

**STATE OF TEXAS**

**(Minutes conducted via electronic voting)**

**COUNTY OF CAMERON**

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, that on the **5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025**, the Board of Trustees of the Brownsville Independent School District met in a **Rescheduled 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
Frank Ortiz	Vice-President
Minerva Pena	Secretary
Carlos Elizondo	Board Member (via zoom)
Denise Garza	Member
Jessica Gonzalez	Member
Neida Ruth Grantland	Member

**ABSENT:**

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Dr. Jesus H. Chavez	Superintendent of Schools
Kevin O'Hanlon	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 **Rescheduled 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(s) led by Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board President.**
- IV. Roll Call. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board Member** announced that all Trustees are present and Mr. Carlos Elizondo would join us via zoom.
- V. Recommend approving the agenda of the Rescheduled Regular Board Meeting of Wednesday, November 5, 2025, with any corrections/deletions.**

*Handout 1 of 1 added to official minutes (Personnel)*

**Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent stated the following amendments:**

**XII. C. Personnel Matters:**

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>Item 4</b> | <b>Page 3 will be replaced with Page 3a</b> |
| <b>Item 5</b> | <b>Page 3 will be replaced with Page 3a</b> |
| <b>Item 6</b> | <b>Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a</b> |
| <b>Item 7</b> | <b>Page 3 will be replaced with Page 3a</b> |
| <b>Item 8</b> | <b>Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a</b> |
| <b>Item 9</b> | <b>Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a</b> |

**Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Neida Ruth Grantland, and unanimously carried to recommend approving the agenda of the Regular Board Meeting of Wednesday, November 5, 2025, with the amendments as stated by administration. (7-0-0)**

**VI. Recommend approving the minutes with any corrections:**

- A. Special Called Board Meeting of Thursday, June 26, 2025.
- B. Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, August 5, 2025.
- C. Special Called Board Meeting of Monday, August 18, 2025.
- D. Hearing #001/25-26 (M.K.) of Wednesday, August 20, 2025.

**Motion made by Neida Ruth Grantland, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, and unanimously carried to recommend approving the minutes of the Special Called Special Called Board Meeting of Thursday, June 26, 2025, Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, August 5, 2025, Special Called Board Meeting of Monday, August 18, 2025, Hearing #001/25-26 (M.K.) of Wednesday, August 20, 2025. (7-0-0)**

**VII. Superintendent's Report: \* SB1566**

**A. Conference Presentations:**

- 1. Recognition of Benavides Elementary as an Apple Distinguished School.  
Recognition of Benavides Elementary - Apple Distinguished School  
The Brownsville Independent School District proudly recognizes Benavides Elementary for earning the prestigious Apple Distinguished School designation the first campus in Brownsville ISD to receive this honor. Benavides Elementary joins an elite group of 12 schools in the Rio Grande Valley, 758 in the United States, and 1,268 worldwide recognized for innovation in teaching and learning through technology. To highlight this achievement, a brief video from the official submission presented to Apple will be shared, showcasing the innovative instructional practices and student engagement that earned the school this recognition. The district congratulates the Benavides Elementary administration, faculty, and students for their dedication and commitment to excellence and extends appreciation to the Apple Education Team for their partnership and support. Presenting the Apple Distinguished School award are: David Hernandez, Apple Education Team Representative, and Ernesto Ayala, Apple Education Account Executive.
- 2. Open Public Hearing—School FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas).
- 3. Public Hearing-School FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas).

**Ms. Mary Garza, Interim Chief Financial Officer stated, good evening, Madam Chair, Dr. Chavez, members of the Board, and audience. The Public Hearing today is for the financial integrity program for the district. The state has two accountability**

ratings for every school district in the state of Texas. One is the student accountability rating, and the other one is the financial. So, the School FIRST Rating for Brownsville Independent School District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 is a Superior rating. And this is how the rating are determined. Based on the grade point averages, a superior rating of A is by scoring points 90 to 100. B, above Standard Average is 80 to 89. C, meets Standard Achievement 70 to 79, and Substandard Achievement, which would be an F, is less than 70 points. So, there are several indicators. that need to be met. There's a ceiling for indicators 4, 5, 6, 16, 17, 20, and 21. And these are the maximum points. So, if you get all indicators except 4, you get 95. Indicator 5, if you miss that one, the highest is 79. If you miss Indicator number 6, the highest is 89, and so forth. Indicator #1 is, did the District submit its Financial Report and data submitted to TEA within 30 days of November 27 or January 28, depending on the fiscal year end? The District submitted their annual report on November 22, so we passed indicator number one. Indicator #2, the District's audit report had an unmodified opinion, which is a clean audit, and the District passed for June 30, 2024. Indicator number #3, did the District meet compliance with payment terms of all agreements? And the school district had no disclosures in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. And we met all of our Bond indebtedness. So, we passed for 23 -24, and the ratings are based on 23-24 fiscal year. It's like a year behind, because right now we're just completing the audit for fiscal year 24-25. Indicator #4, have we made timely payments to TRS, TWC, IRS, and other government agencies? The answer is yes. We passed for the last two fiscal years. Indicator #5 was a net total position in government activities in column of the state of net of position. Was it greater than zero? And the answer for BISD is yes. Our net position was \$587 million, so we passed that indicator. Indicator #6. Was the average change in fund balance over the last three years less than 25 % decrease? And the average change in our assigned and Unassigned Fund Balances over the last three years was a 6.38%. So, we passed. Indicator #7. Was the number of days in cash on hand and current investments in the General Fund for the school district sufficient to cover operating expenses? And the number of days cash on hand, or 147 days, so we generated 10 points. Indicator #8, was the measure of current assets, current liability ratio for the school district sufficient to cover short-term debt? The answer is yes, the assets to liability ratio is a 3.9, so we generated 10 points. Indicator #9, did the school district general fund revenues equal or exceed expenditures? If not, did the school district have number of days of cash on hand greater than or equal to 60? So, our revenues were less than our expenditures for fiscal year 23-24, but we did maintain more than 60 days cash on hand. So, we generated 10 points for that indicator and we passed. Indicator #10 is not being scored. Indicator #11, what's the ratio of long-term liabilities to total assets for the school district sufficient to support long-term solvency? Our long-term liabilities to asset ratio is 4.7%, which is below the 60 % target to support long-term solvency. We generated 10 points. Indicator #12 is the correlation between future debt requirements and district's assets property value. The debt per \$100 of assessed property value was 0.34, so we generated the 10 points. Indicator #13 was the school district's administrative cost ratio equal to or less than the threshold ratio. The district's administrative cost ratio was 5.55, and that was less than the threshold of 8.55. So, the district met all 10 points for the administrative cost ratio. Indicator #14, did the school district not have a 15 % decline in student-to-staff ratio over three years? So, the district had a decline of students-to-staff ratio of

