular basis and we have those scheduled remotely as far as the individuals that are set up as primary and secondary for the district. And then there is a training for the individual participants for them to be able to respond to the random time study.** Ms. Garza questioned, correct, but who is doing the trainings? **Ms. M. Garza replied, the trainings are, I can tell you for the ones that we have administratively, those are handled by Fairbanks.** Ms. D. Garza stated, correct, Fairbanks takes care of the administrative side for your primary and secondary. But who is making sure that our staff, our providers that are part of the participant list are getting their quarterly or annual trainings? It is very important that those trainings occur. So that is my thing is who is conducting that training because I know that if our district falls 85% below, we will get disqualified for participating. **Ms. Adriana Lippa, Special Services Administrator stated, good evening and good evening to all, the board and also community members watching. So certainly, I agree with you, Mrs. Garza, that it is very important that all our participants that are in the participant list do, and do get the random moment time studies. And so we do this on an annual basis. It's done at the beginning of school year, and certainly I know Mr. Cano, who just happens to**

walk in right now, and we also have Houston here to answer that. But we do keep up with our random moment time study trainings, specifically because we knew that this year we had changes and making sure that we were doing what was right for our district and making sure that we were keeping up with those because we know that the random moment time studies drive the money that then we will see at the district level. So we certainly are keeping up with those because we know that the random moment time studies drive the money that then we will see at the district level. So we certainly are keeping up with those and it is Houston and also us that are making sure that those are being done. Ms. D. Garza stated, thank you Ms. Lippa and I just have a few follow up questions. It's because it's the way it was brought up because usually, you know, MAC is linked to our cost report, linked to SHARS. So because it was only a standalone MAC, I was just curious is Houston assisting on the MAC side as well? **Ms. Lippa replied, no, MAC is done by our district and they are not participating or helping out with the MAC only.** Ms. D. Garza stated, okay are they assisting on the cost report side or is that our district only doing it? **Ms. Lippa replied, I want to say that that's our district only and if they have questions of course right they're always there to assist but other than that it's the going through the finance part if I'm correct.** Ms. D. Garza stated, I would like to make a recommendation that our SHARS vendor assist on the cost report and MAC side that way we can ensure that we maximize our total reimbursement back because sometimes they're able to see something that our team is not able to see on this end. So I do, I would like to make that recommendation because we do know that there is a lot of training, I mean, a lot of changes that have occurred within this past year and there's going to be some more changes coming up in the new school year. So I just want to make sure because we do know that there has been a decline right on reimbursements. **Ms. Lippa stated, certainly.** Ms. D. Garza continued and so although we know what is expected on that decline we continue making sure that we continue with getting the proper the appropriate reimbursement and that we maximize everything that we can. **Ms. Lippa stated, certainly, and I know that Houston has always been open to assisting. And I know Ms. Terry Ramirez and Mr. Cano, our Finance Supervisor, is also here, and who has, and they do collaborate, and they've always been open to answering questions and assisting, but I don't see problems in us reaching out to them and collaborating to make sure that we get the most for our buck.** Ms. D. Garza stated, thank you, Ms. Lippa. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, what are the fiscal implications of this? **Ms. Lippa replied, so the fiscal implications in regards to random moment type studies is if they're not done and they're not submitted within a, I believe how many days, if I am correct Mr. Cano?** Ms. D. Garza interjected five days. **Ms. Lippa continued, five days.** Ms. D. Garza stated, five business days. **Ms. Lippa continued, so then five business days, then we can certainly then, that could cost the district in regards to reimbursement Mrs. Pena. And so, I think like when we think about special education, we think about special education in regards to academics, accommodations, differentiation, right? But this is a totally different side of special education that certainly the teachers, and I am very, very grateful for our teachers and our paraprofessionals who are the ones that are conducting the random moment time studies. Because basically they get an email, they respond to the email in regards to what they're doing at that moment in time when they actually receive the email. And so, these are questions that are inputted into the system and then that's how we get our reimbursement, Mrs. Pena. And so, certainly when that is not done, of course that hinders the district. So, not only are we keeping up with the random moments**

time studies, but we're also making sure that we're reminding the, reminding our personnel to make sure that it gets done. So, that's another task of its own outside of academics. Ms. Pena stated, so, \$250,000 annually that are listed here? **Ms. Lippa stated, and so that, so, how can I say this? So the MAC that we're talking about is for administrative claims, and that is aside from what the teachers are doing because administrative claims that are being done right now are being done by the nurses and our LVNs, which are outside of the teaching profession.** Ms. Pena stated, so the 250,000 is what the district pays? **Ms. Lippa replied, no, no, no, that's what we're getting reimbursed.** Ms. Pena interjected, we're going to get reimbursed and it's annually. Now, let me ask you, I guess I want to ask, is it up to or actually that much? That's my question. **Ms. Lippa stated, Ms. M. Garza, can you answer that? Because that is on the financial part. I can talk to you about accommodations, differentiation, random moment time studies, but finance is, that's the question. Thank you, yes.** Ms. Pena stated, go ahead, Ms. Garza. **Ms. Mary D. Garza, Interim Chief Financial Officer stated, okay, the revenue that comes in from year to year will vary, but it's anywhere from \$200,000, it can go as high as \$260, \$280. So that's why it says approximately \$250. So it's going to vary dependent on how many people we report as being participants and being in compliance. And we don't control the amount that comes in. The Health and Human Services Agency is the one that determines by putting formulas and percentages as to how much we get back.** Ms. Pena stated, well, thank you, and thank you for staying on it. I know it's hard, especially when it comes to finance. **Ms. Lippa interjected, it's super tough.** Ms. Pena continued, especially in 2025, it's, oh my God, if you blink, you miss a dollar sign. Ms. D. Garza yes and Ms. Lippa, you did mention that Houston was here. Could Houston just give the Board just a briefing on the critical components that all of this plays with the SHARS reimbursement? Because along with the MAC, MAC is not just our LVNs and nurses. We can actually add other personnel on there. But how it all is connected, and if we fail in one of those, we will jeopardize our reimbursement. So could they just come up and just give a little explanation of how all of this works together with all the reimbursements? **Ms. Lippa stated, certainly, they're here, and thank you for giving us the opportunity to explain this, because I think it's a little bit complicated outside of the educational world, but certainly it is worth everyone knowing about it, because it is important to the district, as it does bring in money to our district. And I want to just thank teachers and paraprofessionals, because they are the ones that are certainly doing the work. So thank you, teachers and, Ms. Borski, Mr. Acosta?** Ms. Crystal Borski, Representative Houston ISD Medicaid Finance Department stated, good evening. Thank you. We came down here, Michael was going to be here tonight. My name is Crystal Borski, I do work for Houston ISD and the Medicaid Finance Department, and I have Mr. Acosta with me as well, and he works directly with your district. Michael Gonzalez, he's still around. He was going to be here tonight, but he was working on some information for y'all as well. So he did say if he would like a Board Workshop around SHARS and the health of your Brownsville program, he'd be more than willing to come out and give you that workshop. So I'm going to extend that offer. But you are right. MAC and SHARS, they do work together, but the RMTS is what basically binds them in this participant list and how it functions. And so what you are getting from your random moment time study, and that is all of your SHARS providers and all of your MAC providers. So, what we can do to enhance your revenue really truly is to look at all of your positions on your PL list, make sure those are correct and that we haven't missed anybody. So, we're going

