



Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: General Function
Contracts/MOU Board of Education Meeting: 01/14/25

Item Title: Annual Collaborative Partnership Agreement X Action
Information
Discussion

BACKGROUND:

Brownsville ISD has maintained a collaborative partnership agreement for several years with Gladys Porter Zoo. The agreement allows Brownsville ISD students to visit the institution individually or with their classes free of charge throughout the school year. The organization provides staff development activities, individualized tours, specialized classes and access of educational materials. Brownsville ISD also gets special access to their facilities for meetings and conferences as part of the agreement.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

\$43,200.00 from budgeted Local Maintenance Funds:
\$43,200.00 Gladys Porter Zoo

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval for administration to continue with the collaborative service agreement with Gladys Porter Zoo. Not to exceed \$43,200.00 from budgeted Local Maintenance Funds. (Annual Agreement)

Isabel De La Cruz *I. De La Cruz*
Submitted by: Principal/Program Director

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:

Recommended by: Asst. Supt./Exec. Dir.
Miguel Salinas *Miguel Salinas*
Reviewed by: Staff Attorney

Jesus H. Chavez
Dr. Jesus H. Chavez, Superintendent

Dr. Linda Gallegos *Linda Gallegos*
Approved by: Chief Human Resources Officer

CONTRACT

THE STATE OF TEXAS }}
COUNTY OF CAMERON }}

AGREEMENT REGARDING GLADYS PORTER ZOO SERVICES

The BROWNSVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (hereinafter "District") agrees to have the Gladys Porter Zoo (hereinafter "Zoo") provide educational services to the Brownsville Independent School District. The Zoo agrees to furnish these services on the following terms and conditions:

1. The Brownsville Independent School District agrees to pay the Gladys Porter Zoo the amount of \$43,200.00 for 48,000 admission tickets.
2. The Zoo agrees to provide the following services, for no further charge, to all students and employees of the Brownsville Independent School District.
 - Provide staff development activities to assist faculty and staff members via three teacher workshops during the school year. Dates and subject matter will be selected at a later date. The Zoo's Education Department will work directly with BISD's Curriculum Department to schedule the workshops, develop content emphasis, and select dates.
 - Provide educational slide and video presentations for any BISD school group. Presentations must be scheduled through the Zoo's Education Department at least two weeks in advance.
 - Assist in the development of educational television and other media programming by providing educational material and facts. If Zoo staff is required to be on-camera, a two week notice is required.
 - Make available for District use the Zoo's education complex, amphitheater, and Special Events Building, space permitting. A two week advance notice is required. The Zoo library is also available during Zoo office hours for any BISD student or faculty member. However, books may not be checked out.

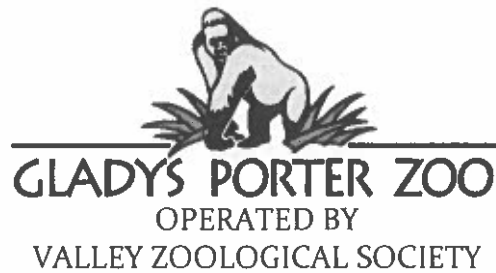
This contract is for the period from January 1, 2025, to January 1, 2026.

Renewal of the contract will be contingent upon the following factors:

1. Availability of funds,
2. Educational benefits to students and staff, and
3. Modifications, if any, resulting from evaluation findings.

_____/Date:_____
Patrick M. Burchfield, Director
Gladys Porter Zoo

_____/Date:_____
Dr. Jesus H. Chavez, Superintendent
Brownsville Independent School District



December 13, 2024

Isabel A. De La Cruz
Director of Public Relations and Community Engagement
Brownsville Independent School District

Dear Ms. De La Cruz:

The Valley Zoological Society is pleased to invite Brownsville Independent School District to continue our joint program, *Conservation through Education Partnership*. For the period of January 1, 2024 to November 12, 2024, 49 outreach presentations were conducted in the classrooms of your various campuses to 6,366 students and teachers for a value of \$8,710. From January through November; 8,053 students visited the Zoo in connection with this program, and 1,010 teachers and aides accompanied them at no additional charge. Twenty-three presentations were given to students and faculty in conjunction with these fieldtrips. This is valued at \$49,648 in zoo admission fees.

With the increased meeting space at the Zoo, we have been able to dedicate one of the classrooms to HOSA students doing their practicums and working with zoo staff. We host 8 HOSA students, on a daily basis, from Pace, Veterans HOSA, and Hanna and 6 to 8 students from the Triple T Program. Additionally, 55 students participated this year on weekends as part of the Students Teaching Students Program. Additionally, other meeting spaces are available. This year, we hosted 3 events for 480 BISD students and staff.

The existing contract does not expire until December 31, 2024, so we will continue to provide services requested by the district. Please let me know if you need any further information for your presentation to the BISD Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

Patrick M. Burchfield, Ed. D, M. Sc.
Director