



Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: General Function Board of Education Meeting: 05/06/2025

Item Title: Resolution #028/2024-2025 X Action
Compensate Employees Due to Information
Inclement Weather Discussion

BACKGROUND:

Whereas, the recent severe storms and flooding posed an imminent threat of widespread and severe property damage, due to heavy rainfall, flash flooding and hazardous wind gusts resulting in the closure of the Brownsville ISD on March 28, 2025 for the safety of students and staff.

Employees who were on prior-approved long-term leave shall continue to be charged for such leave and shall not earn any other benefit as compensation.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

RECOMMENDATION:

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.

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:

Dr. Jesus H. Chavez

Submitted by: Superintendent

Recommended by: Asst. Supt./Exec. Dir.


Dr. Jesus H. Chavez, Superintendent

Approved by: Chief Officer

When Necessary, Additional Background May Follow This.

BROWNSVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 6, 2025

Resolution #028/2024-2025

TO COMPENSATE EMPLOYEES DUE TO DISTRICT CLOSURE

Whereas, the recent severe storms and flooding posed an imminent threat of widespread and severe property damage, due to heavy rainfall, flash flooding and hazardous wind gusts resulting in the closure of the Brownsville ISD on March 28, 2025 for the safety of students and staff; and

Whereas, On March 29, 2025, Greg Abbott, Governor of the State of Texas, issued a Disaster Proclamation certifying under Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code that severe storms and flooding and that included heavy rainfall, flash flooding, and hazardous wind gusts, is causing widespread and severe property damage, injury, and loss of life and because of such conditions, a state of disaster existed in Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr and Willacy counties of the State of Texas. (**Attachment 1**, March 29, 2025, Disaster Declaration).

Whereas, the District followed the recommendation of Dr. Jesus Chavez, and closed the campuses and departments of the Brownsville ISD; and

Whereas, Brownsville ISD closed the campuses because it must act in the best interest of, and for the safety of, its students and staff; and

Whereas, through circumstances completely beyond their control, some Brownsville ISD employees were forced to miss a part of the work day because the school district was closed; and

Whereas, there is a public purpose served and a benefit to the Brownsville ISD to demonstrate support of its employees, enhance employee morale and support the retention of employees; and

Whereas, some Brownsville ISD employees' work schedules have been affected by this closure; and

Whereas, this resolution is not meant to excuse the failure to report to duty on this day by any employees who were instructed by the administration to do so or who are required by contract or job description to report for duty, and who are emergency services personnel or whose presence is necessary to provide for the safety and well-being of the general public;

Now therefore, be it resolved by the Board that:

1. All of the above referenced paragraphs are incorporated into and made a part of this resolution; and
2. The Board determines that the time missed due to school district closure during the inclement weather will not be made up by the Brownsville ISD employees through either instruction of students or performance of other duties unless required by TEA; and
3. The Board finds a public purpose and benefit to the Brownsville ISD to excuse and/or forgive the absence by BISD employees due to school district closure during the inclement weather, and that payments for such day is necessary in the conduct of the public schools as provided by Texas Education Code Section 45.105(c); and
4. The Board hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to excuse the day of absence of BISD employees for school district closure necessitated by the inclement weather, and to pay all employees, except those employees out on prior-approved long-term leave, full compensation for the day.

Approved this 6th day of May, 2025.

Daniela Lopez-Valdez, Board President

Minerva M Peña, Board Secretary



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

March 29, 2025

The Honorable Jane Nelson
Secretary of State
State Capitol, Room 1E.8
Austin, Texas 78701

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
TEXAS SECRETARY OF STATE
1:20 PM O'CLOCK

MAR 29 2025
Jane Nelson
Secretary of State

Dear Secretary Nelson:

Pursuant to his powers as Governor of the State of Texas, Greg Abbott has issued the following:

A proclamation certifying that the severe storms and flooding event that began on March 27, 2025, and that included heavy rainfall, flash flooding, and hazardous wind gusts, is causing widespread and severe property damage, injury, or loss of life in Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy counties, and thereby declaring a state of disaster in those counties.