to go back and we've talked about that. So we're going to identify some more folks that we could put on for your MAC purposes, right? And so that could help the revenue go up a little bit because you're adding more providers. Now, as you know, SHARS has had a big flip the last couple years, and that's all due to TAC code, TAC-3558443. That has really restricted the cost on school districts because now it's about a paid claim. Because what it says is that you have to have 100% personal care, 100% transportation, and then at least one service has to be paid. But also on top of that, they have gone in and they have reduced what you can bill for personal care services. And so that's where districts are in a bind because it's not behavior anymore that we can bill for personal care services. And so that's where districts are in a bind because it's not behavior anymore that we can bill for. It's not those things. It's now truly your diapering, your toileting, your personal hygiene, and what does that look like? And how do you go from individual or group all day to individual, and what do those services look like, and how does that look like in the classroom? So this year across Texas, and I've seen it in my own personal district, about, you know, how do we train the teachers to understand that it's now individual, and you've been doing this individual all along, but you've been billing in a group setting, because some things are group. So, what are we doing to help combat some of this? Because districts have lost over 50% of the revenue. What are we doing? We've written some bills, and so we're going to bring those forward. We're doing a lot of lobbying. We are going to go to the federal court, because we've heard our case and we know where we stand. So we're going to go to federal court and we're going to defend our case. And what's going to happen with it, we go to federal court over the 22 cost report because that's part of where this all started was 22, right? We are going to, if we win, every district wins. So we've already started that process and started talking to our legal department because our case just ended. And so we kind of know where we stand with 22. HHS denied it. And that's what they did. They said they lacked jurisdiction. And so that's where that one stands. And so now we've gone through this whole process with them like they've told us that we had to. And they told every other district and advised every other district to go through the HHS process. We've done that, so now we can go to federal court. So that's kind of where Houston is, and so we're going to represent ourselves as well as every other district that we have. And so we're doing that. We're doing a lot of lobbying. There's a lot of bills out there and proposed bills and so we're keeping an eye on all of those to see where they land. So that's kind of where we are. Ms. D. Garza stated, thank you so much for giving the Board that explanation because oftentimes as we all knew previously before we would see just the SHARS, SHARS, SHARS money coming in reimbursements and all this stuff and I think it's a shock to many school districts you know that you know decrease of reimbursement and some people don't understand and they're like wait a minute what is going on here and it's not really the districts doing anything wrong it's just they have their hands tied right now currently so thank you, thank you so much and also thank you about mentioning working with the team for the PL lists. So that way we can maximize our reimbursement. Ms. Borski, stated, and we're willing to do whatever we need to do. And so, you know, just know that we're here. And like I said, you know, Michael said, if y'all want a board workshop, more than happy to come give you the pure health of what your district looks like financially and that type of thing and where the projections are going. But we're going to hope within the next couple years that

we can really turn this program around and get it back on its feet. Because you are right, districts don't know what all of a sudden happened. And then now we're having to hold the teachers super accountable when they're already busy and doing other things and they already have a hard-enough job. And the state just doesn't understand, so we keep talking to the state over and over again about it. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, thank you so much for your advocacy and just a weather alert came out. And I just want to make sure that we can speed through the rest of the conversation so that we can get everybody home safely and make sure that everyone was protected from this severe thunderstorm watch. Thank you. Ms. Pena stated, and thank you, ma'am, I want to thank you. Thank you that what you're fighting for is going to be beneficial to all the school districts. Thank you because right now, for some reason, the people at the top are getting very greedy with money and don't want to give it to who deserves it and who's earned it. So, thank you for working with our staff. I really appreciate you,

Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Daniella Lopez Valdez, and unanimously carried to recommend approval to renew the agreement between Brownsville ISD and Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) in partnership with Fairbanks, LLC for participation in the Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC) program for the period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2029. (6-0-0)