0.21%, which is less than the 15 % threshold, so we were able to get all 10 points on indicator #14. Indicator #15 was the school district's ADA within the allotted range of the district's by annual pupil projection. The school district's ADA range was within 4.24 % so we generated all 10 points. Indicator #16. Did the comparison of Public Education Information Management System, PEIMS, data to the like information on the school district's annual financial report result in a total variance of less than 3 %? And the district met that requirement because the district had a variance of .0 variance when we reported our financial data through PEIMS. So we passed. Indicator #17. Did the external independent audit report of the annual financial report was free of any instances of material weaknesses in internal controls over the financial reporting and compliance for local, state, and federal funds, and free from substantial doubt about the school district's ability to continue as a going concern. So, the school district had no material weaknesses as of June 30, 2024, which is based on the 23-24 data. So, we passed. Indicator #18. Did the external independent auditor indicate the annual financial report was free of any instances of material noncompliance for grants, contracts, and laws related to local, state, and federal funds? The school district had no material weaknesses as of June 30 for the report of 23-24. Indicator #19, did the school district post the required financial information on the website in accordance with governmental code, local government code, Texas education code, Texas administrative code, and all other statutes, laws, and rules that were in effect at the school district's physical year-end. The school district complied with that requirement and posted the information on the website, so we garnished the maximum of five points for that indicator. Indicator #20. Did the school district administration and school board members discuss any changes or impact local, state, and federal funding at a Board meeting within 120 days before the district adopted its budget? The school district school board members discuss property values. The answer is yes. As we go through our budget meetings and discussions, we discuss property values, the tax rate, right before we adopt. So, we pass that indicator. Indicator #21, did the school district receive an adjusted repayment schedule for more than one fiscal year for any overallocation of federal school program funds because of financial hardship? The school district did not receive any adjustment repayment plan. So, the district passed for 23-24. So, for the grand total of all the indicators for 24-25, which is based on the data from 23-24, the district was able to obtain 100 points out of the possible 100. So, we had a perfect score. The district has had a rating of Superior for the last several years, and in the last three years, we've had perfect scores of 100. This concludes, Oh, before I finish, I do want to thank the Finance Department for their hard work in achieving this rating. This closes the Financial Integrity Public Hearing. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, question? Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board President stated, Ms. Grantland and then Ms. Pena. Ms. Grantland stated, I just want to compliment you all. I am not a numbers crunching person. I admire anyone who is. I'm very proud of our Finance Department and the work that all of you have done. Thank you so much for being so diligent. Ms. Pena stated, yes, thank you for a very good job. Just wondering on Indicator #10, which was not scored, what is that indicator reference to? Ms. Garza replied, let me see. Right now, TEA does not have that particular one. Over the years, they change them as they are making enhancements or improvements as to what they're going to grade the schools in. So that one right now is not available to be graded. Ms. Pena stated, but what was it about that it's not available to be graded? Does any of your staff know behind you? Ms. Garza

stated, we would need to look it up in the website as to that particular one. Ms. Pena stated, okay could you just send that information? **Ms. Garza stated, we'll just send it in the Friday letter as to what Indicator #10 is.** Ms. Pena stated, I appreciate that, thank you. **Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent stated, I just want to congratulate our staff and our folks that are here tonight representing their department. They do such a fantastic job. And it's not a one-time thing, once a time, you know, during the year situation is throughout the year. So let's give them a big round of applause, very, very deserving.** Ms. Garza stated, I'm sorry, before I close, there are some disclosures that are part of this FIRST Accountability Rating. And disclosure #1 is the Superintendent's Employment contract. We always post it after we have the Public Hearing. The Financial FIRST Rating is posted on the website along with the Superintendent's Contract. Indicator #2, we have to disclose the Superintendent and Board Members reimbursements for the fiscal year and these are the expenditures for 23-24. For Disclosure #3, any outside compensation or fees received by the Superintendent or professional consulting and any other personal services in fiscal year 24, there was none. Indicator Disclosure #4 gifts received from executive officer of Board Members in fiscal year 24, the responses were zero from everybody and one we were not able to it was not available in Disclosure #5 business transactions between school district and Board members all of the responses were no and n/a and one was not available that concludes it. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, thank you so much, Ms. Garza, and thank you to your team for continuing to have a Superior Rating with a state in Financial Integrity.

