

ROBSTOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
801 NORTH FIRST STREET
ROBSTOWN, TEXAS 78380

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DECEMBER 8, 2025

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lori Ann Garza, President
Erik Gallegos, Vice-President
Cezar Martinez, Secretary
Bobby Marroquin, Assistant Secretary
Larry Cantu, Trustee
Mario Mesa, Trustee
Yvette Villalobos, Trustee

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: All board members were present.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Dr. Marc Puig, Superintendent
Eva Cisneros, Chief Financial Officer

VISITORS:	Sandra Blanton	Jorge Hernandez	Anisa Chavera
	Belinda Alaniz	Maribel Trevino	Jaime Velasco
	Rachel Medrano	David Powell	Tito Tagle
	Richard Gonzalez	Katrina Alejandro	

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM

At 6:00 p.m., President Lori Ann Garza called this meeting of the Robstown Independent School District Board of Trustees to order.

ROLL CALL: Lori Ann Garza – Present, Erik Gallegos – Present, Cezar Martinez – Present, Bobby Marroquin – Present, Larry Cantu – Present, Mario Mesa – Present and Yvette Villalobos – Present

Present – 7

Absent – 0

Let the record show that a quorum of Board Members is present, that this meeting has been called, and that the notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

2.0 MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAYER

Dr. Marc Puig led the audience and the Board in prayer.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/TEXAS FLAG PLEDGE

President Lori Ann Garza led the board members and the public in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Flag Pledge.

4.0 VISION – OUR VISION IS TO IGNITE BRILLIANCE AND IMPACT LIVES BY PROVIDING TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES THAT EMPOWER STUDENTS FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

Trustee Cezar Martinez read the following vision statement: “Our vision is to ignite brilliance and impact lives by providing transformative learning opportunities that empower students for generations to come.”

MISSION – TO EMPOWER, INSPIRE, AND INVEST IN OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF, IGNITING THE BEST VERSION OF THEMSELVES. TOGETHER, WE POSITIVELY IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

Trustee Erik Gallegos read the following mission statement: “To empower, inspire, and invest in our students and staff, igniting the best version of themselves. Together, we positively impact our community and the world.”

5.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (OPEN FORUM) AS PER POLICY BED (LOCAL)

Trustee Cezar Martinez read the following statement: “The Robstown ISD Board of Trustees welcome comments from citizens on any agenda items or non-agenda items. Those wishing to address the school board must provide their name for the record and observe a three-minute time limit. During this time, the Board of Trustees may not respond to the citizens' concerns as per the Texas Open Meetings Act.” Jorge Hernandez addressed the Board in reference to looking for a teaching position with Robstown ISD. He has been a psychology teacher and a counselor. He needed an opportunity to share his knowledge with the students and Robstown ISD would be an ideal place for him to work at.

For the record, Trustee Larry Cantu and Trustee Mario Mesa arrived for the Board meeting at 6:03 p.m.

6.0 AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS

6A PROUD YOU'RE A PICKER AWARD

Katrina Alejandro announced that at this time, they only had one Proud You're a Picker Award recipient. She congratulated Clarissa Lopez, Robstown Administrative Assistant for Teaching and Learning at Central Office, for being selected as the Proud You're a Picker Award recipient. Besides the work that Clarissa Lopez does for the Teaching and Learning Department. She also supports teachers and administrators at all the campuses. She embodies service, joy, and commitment in everything that she does for the school district.

7.0 MADAM PRESIDENT REMARKS

7A TASB GOVERNANCE CAMP, POWERED BY STUDENT VOICE – MARCH 4-7, 2026

President Lori Ann Garza announced that the TASB Governance Camp, Powered by Student Voice will be held on March 4-7, 2025, in Galveston, Texas. Dr. Marc

Puig announced that the administration was in the process of submitting the names of the students. Also, the Board will be making a presentation.

7B ESC-2 SCHOOL TRUSTEE RECOGNITION DINNER – JANUARY 30, 2026, 6:00 P.M.

President Lori Ann Garza announced that the ESC-2 School Trustee Recognition Dinner will be held on January 30, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. If they were interested in attending to please let Dr. Puig know.

7C CITY OF ROBSTOWN PARADE – DECEMBER 19, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.

President Lori Ann Garza announced that the City of Robstown would be having their Christmas parade on December 19, 2025 – 6:00 p.m. If board members were interested in attending, please contact each other to see who will be able to attend.