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

1. Recommend awarding RFQ #25-033 for of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report District-wide to Burton, McCumber and Longoria LLP, Brownsville, Texas for the audit years FY24-25 and FY25-26 with the option to renew up to two (2) additional two (2) year terms and to authorize Administration to negotiate and approve the contract. Year one (1) and two (2) of a six (6) year contract. **(Consent Agenda)**
2. Recommend awarding RFP #25-019 Athletic Supply for Football, Volleyball and Girls/Boys Basketball District-wide (Catalog Bid) to several vendors. (Annual RFP) **(Consent Agenda)**
3. Recommend awarding RFP #25-020 Athletic Supplies for Cross Country, Soccer and Track District-wide (Catalog Bid) to several vendors. (Annual RFP) **(Consent Agenda)**
4. Recommend awarding RFP #25-021 Athletic Supplies for Baseball and Softball District-wide (Catalog Bid) to several vendors. (Annual RFP) **(Consent Agenda)**
5. Recommend awarding RFP #25-022 Athletic Supplies for Golf, Swimming and Tennis District-wide (Catalog Bid) to several vendors. (Annual RFP) **(Consent Agenda)**
6. Recommend awarding RFP #25-029 Consultant/Contractor Services District-wide to several vendors. (Annual Proposal)

Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, Motion to approve. Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board President stated, Second. Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, yes, in looking at this item and looking at all the backup, I do have an observation here, a question and a recommendation. This item here, fiscal implications is about \$760,000. My question

is why did we consolidate consultants and contractors together instead of having them on separate items? **Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent stated, Ms. Pena, can I have you talk about that?** Mr. Ortiz stated, and the reason that I'm asking that is because I did notice that either to consultants or contractors we're paying out \$8,000, \$10,000, \$11,000, \$23,000, \$33,000, even \$52,000. So this is why I'm asking. **Ms. Rosario Pena, Purchasing Director stated, good evening, President Daniela Lopez-Valdez, Superintendent Chavez, members of the Board and audience. Thank you for that question, Mr. Ortiz. We did reach out, and I believe it was at the beginning of the year, to our originating department, and right now it's being funneled through professional staff development. And the recommendation from the originating department was to combine the consulting and the contracting. And I believe it, and Ms. Garza may be able to help me out on this one, it's due to the account coding that is being used. So consultants are one account code, contracted services use another account code. So it was recommended that we combine the proposal in one.** Mr. Ortiz stated, it's a recommendation, does it have to be? **Ms. R. Pena replied, no sir, it does not, this is solely up to the originating department. If their recommendation is to separate it, we can.** Mr. Ortiz stated, that would be one of my recommendations because I see medical services, I see engineering services, and then I see college and first grade programs, just a lot of different things there. So as I was looking through it, there's 54 pages of it, OK? And that was just a question that I have. My recommendation would be if we could have it on separate items in the future. I'm going to go ahead and approve it but that's just basically what I would be recommending. Due to the fact also that you know I'd like to also see a description as to what type of services they're providing us because it's just general and then we throw out \$52,000. I'd like to see what kind of service they're providing for us. **Ms. Pena stated, yes sir, and as you mentioned there is about 52 pages right now as backup. We do have the notes that the vendors provided to us, so that would be another 52 pages. And I did not want to include that with your backup because it's rather bulky. But I can do provide it for you in a Friday letter if it's okay with Dr. Chavez. I can provide that for you.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay that would be fine because I'm looking at item number seven you know for curriculum and instruction which is specific you know for supplies materials and software district-wide I mean that is that's going to get approved obviously but you know that comes at a cost of \$4 million that we're providing to C&I for the 25-26 school year. **Ms. R. Pena replied, yes, sir.** Mr. Ortiz stated, so those would be my recommendations. **Ms. R. Pena stated, yes, sir, of course, well noted. Ms. Patricia C. Perez, Executive Assistant stated please vote.** Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated, I have a question real quick. **Ms. R. Pena stated, yes, sir.** Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, Mr. Elizondo. Mr. Elizondo continued, all right, are we going to vote on it now or are they going to bring it back to us so we can see a line item of what vendors and what contracts are going to be paid out? **Dr. Chavez replied, we're happy to provide the information. I mean, obviously here the faster we approve it the better it gets in line. We are committed to providing the information as has been suggested by Frank Ortiz here.** Mr. Elizondo stated (inaudible), that's why I'm reflecting this question because of what Mr. Frank Ortiz says. He's got questions of why was it not given to us, it's just all put in on 52 pages and it's over \$700,000. Now we need to approve it. We don't even know what we're approving. **Dr. Chavez stated, and again, let me ask the staff here. These are items that need to be approved when?** **Ms. R. Pena replied, it's an annual proposal, sir. So it expires in May.** **Dr. Chavez stated, in May, all right, so we're happy if this is what the Board would like to do. I'm happy to bring it back. I know**

we've got a number of meetings here in May, and so we can bring it back in a week, two weeks, if that's what you'd like to do. Did you want to make another comment? Mr. Elizondo stated, (inaudible). Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, the original motion, Ms. Gonzalez would you like to amend you're your motion or should we move that one and then bring up another one? Ms. Gonzalez stated, I can amend it to bring it back, but for sure, obviously it'll come back this month because we have to, correct, Dr. Chavez? **Dr. Chavez stated, yes, ma'am, and so again, in an upcoming meeting here, as soon as we can get to it, we will bring this item. And so this will be another item that we can discuss then.** Ms. Gonzalez stated, so I will amend my motion to table this item instead and then it will be coming back in either the next week or two. Just make sure that we make it happen because as we heard earlier today, there's our departments and our campuses are benefiting from this exact item, so I can't (inaudible)... Mr. Elizondo interjected, I'll second the motion, I'll second that. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, we have a first and a second. **Ms. Perez stated, please vote.** Mr. Ortiz stated, so the motion is to bring it back, is that correct? **Ms. Perez stated, to table, yes sir.** Mr. Ortiz replied, okay.

Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Carlos Elizondo, and unanimously carried to recommend tabling agenda item XI. E. 6 - "Recommend awarding RFP #25-029 Consultant/Contractor Services District-wide to several vendors. (Annual Proposal)" - and bring the item back for consideration at the next Special Called Board Meeting in May 2025. Administration will provide additional supporting documentation at that time. (6-0-0)

7. Recommend awarding RFP #25-050 Curriculum and Instruction Supplies, Materials and Software District-wide to several vendors. (Annual RFP) **(Consent Agenda)**
8. Recommend awarding RFP #25-067 Fire System Annual Inspection and Repairs on Fire Flows, Risers and Fire Pumps District-wide to several vendors. The term of this contract is effective, from May 06, 2025, thru May 06, 2026, 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 #25-095 Fencing Services, Supplies and Materials District-wide to several vendors. The term of this contract is effective, from May 06, 2025, thru May 06, 2026, 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 #25-100 Portable Building Relocation and Related Services District-wide to several vendors and cast lots for item #12 of said RFP. The term of this contract is effective, from May 06, 2025, thru May 06, 2026, 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.

Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, Motion to approve. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, Second. Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, just for clarification purposes, I'm looking at this. What I see here is that the cost is going to go up from 17,000 to 50,000, am I reading this correct? **Ms. Rosario Pena, Purchasing Director stated, Mr. Ortiz, this is a multi-year contract so what is being reflected as a 50,000 is for a three-**

year term. The original or the previous 12 months is only for the one year. We did not provide what the total contract amount was. Mr. Ortiz stated, okay, that's what I had a question on because I saw that the previous 12 months. It was only 17, and then I see the fiscal implication of 50,000. So that kind of just that's why I asked that question, but thank you for clarifying. **Ms. R. Pena stated, yes, sir, and moving forward Board we will bring back the multi-year contracts and we will specifically identify the expenditure by year.** Mr. Ortiz stated, thank you. **Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent stated, this one is Betancourt Brothers House Movers leveling.** Can you tell me where they're from? Ms. Gonzalez stated, isn't Betancourt here from Brownsville? **Dr. Chavez stated, here in Brownsville? Okay. Yes, we're in Brownsville.**

Motion made by Denise Garza, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, and unanimously carried to recommend awarding RFP #25-100 Portable Building Relocation and Related Services District-wide to several vendors and cast lots for item #12 to Betancourt Brothers House Movers Leveling of said RFP. The term of this contract is effective, from May 06, 2025, thru May 06, 2026, 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. (6-0-0)

11. Recommend awarding Bid #25-109 Implement Online Academic Transcript Services (Reverse Bid) to Instructure, Inc. (Parchment LLC.), of Salt Lake City, Utah. The term of this contract is effective, from May 06, 2025, thru May 06, 2026, 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. Presentation, discussion and possible action, regarding bringing back KBSD Spectrum Channel 1301 To TV studio at Porter High School. This will help enhance BISD's accomplishments and showcase our great students, teachers and administrators. (Board Member Request Minerva Pena/Board Support Carlos Elizondo)

Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board President stated, yes, just before we begin, just want to make sure my colleagues and all of us are cognizant of the severe weather alert just to make sure everybody gets home safely and maybe we can do this in a timely manner. Ms. Pena, this is your item. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, yes, ma'am, yes, I was wondering because we have this TV station and I know right now we're doing everybody wants to do, like we have YouTube. I don't know if you know, but YouTube is not a guarantee to stay on it. Shuts off, cuts off, computer goes down, and you're SOL, sorry, out of luck. So when we have something on a TV station, even, do you know how many districts of the valley have a TV station, Dr. Gutierrez? I mean, Dr. Chavez, I guess Gutierrez is thinking of us. Do you know? Well, there are several that have a TV station. And do you know how much it was costing us annually to have this TV station on this particular channel? **Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent stated, I know it wasn't a huge amount of dollars.** Ms. Pena stated, from my understanding, it was less than 3,000 a year. And do you know that they don't take any kind of service to see how many people are viewing a TV station that has absolutely zero commercials? **Dr. Chavez replied, I know that we have very limited viewing of this. Now, are we talking about a couple of**

hundred? Probably so. Ms. Pena stated, how do you know that? Because no one takes that and I asked Spectrum, and I asked those people, because there's no commercial and I'm asking him to send it to me in writing. They don't take the viewership like they do a regular TV station where you have millions of dollars coming in from advertisers. So that's why I'm asking them because I'm being told something different by you and the personnel and they say man, that's not correct I said, well, I need it in writing because nowadays we live in a world where we have to have things in writing, otherwise it confuses people. And it was something that people who have a television really enjoyed and a lot of people don't have the luxury of getting on YouTube on a computer or on their iPhone. So I was wondering, and I know that the poor young people came up and spoke, that would be excellent to have the TV station there and have them integrated with part of the TV station so they can work together and be taught by people that have been running our television station and are doing a great job or running our YouTube station and having a great job. So I was wondering if it's something that we could consider bringing back because it was very, very limited in the fees. It was very inexpensive to have this. And to cut it off like that, I've had people call me who don't have the luxury that you and I have to get on YouTube on our computer, to have a computer, to have a cell phone. So can we do something so we can integrate everyone in the community? Is it possible? **Dr. Chavez stated, let me say that, you know, with regards to what we're doing at the particular high school, and you heard two students come forward and speak to you today. For me, you know, our first priority is our students. Our first priority is the education. And if I am already using a different service to provide to our parents, our business people, our folks, then yes, that's available. Now, I do have, you know, Dr. Linda Gallegos here that could present some information and possibly answer some of the questions that we have as well. So, Dr. Gallegos?** Ms. Pena stated, yes, and before you do, just a minute please, yes I want to answer him. Don't get upset, because when you do this, I see your face, your upset, no, sir. The students came and they told me they were coming because they were asked to come. I said, go ahead. And I'm 100% for them and the integration can be possible and it will be awesome for them to work with people who have that background experience because we can do both. And I don't say it to get upset. I know sometimes it's really hard not to get stuck doing things right that we forget to do the right thing. So I totally understand what you're saying. I just want us to consider because it was something that was really working for our community. It was something that was having us out there, turn on the TV and then you would have even the shows rerun and people could watch it and you didn't have the fear of the computer going down or the signal dropping and we didn't have it. So please. **Dr. Chavez stated, well, let me, if I may respond. Let me say again, my first priority is our students.** Ms. Pena interjected, mine also. **Dr. Chavez continued, with regards to involving other professionals, whether it be our own professionals or even outside professionals, let's say our, you know, Channel 4, Channel 5 people wanted to come assist our students. We certainly are very open to that. I really love the idea that yes, we would have our own employees participate with our students. Now, do I take the students out and or say, well, you can only do in this period and not this other period because we're going to use it? I'm happy to bring folks who are currently work for us to work with our students. You know, but am I in favor of not allowing students to use the space? No, I mean my first priority is students and what we're teaching them in this course. Anyway, let me see if Dr. Gallegos...** Ms. Pena interjected, let me respond to you please. Ms. Lopez Valdez interjected, Ms. Pena, let's get back on... Ms. Pena interjected, let me respond, it's only