4. Close Public Hearing-School FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas).
5. Brownsville Independent School District Financial Report for the period ended October 31, 2025.

**Ms. Mary Garza, Interim Chief Financial Officer stated, so the Financial Report ending September 31, 2025 is for the General Fund, we have cumulative revenues of 109 million dollars and expenditures of 152 for a shortfall right now, temporary, of 43.6. For our Federal Funds, we have total revenues of 11 million dollars and expenditures of 18.2. for a shortfall of 7.2. Please keep in mind that our Federal Revenues are on a reimbursement basis. By the time we close the year, we would bill for all of the actual expenditures and receive the funds from the different granting agencies. Under Debt Service, we have revenues of \$707,000 and we have expenditures of 4.3. This is the August payment that was done, so we should receive the remaining funds in order to cover all of our debt by the end of the year. The Self-insurance fund, we have contributions, revenues of 17.5 million dollars and we have expenditures of 18.1 for a shortfall of 648. That concludes the financial report for October.**

6. Brownsville Independent School District Quarterly Investment Report Ending September 30, 2025.

**Ms. Mary Garza, Interim Chief Financial Officer stated, our Quarterly Investment Report has total cash as of September 30, 2025 of \$4.2 million, with total investments of \$213 million for total of cash and investments of \$217 million. Interest earned for**

the quarter ending September 30th is \$3.2 million and for the year is \$3.2 million. Our investment accounts for the quarter Sale of Cummings and for Longoria, okay, is in a special invested account under PNC labeled in the investment. Our book ending value is 17.7 and the interest earned for the quarter is \$203,000. That concludes our Investment Report. Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, Ms. Garza, coming back to the interest on the, and I know I keep on asking this question over and over, I just want to make sure that we're on track here. Ms. Garza replied, yes. Mr. Ortiz continued, the interest that we receive for the Cummings sale, and it goes back into that account, is that correct? Ms. Garza replied, yes this account is being held separate on its own. And as the instruments mature, because there's T-bills, there's treasury, there's different instruments that are being utilized. As those instruments mature over time, it gets reinvested along with any interest that it has accumulated. Mr. Ortiz stated, very good, so the account keeps on growing. Ms. Garza stated, the account keeps on growing, yes.

#### **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Ms. Adina Alegria. Good afternoon, President Lopez Valdez, members of the Board, Dr. Chavez, those in the room, and those joining the Brownsville ISD YouTube channel. My name is Adina Alegria, Executive Director of Texas Valley Educators Association, your local grassroots organization that represents 1,483 dedicated members of this amazing school district. Tonight, TVEA stands in support of the recommended approval for HVAC replacements on several campuses. These systems are not just mechanical units, they are lifelines for learning environments, especially in South Texas, where heat and humidity are relentless. Our HVACs take a beating year after year. Replacing them is not a luxury, it's a necessity. However, let's be clear, this recommendation pertains to only a handful of units on a few campuses. It's a drop in the bucket compared to the reality we face. Many of our schools are over a century old, the roofs are deteriorating, their walls and foundations show the wear of their time. The infrastructure, once a source of pride, is now a growing liability. We must begin having honest, sometimes difficult conversations with our stakeholders about how we fund these critical repairs and replacements. Public school districts remain chronically underfunded. And our fund balance, while essential for emergencies and stability, is not designed to absorb the cost of large-scale infrastructure projects, nor should it be used that way. Mr. Rogers once said, we live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say, it's not my child, it's not my community, not my world, and certainly not my problem. Then, there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes. Thank you for your time, service to the Brownsville community, and your attention this evening.

**The Board may deliberate or take action regarding the following agenda items.**

**Board policy BE (Local) and Roberts Rules limits debate to two opportunities. A Trustee may debate a motion for two minutes on the first speaking opportunity and one minute 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.**

- |    |    |                          |                                     |
|----|----|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| X. | A. | General Function         | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7                    |
|    | B. | Payments                 | 1                                   |
|    | C. | Amendments               |                                     |
|    | D. | Contracts/Agreements     | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (Mr. Ortiz Abstained) |
|    | E. | Bids/Proposals/Purchases | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5                       |

**Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Denise Garza, and unanimously carried to recommend approving the Consent Agenda. (7-0-0)**

Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated for the record Ms. Pat on Item X. D. 5 I will abstain.

**(All presentations limited to five (3) minutes)**

**X. Consent Agenda:**

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

1. Recommend approval of the 2025-2026 District Improvement Plan as required by the Texas Education Code. The District Education Improvement Plan will serve as a guide to District and campus staff for the improvement of student performance in order to attain and surpass state and federal standards. \* **(Consent Agenda)**
2. Recommend approval of the 2025-2026 Campus Improvement Plan as required by the Texas Education Code. The Campus Education Improvement Plan will serve as a guide to District and campus staff for the improvement of student performance in order to attain state and federal standards. \* **(Consent Agenda)**
3. Recommend approval to continue to utilize Cognia, Inc., for SACS Accreditation visits and continuous school improvement for the school District in the amount not to exceed \$140,000.00 from budgeted local department funds for the school years campuses will be under review (2025-2026 to 2028-2029).

Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, Motion to approve. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, Second. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, yes, Dr. Chavez, can we get a detail exactly what this company does, with accreditation visits and continuous school improvement for the district not to exceed \$140,000 from the local department funds. What exactly is their objective with our school district? **Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent stated, yes, ma 'am, I'm going to call on Dr. Ronnie Rentfro to review this with us. Dr. Rentfro stated, good evening, Board President Daniella Lopez, our esteemed Board Members, and welcome audience and stakeholders. Since 1928, Brownsville ISD has been having SACS accreditation for our schools. This accreditation is an external review of the campuses individually looking to see how they are performing against a metric or a rubric of performance. It allows us to have these external staff come into the campus, review how the student data, they also look at this climate and culture of the campus, they look at the types of professional development and other performance supports the campus is providing. And they are now on a six -year cycle, which is why you see us coming to you for four years. And like I said, we started with this in 1928, and we are looking forward to continuing this. They do charge us \$1,400 per campus per year for our secondary campuses to**

continuously allow them to look at our data and keep track of it. They also, as part of this, will conduct now a midpoint review every three years, every third year after their actual visit. They do come onto the campus now every six years and meet with staff, see what our students are doing face-to-face, as well as look at the information for the campus. They provide kudos, things that the campuses are doing well, as well as some suggestions about things that the campus can improve to make it a more higher performing campus, as well as having the ability then, once they do get their accreditation, they carry that approval for six years. There are some fees involved in them coming in to these campuses. We have three campuses up for this year, and that's going to cost, out of that \$140,000, that'll be about \$13,500. Ms. Pena stated okay, my question, the \$140,000 for the next four years, so that's about what, \$35,000 a year? Dr. Rentfro stated, approximately. Ms. Pena stated, if you divide it by four years. Dr. Rentfro stated, approximately, yes. Ms. Pena continued, so you said it's 13, so where does the rest of it go? Dr. Rentfro stated, so it's \$1,400 per campus. We have those 17 campuses each year pay that fee of \$23,800, and then depending on how many campuses, it runs about 4,500 to \$5,000 per campus as they do the year. And it does take the most of a year to do the review of the campus and provide the feedback and do the visitation. Ms. Pena stated, okay and I notice it says phase 1, year 3. I mean, phase 6, year 3, phase 7, year 3. Now it lists like three schools. So in 2025, 2026, they'll do 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 schools. Is that what they do? And then in 2026, 2027, they'll do they'll do other schools, so they don't do all of them each year. They spread them out, am I correct? Dr. Rentfro replied, you're correct. Ms. Pena continued, but, and then the, so do we divide that \$35,000 in four years with those seven schools as opposed to the number, the 13 schools that you said? Dr. Rentfro stated, no ma'am. Okay, so what we're doing is this year they will actually be doing the full review for three campuses, which is going to cost us this year about \$13,500. And of course we pay the annual fee of the \$23,800 for this year. For this, the midpoint review is not a cost to the district. This is where they come and touch base with the campuses, look how their progress has been for the first three years since their visit, and that is not a cost, but it is a component of what we are getting for the \$23,800. Ms. Pena stated, okay because what it says here and what you're stating are a little bit off, because currently the annual fee for each campus is \$1,400. But it's safe to say that the \$140,000 will cover the four years, and it won't go over that. Dr. Rentfro stated, that is the estimate that we've come up with based on our current schedule for the SACS accreditation visits. Actually, the reason we went for four instead of three is if you notice, there is basically a year in which they're not going to be coming into the campuses. So this is actually why we're asking to go out to four years because they've gone from a five-year cycle to a six-year cycle. Ms. Pena stated, and I noticed you said estimate. So what is the actual price if this is only an estimate? Dr. Rentfro replied, it will depend on the visitation. Ms. Pena stated, so it can go higher? Dr. Rentfro stated, again, some of this includes their travel fees related to the coming in and working with the campus. So there is a little bit of variation there. So we put in a few thousand dollars in case travel fees continue to increase the way they have for the past couple of years. Ms. Pena stated, so then it could increase to over the 140 for the four years? Dr. Rentfro stated, actually right now we're it's estimated that it'll actually only be one hundred and thirty one thousand dollars, so we've put some in there just as... Ms. Pena interjected, so it doesn't necessarily mean it's going to cost us a hundred forty thousand. We just have that amount in case we need it to do the job. Dr. Rentfro replied, yes. Ms. Pena stated, thank you.



Mr. Frank Ortiz, stated no, the question was asked already and it was answered, thank you. Ms. Grantland stated I'd just like to say that I did serve on an accreditation committee, not in the 1920s, and it is a very extensive visit. I was on a committee that went in, and we saw everything there was to see. The campus that we visited was very, very well prepared, and it was very evident that they valued the input that we gave them. So it's a worthwhile project and necessary, I guess, huh? **Dr. Renfro stated, if we'd like to have that National accreditation or actually International Accreditation, yes ma 'am. Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent stated, I just wanted to say that this actually reminds me of Mr. Besteiro because Mr. Besteiro not only, of course, did a tremendous job here in our district, but I know after he retired, he worked with this organization to make sure that, particularly our high schools, you know, yes, middle schools, but particularly high schools as it relates to getting a great education. And remember, this is also tied to accreditation at the university level. And universities look to whether school districts are accredited by SACS. And so, I wanted to make that tie that the reason districts have been accredited for so long, it relates back to the education at the college university level. So just wanted to emphasize that and also mention Mr. Besteiro because I know he's very, very involved over a great number of years with this organization.** Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated, I vote yes, ma 'am.

**Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Denise Garza, and unanimously carried to recommend approval to continue to utilize Cognia, Inc., for SACS Accreditation visits and continuous school improvement for the school District in the amount not to exceed \$140,000.00 from budgeted local department funds for the school years campuses will be under review (2025-2026 to 2028-2029). (7-0-0)**

Ms. Pena stated, and if I may, Ms. Daniela, I want to tell Ms. Renfro, I just wanted to get the detail because on our backup, we only get certain information. So when people ask me, I didn't know what the answer was. So, thank you, Ms. Renfro, for that detailed information because that really answers a lot of questions that are back up. It doesn't go into detail sometimes, so thank you for that.

4. Recommend approval to authorize the Morningside E.S. HVAC, Phase I (Package 1) Project under CSP #22-148A, as substantially complete. **(Consent Agenda)**
5. Recommend approval to authorize the El Jardin E.S. HVAC, Phase I (Package 1) Project under CSP #22-148B, as substantially complete. **(Consent Agenda)**
6. Recommend approval to authorize the Lucio MS. HVAC Upgrades, Phase I (Package 1) Project under CSP #22-148C, as substantially complete. **(Consent Agenda)**
7. Recommend approval to authorize the Aiken E.S. HVAC, Phase I (Package 2) Project under CSP #23-155, as substantially complete. **(Consent Agenda)**

**B. Recommend approval of the following Payment(s):**

1. Recommend approval of payments for construction services and/or engineering services throughout the District in the total amount of \$2,470,059.95. **(Consent Agenda)**

**C. Recommend approval of Budget Amendments:**

1. Recommend approval of Budget Amendment #014 in the amount of \$760,000.00 for Local Funds. (\$160,000.00 Categorical Fund Balance and \$600,000.00 Fund Balance)

Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, Motion to approve. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, second. Ms. Neida Ruth Grantland, Board Member stated, thank you, Madam President, I have a question on this. Number one, categorical funds, which categorical fund is that coming from? **Ms. Mary Garza, Interim Chief Financial Officer stated, good evening, Madam Chair, Dr. Chavez, and members of the Board. Ms. Grantland, Categorical Funds for this particular item, in the background, it is specifying state compensatory education. So, they are needing to bring in additional funds of 160,000 in function 13 for Staff development.** Ms. Grantland stated, okay. And my next question is why are we tapping into the fund balance for this? **Ms. Garza replied, the categorical funds for state compensatory can only be spent on the needs of the At-risk student population. So, the campuses were needing some funds as it's in the background for the priority schools, and additional money to finish out the year. So that's the reason for the \$160,000.** Ms. Grantland stated, right, I saw the backup information. Now, my question to you all, and I did, I supervised the state comp monies when I was with the district, so I do know that. But my question is, why is it that we're having to tap into our fund balance, and is it part of the budget that we approved already? **Ms. Garza stated, the reason why it's coming out of fund balance is because he ran out of additional funds that the campuses need in function 13. So, we don't have the capable, all of the other functions, the funds have already been allocated. He does have a little bit of money in function 11, but because 11 is specifically for instruction, in order for him to put more money into the budget for staff development, we have to bring it out of fund balance. That was the only reason why.** Ms. Grantland stated, so this is new money from the fund balance, that's already in the budget from the fund? **Ms. Garza stated, no, it's not in the budget, it's additional money.** Ms. Grantland stated, additional money, and \$600,000? **Ms. Garza stated, it's \$160,000.** Ms. Grantland stated, I'm sorry, that's right. Ms. Grantland stated, okay, so what is it that we're trying to buy for this much money? **Ms. Garza stated, the \$160,000?** Ms. Grantland stated, the whole thing. **Ms. Garza stated, okay.** Ms. Grantland stated, what is it that they're looking for to get for instruction? **Ms. Garza replied, it's for Staff Development of \$160,000 and it's to meet the needs for Perkins, Canales, Del Castillo, Morningside, Putegnat, Garcia, and Stell. I do not, let me see, it's for Professional Development based on the information that was provided to me for consulting services for those schools.** Ms. Grantland, stated, I realize that these are schools of concern, and I realize that it's for consulting, but what exactly are we getting as far as consulting? Is this I mean, it seems real vague to me. For me to approve that much money, I need to have a lot more detail on what they're looking at, what they want to buy, what they want to train, and how it's going to impact our students. **Ms. Garza stated, okay, I was not provided, let me see, let me ask one of the campuses, AAs, if they know the specifics.** **Ms. Beatriz Hernandez, Chief Academic Officer stated, yes, as it relates to the professional development and consultant, we have brought the information over to the Board as far as what we're already needing for each of these campuses and the funds were already allocated for that.** Ms. Grantland stated, is this more of a budget change? **Ms. Garza stated, no, this is the money...** **Ms. B. Hernandez interjected this is not additional professional development, ma'am, that we're requesting for at this time.** **Ms. Garza stated, it's to fund the professional development that they requested. They didn't have the money**