8.0 **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

8A ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE

Dr. Marc Puig reported that the school district had a slight increase in attendance. The enrollment trends in schools nationally are experiencing a tremendous decline in enrollment. The enrollment has declined because the birth rate has been declining since 2010 nationally and statewide. It has also declined because parents have the option of homeschooling their students, sending them to charter schools/micro schools, and or private schools. The enrollment will continue to drop, but they have to do it strategically. He reviewed the number of students who did not come back from each of the campuses during the COVID pandemic. A total of 340 students were lost during the COVID pandemic. In over two years, a total of 168 students have re-enrolled, and at this time, they have lost 135 students (80 in the elementary grades and 55 in the secondary grades). The bottom line is that the school district will be hit with a \$2 million deficit.

8B RISD STATE OF THE BUDGET

Dr. Marc Puig presented the Board with a copy of the school district's fiscal statement report so that they could understand the fiscal position of the school district. The report showed that the school district's fund balance was at \$10.9 million. The amount was adequate to help with the \$2 million deficit, and the school district has to be prepared to come up with the \$2 million loss. He reported that the school district could lose its "A" rating because once the reserves start to decline, the rating will go down, making it hard for school districts to get loans, because the bond rating has gone down. Eva Cisneros and himself are taking classes to understand how to navigate the situation. The administration has completed a staffing study, they are looking carefully at the master's schedules, they are looking for strategic use of the I&S fund balance, and recent audit results. The I&S Fund Balance has a total of \$2.4 million, which is an excess amount of money that can only be spent on debt. Also, they have money in the M & O Account that, with Board approval, without raising taxes, they could move it into the I&S and use the funds to pay some debt. This will prepare them strategically in case the enrollment

continues to decline. The school district's auditor will be at the school district at the January meeting.

8C LIBRARY MATERIALS UPDATE

Dr. Marc Puig reported that the Board had previously approved this item, and the Board chose not to do the committee. Jessica Juarez is already working on putting the information on the school district's website for everyone to review. Also, the Board has received the information for their review, and they will come back in January, with the recommendation from the administration.

8D CHRISTMAS BREAK – DECEMBER 22, 2025 – JANUARY 2, 2026

Dr. Marc Puig announced that the school district will be on Christmas Break from December 22, 2025, through January 2, 2026.

9.0 **PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

9A ACADEMIC UPDATE/TIA UPDATE

Joshua Garcia gave an up-to-date report on the following items: 1) The Four Pillars of the Strategic Plan, 2) Tier I Instruction, 3) PLCS process, 4) Building capacity within the teachers, in response to the four pillars, 5) ILTS, and 6) Learning walks and coaching walks and coaching. They have created a framework for how they are going to build their attendance for PLCS and ILTS and how they are supporting leaders on their campus. They created a framework on how they are going to build agendas for PLCS AND ILTS, and it is working out very well. The ESC 2 will be visiting Lotspeich Leadership Academy on Tuesday, and then on Wednesday, they will visit Robert Driscoll Stem Academy. Jacqueline Padilla reported that they were very excited about the visit, and they have everything ready. They have been working on the four pillars, and they are excited to show the ESC 2 what they have been working on. Also, they have met with the ESC 2 to partner with them on how to improve early literacy. Jaime Velasco reported that one of the things that they are seeing is that the students need to have that oral development to be better readers and writers. The main concern is to make sure that the students don't just understand, but that they can speak it. The ESC 2 will be helping them with the enhancements needed for early literacy. Diana Silvas reported that the TIA journey still continues, and during November and December, the teachers and campus administrators gained access to their data dashboards. The dashboards contain the students' names, their data from last year, and how they scored, so that they can see how the student has grown. Today, they had a morning and afternoon session with the Rural Cohort, specifically on the spending plan. They have received guidance and steps as they continue with the process. A total of fifty-six teachers are eligible this school year. On January 14, 2026, they will be meeting again with the Education Service Center Region 2. The deadline to key in all the information that they have is on January 9th, and at that point, they will take a look at where they are at. The application for Phase II is due on March 17th.

9B M & O UPDATE

Ron Lawver reported that a second round of pest control was completed this week. The energy management plan should be completed soon. They are doing a lot of

preventive maintenance, like changing the filters, putting a plan in place for buses, for when it is really cold, and they are preparing for the changes in the weather.

9C LIST OF BILLS

President Lori Ann Garza informed the Board that the List of Bills was included in their board packet for their review. If they had any questions, to please contact Dr. Marc Puig.

9D FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Dr. Marc Puig asked the Board if they had any further questions on the Financial Statement Report. There were no further questions.