polite to let me respond because I don't want the students removed from there either. I agree with you a thousand percent. I just want to see about getting this TV station back and running and if you want to give that whole place to the students, I can respect that. There is location where we can bring this TV station back, sir. It doesn't have to be there if you are comfortable putting there, but I'm asking you to bring it back somewhere where we have space and we have room to be able to bring this TV station back up. And that's the objective of this thing, to put it back on television so that parents, like I said, and I'll say it again, don't have the luxuries that you and I have, don't make the money that you and I make, can watch it. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, Dr. Chavez and then Ms. Gonzalez. **Dr. Chavez stated, and this will be very short. You know, with regards to yes, opening up the space in a different location, we can do that. There's going to be some cost. Now again, it's a small amount of cost, but the way I think about it with regards to where we are in our budget, you know, if I need to spend \$20 million, that's a lot. But let me talk about \$20,000. \$20,000 is half of a person's salary that we hire. You know, somebody we pay \$40,000, \$20,000 is, you know, \$20,000 less than I have. Anyway, just wanted to mention that piece.** Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, thank you, Dr. Chavez, Ms. Gonzalez and then Mr. Ortiz. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, Motion to table. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, Second. Mr. Frank Ortiz stated, okay, talking about KBSD. I've always been a supporter of KBSD. It was a great, great station. And I'm always talking about promoting our district and marketing our district and we have our own studio that we can do this and I know that we have our PIO department that's put out a commercial out there and it goes out on Channel 4, certain channels, it goes out on YouTube but something like this can be played over and over and over over the KBSD channel I certainly would like you know this station to come back on. Let me ask this question KBSD it's a peg channel. Is that correct? I don't know who can answer that question for me. And what does peg stand for? **Mr. Martin Sandoval, Director KBSD stated, hello, good evening, Madam President, Board members, Dr. Chavez. A PEG channel would be a public educational channel that is provided by particular cable services.** Mr. Ortiz stated, correct, and it is a low power television channel, is that correct? **Mr. Sandoval replied, yes, sir, they have transitioned already to HD, so it's no longer in SD format.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay and the equipment that we have at KBSD right now is it functional? **Mr. Sandoval replied, it is functional with SD.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay so we're not trying to get rid of that equipment at all are we? **Mr. Sandoval stated, no that equipment is still at KBSD.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay and people that don't have spectrum if they have a fire stick or they have Roku, they still have access to KBSD 1301, is that correct? **Mr. Sandoval stated, through YouTube, sir.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay, so I mean, I think it was costing like \$2,800 per year to have Spectrum provide us the service, is that correct? **Mr. Sandoval stated, that was because we were only paying for A-List, which is a looping computer that was on, and it would continuously loop any video that we would put there.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay, so if we were to consider to bring KBSD back online, could we do it? **Mr. Sandoval replied, we can do it at a greater expense.** Mr. Ortiz stated, do you have that expense? **Mr. Sandoval stated, if I may, I have the spectrum proposal here for the Board Members.**

Handout 2 added to official minutes

Mr. Ortiz stated, thank you for this information, I know this item is going to be tabled and it'll give us time to look at this. And will it be coming back to us, Madam President? Ms. Lopez Valdez replied, yes, this will be brought back. And we have a first and a second. Mr. Ortiz stated, thank you. Ms. Gonzalez stated, can I just briefly, before we vote, I just