**in function 13, so we're having to give it to them.** Ms. Grantland stated, so is it a budget amendment, or is it a request for new funds? **Ms. Garza replied, this is a Budget Amendment that was not in the budget, but the funds are available in the categorical fund balance for state compensatory in order to allocate that to the campuses.** Ms. Grantland stated, okay, so the state comp, I understand, needs to be spent for the At-risk student population. I know that. So again, my question is what is it that they want to do with that much money and how is it going to impact the students? The other part of that question is the other part from the fund balance concerns me a lot if its new money coming out of the fund balance. **Ms. Garza replied, the other two pieces of the budget amendment, the function 41 which is the 350,000, that is to cover the Forensic Audit that the Board is soliciting our RFQs for. And the function 52 is \$250,000 to give additional money to the Police and Security department in order to address all of the needs the department.** Ms. Grantland stated, okay was this considered when we were building the budget for this fiscal year? **Ms. M. Garza replied, the additional \$250,000 for Police and security, after everything was allocated to them, we did not make it part of the budget. We gave them additional money last year and we did not make it part of their original budget this year. We've already made a note so that for next year it's already embedded into their budget and we don't have to bring it back, the \$250,000 for security. The \$350,000 for the Forensic Audit, that is being discussed this fiscal year and it was not embedded in the budget to be at when the budget was approved as of June 30.** Ms. Grantland stated, but it was planned for prior to this year, correct? We knew that that audit was coming? **Ms. Garza stated, yes, ma 'am.** Ms. Grantland stated, so we failed to budget for it? **Ms. Garza replied, but we just did not allocate any money.** Ms. Grantland stated, okay, and so that's coming from the Fund balance? **Ms. Garza stated, yes, ma 'am.** Ms. Grantland stated, and what is it that precipitated the additional need for money for police and security? Was it an increase in force, or what was it? **Ms. Garza stated, it was to meet they needed to cover additional they needed to purchase vehicles. They need to cover the parts for their existing facilities. Remember that our Chief brought in an agenda item that they were going to go visit in order to buy some used vehicles.** Ms. Grantland (inaudible). **Ms. Garza continued, yes, okay So this was the additional funding that we were allocating to them in order to purchase the vehicles they needed additional money for repairs. There's not enough money in the budget to cover all of the uniform costs. They also needed supplies. They needed to cover contracted services for every officer that they have. They also need to cover the license fee for, I believe it's the radio and the security system that they have without kind of telling you everything that they spend money on.** Ms. Grantland stated, well, I'm just concerned that these are functional items you're mentioning and they should have been considered at the time that the budget was being built. And now we're coming back and having to get more money from the fund balance which is already weak. And that's my biggest concern. **Ms. Garza stated, yes.** Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, question. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated Mr. Ortiz first and then Ms. Pena. Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, yes, I'm looking at this item here, and to me it seems like this item was written as a bundled agenda item. You have staff development here, you have forensic audit, you have security services, and I agree with my colleague, this should have been done during the budget process. My biggest concern after last night's results, we need to start taking care of our fund balance. You're asking for a little over half a million dollars to be taken out of the fund balance, and that concerns me quite a bit. In conversations with the Superintendent and his statement says all we've been

we need to be careful with the fund balance we're getting to the point to where we may get into trouble and I've heard it from all of y'all here. Okay so it really really concerns me I mean you know we keep on dipping into the fund balance and like I said \$600,000 doesn't sit well with me especially with these times that we're going through and we need to start saving money we need to really really start looking at our fund balance. **Ms. Garza stated yes we made a note for the security for the additional funds that would need to be added to their budget so that we don't leave it out for next year. It was supposed to be in part of their budget, this additional funding that they are in need of in order to finish out the year. It was left out from the budget. We've already made a note of it so that they have the full amount and they're not short this money for next year. The forensic audit, yes, we do know that that was being discussed. We had not formalized any process on it. So it was not made part of the budget so now that we've actually are going to go through with the RFQ. It's been advertised so now we need to as you all go through the process and decide on a Forensic Auditor where the monies will be available to go ahead and initiate the purchase order because right now the money is not there.** Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, Ms. Grantland and this Ms. Pena. Ms. Grantland stated, okay, for a forensic audit, does it require a third-party auditor to come in? We have an auditing department. Are we able to do forensic audits with our own staff, or is it a legal implication? **Ms. Garza stated, that I would need to defer to Mr. Salinas and Mr. Porras, or Mr. O'Hanlon.** *Mr. Kevin O'Hanlon, Board Attorney stated, your regular auditor does the regular audit report. There are procedures in that regular audit report, just under the regular audit standards, where they will do testing various accounts to see whether they're accurate. And that's how you get a clean approach, a clean audit. It is just like they were talking on the First. Forensic audit's more targeted, and it's more detailed. It is not a requirement, it's not required by law. It is required by, it's discretionary with the Board. The board has oversight functions. It's a way to get a consultant to help you exercise your oversight functions, essentially. And it's more detailed in terms of what's out there. It's discretionary on you, how far you go, what you do on that. It's not a requirement of law. So, it's a different procedure. It's still an audit, but it's much more focused on the area of scrutiny, basically.* Ms. Grantland stated, right, I recognize the difference between the two. I just didn't know if we could cover both bases since we are now in a situation that's a whole different scenario after last night. And so, this is a great consideration for us as a Board. The other thing, too, and this is moving over to another area of this, it seems that we approved the purchase of the cars before the money was available. That's putting the cart before the horse. **Ms. Garza stated, well, we had already, when Chief Gaucin had asked whether she had the additional funding, I went ahead and told her, yes, those \$250,000 are in the budget. But when we went in and looked for the line item, we discovered that it had been omitted. So, I said, Okay, go ahead and go through the process. For the November Board meeting, I will take it as a Budget Amendment, and we made a notation so that the budget when we give it to her for next year already has this additional \$250,000 and it's not left out. It was an oversight, on our part.** Ms. Grantland stated, my last question, if we delay on deciding on this, what impact does it have on as far as the curriculum, I know what the answer is going to be. But as far as the Police Department and the audit, what general impact will there be if we delayed it? I feel that there needs to be, and this is my own opinion, I feel there needs to be much more detail on what we're going to purchase with the fund balance and how we've decided on what is the priority. And I'm just not comfortable with this item right now. But by delaying it, what is happening to the district? **Ms. Garza stated, if we**