The original proclamation is attached to this letter of transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory S. Davidson
Gregory S. Davidson
Executive Clerk to the Governor
GSD:gsd

Attachment

PROCLAMATION

BY THE

Governor of the State of Texas

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

WHEREAS, I, GREG ABBOTT, Governor of the State of Texas, do hereby certify that the severe storms and flooding event that began on March 27, 2025, and that included heavy rainfall, flash flooding, and hazardous wind gusts, is causing widespread and severe property damage, injury, or loss of life in Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy counties;

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with the authority vested in me by Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code, I do hereby declare a state of disaster in the previously listed counties.

Pursuant to Section 418.017 of the Texas Government Code, I authorize the use of all available resources of state government and of political subdivisions that are reasonably necessary to cope with this disaster.

Pursuant to Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or any order or rule of a state agency that would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with this disaster shall be suspended upon written approval of the Office of the Governor. However, to the extent that the enforcement of any state statute or administrative rule regarding contracting or procurement would impede any state agency's emergency response that is necessary to protect life or property threatened by this declared disaster, I hereby authorize the suspension of such statutes and rules for the duration of this declared disaster.

In accordance with the statutory requirements, copies of this proclamation shall be filed with the applicable authorities.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and have officially caused the Seal of State to be affixed at my office in the City of Austin, Texas, this the 29th day of March, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Greg Abbott", written over a horizontal line.

GREG ABBOTT

DECLARATION OF DISASTER AND LETTER TO GOVERNOR – SEVERE WEATHER

By webmaster
Announcements Space X
March 28, 2025

EDDIE TREVIÑO, JR.
COUNTY JUDGE
DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
964 EAST HARRISON ST. – 2ND FLOOR
ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS 78520



TOM HUSHEN, EMC
CHIEF EMERGENCY OFFICER
JUAN MARTINEZ, FIRE MARSHAL
(956) 547-7000
FAX: 547-7006

DECLARATION OF DISASTER

WHEREAS, Cameron County, on the 27th day of March, 2025, has suffered widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property (or there is an imminent threat of the same) resulting from **25-0018 26MAR Severe Weather**.

WHEREAS, the Judge of Cameron County has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to alleviate the suffering of people and to protect or rehabilitate property;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF CAMERON COUNTY:

- 1 That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for 25-0018 26MAR Severe Weather pursuant to §418.018(a) of the Texas Government Code.
- 2 Pursuant to §418.018(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners' Court of Cameron County.
- 3 Pursuant to §418.018(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
- 4 Pursuant to §418.018(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the County emergency management plan.
- 5 This proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED this the 28th day of March, 2025, at 10:00 AM.

Eddie Treviño, Jr.
County Judge

SIGNED LETTER OF DECLARATION OF DISASTER AND LETTER TO GOVERNOR

By webmaster
Announcements
March 28, 2025



Eddie Treviño, Jr.
County Judge

March 28, 2025

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas
c/o Chief Nim Kidd
Texas Division of Emergency Management
1033 La Posada
Austin, Texas 78752-3824

Dear Governor Abbott,

The County of Cameron, Texas, is facing significant threats to life, health, and property due to widespread rainfall and flooding as a result of 25-0018 26MAR Severe Weather.

According to the National Weather Service (NWS), areas within Cameron County have received over 17 inches of rainfall, leading to rapid onset flooding; this rainfall is predicted to continue through Friday, March 28, 2025.

The heavy rainfall has caused significant flooding throughout Cameron County, especially in poor drainage areas.

The rapid inundation of floodwater continues to create hazardous conditions throughout the county.

The losses and response needs are of such magnitude that an effective response is beyond the capability of the County and individual cities to assist residents. Therefore, outside assistance may be needed to alleviate the hardship caused by this weather event.

I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that an effective response is beyond the County's capacity to control. Pursuant to §418 of the Texas Government Code, I respectfully request that you declare a disaster for Cameron County, Texas, and issue appropriate directives to address the emergency, including:

A disaster declaration for Cameron County, to take immediate effect.

The issuance of successive proclamations to remain in effect until the threat of loss of life, injury, or property damage is contained.

A timely response to this request would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Eddie Treviño, Jr.
County Judge