want to publicly thank the students that came up to speak. That was so amazing of them. I truly wish more students would come out and do it because like I've always said and I said it earlier, your voices matter and the decisions that we make here affect you guys directly. And then obviously the trail goes on to staff and family. So just, I just wanted to thank those students. It takes a lot of courage to go up there. Proud Porter mom. Ms. Pena stated, Ms. Daniela, if I may. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, Ms. Pena. Ms. Pena continued, yes, and like I said, Dr. Chavez, my objective is to bring the station back. And if you're not comfortable and you don't feel that they could be together there at Porter, I don't have a problem with it. My objective is to bring this station back and make sure that we have ourselves more out there. And can you please get us a cost of how much each commercial is costing us on Channel 4, Channel 5, and all the stations that we were coming, the really good commercials. Tell us how much that is costing us, please, per commercial. And my objective is to get this back on, to have BISD like Mr. Frank said. I remember people, even I did, when I was in the middle of the night or I didn't want to watch anything, I would turn on that channel and run the re-run. So can you please consider that? I would really appreciate you because I think it's something that will really push Brownsville back up to the top. BISD is number one in that sense. Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated, May I? Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, Mr. Elizondo. Mr. Elizondo stated, I have a question for Mr. Martin? **Mr. Sandoval stated, yes, sir.** Mr. Elizondo stated, just real quick, I'm under the impression that PEG channels are not high definition, that they're always standard definition. Is that the case? **Mr. Sandoval stated, the case here is when I talked to Mr. Parker Tenant from Spectrum, who is the Associate for public education channels, said that HD is where they're going and SD is no longer available.** Mr. Elizondo stated, well, that's what you said, what they're going, but they're not there yet, right? **Mr. Sandoval stated, I'm sorry, sir, can you repeat your question?** Mr. Elizondo stated, you said that where they're going, that's not where they're at yet. **Mr. Sandoval stated, he advised that HD is what they have. They no longer provide SD service for us.** Mr. Elizondo stated, I guess I'm getting a little different information. I talked to some other representatives there at Spectrum and they said that the PEG channel is strictly standard definition and not HD because it's a paid channel public education government channel. **Mr. Sandoval stated, yes sir like I said Mr. Tennant advised me that HD is what they have and they cannot provide an SD channel for us anymore.** Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, thank you Mr. Elizondo and could we please go ahead and take the first and the second and vote on this and come back with all the information that has been requested. **Ms. Perez stated, please vote.** Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, thank you so much. Ms. Pena stated, and please everyone bring it in writing from those people in black and white. That's what I'm doing. So whatever you have sir, Mr. Martin, get it in writing. **Mr. Sandoval stated, yes ma'am.** Mr. Elizondo stated what's the motion ma'am? **Ms. Perez stated Motion to table, sir.** Mr. Elizondo stated, my vote is no. **Ms. Perez stated, Motion passes, five yes, one no.** Ms. Pena stated, No, I voted no, too, I hit the wrong one, because I wanted to discuss this and get it done tonight. **Ms. Perez stated, okay four yes, two no.**

Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Denise Garza, to recommend tabling agenda item XI. A. 1 "Presentation, discussion and possible action, regarding bringing back KBSD Spectrum Channel 1301 To TV studio at Porter High School. This will help enhance BISD's accomplishments and showcase our great students, teachers and administrators. (Board Member Request Minerva Pena/Board Support Carlos Elizondo)" and bring the item back for consideration at the next Special Called

Board Meeting in May 2025. Administration will provide additional supporting documentation at that time.

The following vote was recorded

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

Motion Carried: 4-2-0

2. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding; (Board Member Request Minerva Pena/Board Support Carlos Elizondo).

**Substitute Teacher Pay
TIA Pay process**

Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, Move to approve. Mr. Carlos Elizondo Board Member stated second. Ms. Pena stated I love the way you all look. Like I can, when I have an army, I'll make sure you're not my soldiers. You won't come rescue me? Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board Member stated, Ms. Pena your item. Ms. Pena continued, yes, sir, I have a question on this. As far as the substitutes and also on the TIA, I'm getting a lot of questions and if you could please get this for us, how much of it gets paid to the teacher and how much of it gets used somewhere else? Like what percent of it gets paid to the teacher in BISD? And the reason I'm asking is I'm getting totals from other school districts, and you know how it is nowadays. Everybody looks at everybody else. So how much are we paying our teachers? **Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent stated, so let me have Dr. Linda Gallegos talk about that. Dr. Linda Gallegos, Chief Human Resources Officer stated, yes, Mr. Emiliano Camarillo. Mr. Emiliano Camarillo, TIA Coordinator stated, hi, good afternoon, Madam Board President, Dr. Chavez and members of the Board. So our current BISD pay plan is 80% goes to the teacher that earned the designation, 10% gets equally divided amongst the other non-designated teachers at the same campus as a designated teacher, and 10% gets retained by the district. Ms. Pena stated, okay, so 10% by the district, and the other 10% goes where? Mr. Camarillo replied, what happens is we put all of the generated money into one big account for each school that the designated teachers are working in, and 10% of that money gets divided equally among the other teachers that are not designated. Ms. Pena stated, and is this a common practice? Mr. Camarillo stated, that is something that stakeholders decided back in 2020, 2021, who we were putting together our TIA application. The stakeholder group decided, and was very adamant that everyone contributes to the education of a child. So they wanted to share the designated teacher's allotment with everyone, not just with the designated teacher. Ms. Pena stated, I kind of want to laugh. Sorry. It's just like, it was designed for the TIA and you would get selected by your principal that you earned this award. And from what I'm hearing is that everybody gets part of the award. Is that what I'm hearing you say? Mr. Camarillo replied, so you're not selected by the principal... Ms. Pena interjected, so what I am saying is that you earned because of the work you do, what is the difference, define TIA and how you get that. Mr. Camarillo replied, TIA is made of two components, teacher performance and student growth. Teacher performance is measured by the Texas T-**