do not approve the Budget Amendment, the funds for the Forensic Audit would not be available. I would have to, we would have to cut another program within the budget in function 41 in order to free up money and be able to use it for the forensic audit, for the Board. Ms. Grantland interjected, or have our own auditors do the Forensic audit. Ms. Garza stated, they, Mr. Porras and the Internal Audit team, will need to let you know whether they have the capabilities of a Forensic Audit. Dr. Chavez stated, well, let me just make some brief comments, and yes, we can call on Mr. Porras to come forward as well and give more detail. Here, keep in mind that our Auditing Department, they're already extremely busy, and they have outlined what it is that they've got to be working on, right? Now, can one change that and say, okay, we're going to give you this other project? Well, one can do that, but then we've got to take out two or three over here on this other side. Now, I'm making up the two or three, you know, he can probably give you a little bit more detail, but that's the way that would have to work. Let me also say, you know, with regards to the police vehicles, and you know this and you've heard this, right, from the standpoint of we have very old vehicles. And one of the things that we want to do, of course, is provide vehicles as necessary. And so one of the things that they did is really go out and look, where can we get vehicles that are less expensive, and so you heard that information earlier and so, you know, from my perspective, our District is primarily great education for our students but then the second thing right next to it is safety and security, right? And I just wanted to mention that but do you want to talk about the audit and then we also have our Police Chief here that can also speak to vehicles and the need for that equipment as well. Mr. Marco Porras, Internal Auditor stated yes sir, you're totally correct, we do have audits that that the Board has requested for us to do and part of our we every once a year we submit an audit plan that we you know that we go by for the following year at the end of the year we submit it. It's the audits that we need to or that we want to work on for the current year and right. Which is, you know, if we do have an audit suggested or recommended by the Board, we would need to delay some of those audits. And again, you know, like Mr. O'Hanlon said, the Board can request an audit and be specific as to what the Board needs to know, and from that point, we can take it, and if it requires an additional or additional work, at that point, we can, you know, go out for a third party and decide at that time if there's a need for that. Ms. Grantland stated, so is there a need, or are you telling us (inaudible). Mr. Porras replied, at this point, the audits that we've been working on, no ma'am, there is no need. Some of the audits that were requested by the Board have been, they've been requesting the Forensic, the Board has been requesting a Forensic Audit, it was voted on, but the specifics of it have not been determined. I think at the last meeting our School Board Attorney decided to just get the RFQs and at that time the Board was going to decide on what projects they wanted to be audited. So, at this point we don't have specific audits requested for that purpose. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, I have Ms. Pena, and then I have Ms. Grantland, and then, sorry, Ms. Gonzalez, and then Ms. Grantland. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, yes, my question, Mary, when you said he didn't have enough, who's he? Ms. Garza stated, I'm sorry? Ms. Pena stated, you made a reference about when we're going to add the \$160,000 because he didn't have enough, who's he? Ms. Garza stated, okay, I'm sorry, the person, the administrator that oversees State Compensatory. Ms. Pena stated, what's his name? Ms. Garza replied, Mr. De Leon. Ms. Pena stated, please just just very politely, we need to mention the people that are in charge of stuff because when we leave the meetings I'm