10.0 CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

10A MINUTES: REGULAR BOARD MEETING: NOVEMBER 17, 2025

10B APPROVAL OF REMOTE HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION WAIVER

10C APPROVAL OF LOW ATTENDANCE WAIVER ON NOVEMBER 21, 2025

President Lori Ann Garza asked the board members for a motion to approve Items Numbers 10A-10C as presented.

Motion #7051 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee M. Mesa to approve the Consent Agenda Item as presented.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, E. Gallegos – Yes, C. Martinez –Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, L. Cantu - Yes, M. Mesa – Yes, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
7:15 p.m.

11.0 ACTION ITEMS

11A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SELECTION OF A CONTRACTOR FOR THE RECHS FIELD HOUSE AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO NEGOTIATE CONTRACT

Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving the company Hellas Construction for the RECHS Field House and authorize the superintendent to negotiate a contract. He appreciated the board members and administrators' work on coming to a decision on who to recommend.

Motion #7052A motion was made by Trustee M. Mesa and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, E. Gallegos – Yes, C. Martinez –Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, L. Cantu - Yes, M. Mesa – Yes, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
7:28 p.m.

11B DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FM (L) – STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Dr. Marc Puig reported that this policy allows only certain absences to be considered. The current practice is not aligned with this policy so FM LOCAL will align with

the current practice. After the discussion, Dr. Puig recommended approving FM LOCAL as presented.

Motion #7053 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee Y. Villalobos to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, E. Gallegos – Yes, C. Martinez –Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, L. Cantu - Yes, M. Mesa – Yes, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
7:30 p.m.

11C DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL UPDATE 126, AFFECTING THE FOLLOWING LOCAL BOARD POLICIES: BE, BED, CJ, CJA, CLE, CQB, CQD, CSA, CV, DBD, DEC, DFBB, DGBA, DH, EEP, EFA, EHBAF, EIA, FA, FEF, FFAC, FFB, FFF, FFG, FNG, FO, GF, AND GKA
Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving Update 126 and policies affecting local policies as read by President Lori Ann Garza. He stated that the local policies will be aligning with the legislation.

Motion #7054 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee Y. Villalobos to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, E. Gallegos – Yes, C. Martinez –Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, L. Cantu - Yes, M. Mesa – Yes, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
7:31 p.m.

11D DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN WALSH GALLEGOS' RETAINER PROGRAM
Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving membership in the Walsh Gallegos Retainer Program. The school district has used them for many years, and they have been an asset to the school district.

Motion #7055 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee E. Gallegos to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, E. Gallegos – Yes, C. Martinez –Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, L. Cantu - Yes, M. Mesa – Yes, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
7:33 p.m.

12.0 CLOSED SESSION – SECTION 551.072, 551.074, AND 551.076

12A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATIONS, RESIGNATIONS, REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEES

12B DISCUSSION OF OFFER MADE FOR DISTRICT PROPERTY
12C SAFETY AUDIT REPORT

President Lori Ann Garza asked for a motion to go into the executive session under sections 551.072, 551.074, and 551.076 to discuss the appointments, employment, evaluations, resignations, reassignments, duties, discipline, or dismissal of employees, discussion of the offer made for district property, and safety audit report.

Motion #7056 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee L. Cantu to go into the executive session as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Sections 551.072, 551.074, and 551.076.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, E. Gallegos – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, M. Mesa – Yes, and Y. Villalobos – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
7:33 p.m.

Motion #7057 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to reconvene from the executive session.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, E. Gallegos – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, L. Cantu - Yes, M. Mesa – Yes, and Y. Villalobos – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
8:33 p.m.

13.0 OPEN SESSION

13A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS, EMPLOYMENTS, EVALUATIONS, RESIGNATIONS, REASSIGNMENTS, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEES
Dr. Marc Puig announced that there were no recommendations.

13B DISCUSSION OF OFFER MADE FOR DISTRICT PROPERTY
Dr. Marc Puig recommended accepting the offer as recommended in the executive session.

Motion #7058 A motion was made by Trustee M. Mesa and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, E. Gallegos – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, L. Cantu - Yes, M. Mesa – Yes, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
8:35 p.m.

13C SAFETY AUDIT REPORT
This item was for information only.

14.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion #7059 A motion was made by Trustee E. Gallegos and seconded by Trustee L. Cantu to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, E. Gallegos – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, L. Cantu - Yes, M. Mesa – Yes, and Y. Villalobos – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
8:35 p.m.

(The details of this meeting are recorded on tape dated 12/08/2025, except for the executive session.)