Test process and the student growth measure for Brownsville ISD is a student learning objective. Those two percentages or those two numbers are put together to come up with a designation. Ms. Pena stated, and so the teachers that met those designations get the 80% of the TIA? **Mr. Camarillo stated, if we're lucky enough to pass data validation like we have been working very hard towards the past two years to get validated, the answer is yes.** Ms. Pena stated, okay, and so my question is that the, I don't want to step on toes, and it's very hard to ask this question, but what I'm hearing you say is that 10% goes to the other teachers that didn't get classified, or however you want to call it, as part of the TIA. **Mr. Camarillo stated, that's exactly right. That's how the stakeholders voted back in 2020. It was made up of teachers of all levels. It was made up of administrators, principals, and it was about a group of 40, and we still have that group now, and they decided to go ahead and split the pot with the non-designated teachers as well because they believe, like I said, that everyone plays a part in educating the children.** Ms. Pena stated, and these stakeholders are from what district? **Mr. Camarillo replied, ours, Brownsville. Teachers from Brownsville.** Ms. Pena stated, so the teachers here. And do you see where I'm coming from? It's like, please forgive me. Like, you won first place, you know, and you earned that title, but you know what? We're going to not give you all of the first-place earnings. We're going to make sure we share with everyone else. It kind of, I see what you're saying and I agree. I really wish, God forgive me, they wouldn't even have this program because it's causing a lot of division because every district applies it differently. You had stakeholders that came in and said, let's give a little bit of the pie to everyone, which I'm okay with, but apparently not everyone has that comfort because not all districts are doing it like that. But I'm glad that you're saying this so they'll know exactly what's going on and why it's being split up that way. And it was the teachers, principals, and people who thought, let's give it to all the teachers. And I agreed. Every teacher is worthy for me. Every teacher is valued. But this program, what it says and what we're doing with it is a little bit contradicted to what it was meant to. And how some of these people are seeing it. I can see your side and I can see their side. The thing that I'm trying to do is find a balance for everyone. And we need to explain that to the teachers because I don't know, maybe tell them in a manner that they're getting more than the others, but I didn't realize that that was happening. So thank you for explaining that to me and now we know what's going on. Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, Mr. Camarillo, this was the decision that our stakeholders made back then, is that correct? **Mr. Camarillo replied, that's correct.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay, when is it up for review again? **Mr. Camarillo replied, so the renewal process, we actually have to go through it next year, 25-26 school year. So we're going to meet again as stakeholders, we usually meet once a year, but next year we're going to meet at least three to four times to go over every component of our application so that if there's room for discussion, which there obviously is, we can go ahead and enhance the application. However, the stakeholder group wishes to take it in whatever direction they like.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay, so then our stakeholders have an opportunity this coming year to make any changes to it. **Mr. Camarillo replied, absolutely, however, we will submit that to the state in April of 2026. They have to approve it, but any changes that are made, if there are, will not take effect until the 27-28 school year.** Mr. Ortiz stated, got you, okay, so then if our stakeholders want to change, it has to come from them. **Mr. Camarillo stated, correct.** Mr. Ortiz stated, very good, thank you. Ms. Pena stated, one last follow-up and how, you said there's 40 people in the stakeholder group? Ms. Pena stated, currently there are 40, yes. Ms. Pena stated, how do we come up with a number to put how many stakeholders?

How many of, what percent are teachers, what percent are principals? Are they all teachers and principals? They're all educators? **Mr. Camarillo replied, great question, we have a list online on our TIA website, but there are 20 teachers who are actually in the teaching right now. We have two lead teachers. We have about six principals all of our directors from fine arts CTE special services bilingual they're in it as well plus a coordinator from AR the assessment department so it covers the entire district.** Ms. Pena stated, but it's all certified personnel that are on this. Mr. Camarillo replied, absolutely yes ma'am, they are. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated yes and Ms. Pena I know you have substitute teacher pay but would you be okay pulling that out and referring it to the Budget Committee as we're in the budget process and we can discuss the substitute teacher pay and do a little more reevaluation and comparison? Ms. Pena stated yes, as long as we do a comparison of what's going up the valley and how we're paying our substitute teachers because guys, we're having a lot of retired teachers coming to do substitute work and they're very valuable to us. Ms. Garza interjected, Dr. Gallegos?, would she be able to bring that up at one of the budget meetings? **Dr. Gallegos stated yes, ma'am.** Ms. Garza stated, the comparisons? Ms. Pena stated, and what other districts? All the districts in the budget, they're not too many. **Dr. Gallegos stated, you got it, yes.** Ms. Gonzalez stated, what is the motion. Ms. Pena stated, she wants to table the substitute teacher pay. Ms. Garza stated, just pull out the teacher, the substitute teacher. Ms. Pena interjected, put it into the Budget committee meeting. Ms. Gonzalez stated, So what are we doing with the TIA? Ms. Garza stated, well, it was just discussion. Ms. Pena stated, it was just discussion. Ms. Gonzalez stated so no action? Ms. Pena stated, no at this point. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, basically, do we have to do anything? No action. **No action taken**

Note: Substitute Teacher Pay will be discussed at the next Budget Committee Meeting.

3. Presentation, discussion, and possible action on BISD Academic Accountability Rankings: 2023 vs. 2024. (Board Member Request Carlos Elizondo/Board Support Minerva Pena)

Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board President stated, Mr. Elizondo, we need a motion, it's your item, do you want a motion? We did discuss this earlier, so it's up to you on what you want to do on this one. *Ms. Shellie Smith, Board Attorney stated, Trustee, I believe you're muted.* Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated, it's already been discussed, so thank you so much.

XII. CLOSED MEETING: as pursuant to the Texas Government Code Sections: 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.082, and 551.084. 8:51 p.m.

A. PERSONNEL MATTER(S):

1. Presentation and acceptance of Retirements. (29)
2. Presentation and acceptance Resignations. (11)
3. Personnel Update with Superintendent (Dr. Jesus H. Chavez)
4. Personnel for the 2024-2025 school year–Principal. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)

5. Personnel for the 2024-2025 school year–Adult Basic Education (ABE) Manager. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1)
6. Personnel for the 2024-2025 school year –Defense Coordinator. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1)
7. Personnel for the 2024-2025 school year–Network Administrator. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (2)
8. Personnel for the 2024-2025 school year–Management Information System Specialist/Programmer. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1)
9. Compensation for professional employee (R.R.) on interim assignment to be commensurate with the Middle School Assistant Principal salary.
10. Campus professional staff for Ch.21 Term contracts for the 2025-2026 school year.
11. Termination of a probationary contract teacher (S.P.S) at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.
12. Proposed non-renewal of a term contract professional teacher (D.G.) at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. **(Agenda item deleted as per Administration)**
13. Rescind the Chapter 21-Term contract for employee (M.K.) for the 2025-2026 school year.
14. Propose non-renewal of a term contract professional employee (M.K.) at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

B. ATTORNEY CONSULTATION

1. Staff Attorney

- a. Cause No. 2021-DCL-06699; Jimmy Haynes vs. Brownsville Independent School District.

2. Board Attorney:

- a. Legal Update with Board Counsel.

C. INTERNAL AUDITOR CONSULTATION

D. BOARD SELF-EVALUATION.

XIII. BOARD RECONVENES - Board action on agenda items discussed in Executive Session. 10:33 p.m.

Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Daniella Lopez Valdez, and unanimously carried to recommend grouping Personnel Items A. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11. (G 6-0-0)

A. PERSONNEL MATTER(S):

1. Presentation and acceptance of Retirements. (29) **(G 6-0-0)**
Hugo Arredondo, Maria Cariaga, Diana Dominguez, Debra Dorsett, Homer Fernandez, Norma A. Garcia, Rosalva Garza, Laurencia Helms, Efrain Lopez, Jaime Alberto Lopez, Yolanda Lopez-Borja, Juanita Lozano, Genaro Martinez, Oscar Michi, Anna D. Morales, Marbelia Moreno-Sweeney, Mariela G. Orozco, Tammie Poling, Gricelda Ramos, Alma Rios, Orfa Rodriguez-Blanco, Maria D. Rosas, Leticia Saenz, Rosa Salinas, Jorge Silguero, Blanca N. Sosa, Nelda Tovar, Juan F. Trevino, Elvia M. Villalon
2. Presentation and acceptance Resignations. (11) **(G 6-0-0)**
Alejandro Cespedes, Michael J. Evans, Tiffany Gibson, Bryan D. Hernandez Aguirre, Monica E. Hernandez, Alejandra Mendez, Linda M. Palominos, Laura Tijerina, Jesus O. Villarreal, Juanita Zamarripa Celis, Victor Zanabria
3. Personnel Update with Superintendent (Dr. Jesus H. Chavez) **(G 6-0-0)**
4. Personnel for the 2024-2025 school year–Principal. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1) **Maria G. Perez, Principal Lucio Middle School (G 6-0-0)**
5. Personnel for the 2024-2025 school year–Adult Basic Education (ABE) Manager. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1) **Yarim Enriquez (G 6-0-0)**
6. Personnel for the 2024-2025 school year –Defense Coordinator. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1) **Lawrence Ellison–Veterans Memorial ECHS (G 6-0-0)**
7. Personnel for the 2024-2025 school year–Network Administrator. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (2) **Luis DeLeon/Jesus Herrera (G 6-0-0)**
8. Personnel for the 2024-2025 school year–Management Information System Specialist/Programmer. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1) **Miguel Molina (G 6-0-0)**
9. Compensation for professional employee (R.R.) on interim assignment to be commensurate with the Middle School Assistant Principal salary. **(G 6-0-0)**
10. Campus professional staff for Ch.21 Term contracts for the 2025-2026 school year. **(G 6-0-0)**
11. Termination of a probationary contract teacher (S.P.S) at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. **(G 6-0-0)**
12. Proposed non-renewal of a term contract professional teacher (D.G.) at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. **(Agenda item deleted as per Administration)**

13. Rescind the Chapter 21-Term contract for employee (M.K.) for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion made by Daniella Lopez Valdez, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, and unanimously carried to recommend approval to rescind the Chapter 21-Term contract for employee (M.K.) for the 2025-2026 school year. (6-0-0)

14. Propose non-renewal of a term contract professional employee (M.K.) at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion made by Daniella Lopez Valdez, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, and unanimously carried to recommend approval of the proposed non-renewal of a term contract professional employee (M.K.) at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. (6-0-0)

B. ATTORNEY CONSULTATION

1. Staff Attorney

- a. Cause No. 2021-DCL-06699; Jimmy Haynes vs. Brownsville Independent School District.

Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated, I vote no.

Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Daniella Lopez Valdez, to recommend approval of Cause No. 2021-DCL-06699; Jimmy Haynes vs. Brownsville Independent School District, as discussed in Executive Session.

The following vote was recorded

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

Motion Carried: 5-1-0

2. Board Attorney:

- a. Legal Update with Board Counsel. **No action taken**

C. INTERNAL AUDITOR CONSULTATION No action taken

D. BOARD SELF-EVALUATION. No action taken

Handout 3 – Added to Official Minutes (School board Members Standard Operating Procedures Manual)

XIV. Announcement(s):

Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent stated, yes, everyone. First of all, let me say that last week on May 1st was National School Principals Day, so if we haven't had the opportunity to do that, please, please recognize our principals. They do such a fantastic job. May 6th, National Teacher Appreciation Day. Certainly, want to recognize our teachers for the tremendous job that they do,

and they do this for a number of years, so congratulations to them, and thank you so much for what they do. On May 7th, we've got Elementary Teacher of the Year Ceremony at CAB Cafeteria at 8:0 a.m. We have the Mariachi Festival at CAB Auditorium at 7 p.m. That's May 7th. May 8th, Secondary Teacher of the Year Ceremony, CAB Cafeteria, 8:30 a.m. We have the Youth Philanthropy Grant Presentation Brownsville Event Center at 10 a.m. and we also have a Budget Committee it's workshop number two at the BISD boardroom at 5:30 p.m. that's May 8th. Additionally, on May 8th we also have the Elementary and Middle School Ballroom Championship and also at the TSC Performing Arts Center at 6 p.m. Those are the events and announcements we wanted to make.

XV. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Daniella Lopez Valdez, and unanimously carried to approve to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 10:37 P.M. (6-0-0)

➤ 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:

Daniella Lopez Valdez, 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 Rescheduled Regular Board Meeting held on June 26, 2025)