being told we're not being transparent because we don't say and there's nothing wrong with saying that so that's just I knew it was him but I just wanted to make sure and my next question is and no no, I already got that's all I wanted to know Thank you. And then here's the next question that it says contractual services and 350,000 are for contractual services for administration. So what exactly are the details on those \$350,000 for contractual services? Because like she's saying, there's some things that we might not need. So, I'm trying to gather what exactly you're going to spend that \$350,000 because we don't have the details. And we're cutting teachers in the front line. Teacher retires, we close it up, and we put the children and spread them out and overwhelm our teachers and give them 30 students. I've been there. But when I see something like this, I want to know what exactly it is. Is it something that is in dire need of the district? And like Ms. Grantland stated, we're in a position right now that we need to cut back in certain things that are not really necessary and not cut back the front line and not replace a teacher who retires and compound the problems in the classroom. Because without students, we don't need teachers. Without teachers, we don't need administrators. Without administrators, none of us are needed. And we need to stay focused. It's because of them that we have the money we have and we get the money we have. Because without the front line, none of us here are necessary at all. So can we get a detail? What exactly are the \$350,000, because you just put the word contractual services, but you didn't give any detail as to exactly what that is. Could we see that and see if maybe some of that could be, like Ms. Grantland said, put on hold. If it's something that we can do without for the time being until we get back on track and better with our finances? **Ms. M. Garza stated, Ms. Pena, the \$350,000 that is under Function 41, which is General Administration under contracted services, that is an estimated dollar amount to cover the cost of Forensic Audit. The last time the District went out for a Forensic Audit, it cost over 200, it cost about \$250,000, but that was like way like over 20 years ago, 10, 15 years ago. It was quite a long time.** Ms. Pena interjected, you still have the records of that expense, yes? **Ms. M. Garza replied, yes.** Ms. Pena stated, so you can get us a copy, see what the cost was, 20 years ago. **Ms. M. Garza stated, as a matter of fact.** Ms. Pena interjected, I want to see how much the difference is and what is out and because I said this is money that belongs to the community and the taxpayers. I want to make sure we're diligent in how we spend it. **Ms. M. Garza continued, based on the amount that was paid to the previous Forensic Auditor the district utilized which was around \$250,000 and because of the fact that it's been several years over 10 years almost 20 then We estimated things cost more. We don't know the extent of what you want, the Board is going to want them to look at it may not be as 350,000. It all depends as to what project, what activity you're going to want them to do and the time that it's going to take them that it may be different. It may be less. It may be more. It's all going to depend on when you all evaluate that RFQ and you make the decision as to what it is that you want that Forensic Audit to entail. And then once you select a Forensic auditor and you tell them what the scope of work is, then they'll give you a proposal as to how much they anticipate their services are going to cost and how much time it's going to take. At that point in time, if that doesn't meet the needs of the Board, you all can say no and the money will not be spent. But at this point, we don't know how much to anticipate. So we're including \$350,000 because we don't have an idea as to what the cost is going to be.** Ms. Pena stated, why don't we wait until we get that information and that cost before we start putting this money to use it? Because I've seen when they do that, and sometimes different things happen, and say, well, it's already allotted. Like she said, you're putting the cart before the horse. Why are

we operating in that manner? Why don't we find out first what it's going to be and what it's going to cost and you can simply bring it back to the Board and we approve the cost yes or no. And I just have a super big concern with doing it ahead of time because then things change and I've seen this happen where it didn't get used for that but it very politely gets moved to something else and that's not what we want because there we get... Ms. Lopez Valdez interjected Ms. Pena, I don't think it politely gets used to something else, I just want to correct that. Ms. Pena stated, well, I guess I have seen it where it got moved to use for something and it was used wrong. My question is why not wait until we get them with the proposal is how much it's going to cost and then we come in and ask us for that. You see what I'm saying? **Ms. Garza stated, right, now, the reason why it's reflected here for the November Board Meeting is because at the time that the deadline for this meeting it was anticipated that you were going to have a meeting next, it was going to be in this month when you were going to be reviewing the RFQs for Forensic Auditors. But I believe sometime after the deadline of the Budget Amendment, the meeting was moved from November to December. So, the, and the thing is, the moment you, rank and decide on a Forensic Auditor, you may want to assign the task and you may want the person to begin. And if I don't have the money in the budget, the purchase order won't be able to be generated. It's going to delay the work. But we can remove the 350,000. We can amend the Budget Amendment if you want to. Take it off. I'll bring it back in the December Board Meeting or even the January board meeting, but just keep in mind that it may delay when the work begins.** Ms. Pena stated, and why can't it be done at the same time delayed when, let's say you put it up to vote to get this particular agency to do it and this is what it's going to cost, two different items on the same day. You're going to approve the person and this is how much money is going to be needed. Why can't it be done that way? I've seen it done that way in the past. Why not do it that way? I know you're trying to get ahead of yourself, Mr. Salinas. I can hear you, Mr. Salinas. And I'm sorry, I have very good ears. So my thing is that why don't we kind of wait and do both at the same time, so we don't appear like we're getting this much money and we don't have the details and maybe it's more, maybe less. What would be the difference with doing it at the same time? Here's a person that we want to select, here's the amount of money that is going to be needed to hire them to do the job. Why can't it be done at the same time? **Ms. Garza replied, when you're going to be ranking, you're just ranking the qualifications.** Ms. Pena interjected, I'm talking about when we get the actual, we choose the actual person or agency or firm that's going to do the audit. You bring it back to, we're going to use this agency, and you bring it up for the Board to approve, this is the one we want, why not put the amount of the money to be approved at that same time that you approve the one who got the highest ranking is going to get picked? **Ms. Garza replied, because you're just ranking the company, you're not ranking the company and the scope of work, you're just ranking company to do a job that you at this point in time. I don't know the Mr. Porras doesn't know the exact work that you're going to want that Forensic Auditor to do.** Ms. Pena stated, and I understand what you're saying, but I've seen it done that way, Mary. It can be done that way. I understand maybe it's not something you're used to doing it, and this way we don't have so many. Ms. Lopez Valdez interjected, Ms. Pena. Ms. Pena stated, let me finish, please. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, no, I'm just trying to make sure that we address all the other Board Members' questions. Ms. Pena stated, ma'am, ma'am, you did, please forgive me Ms. Grantland spoke and asked a lot of questions and never interrupted once. The minute I speak, you shut me down in certain seconds, that's so impolite. Ms. Lopez Valdez

interjected, I'm not shutting you down, Ms. Pena. Ms. Pena continued, let me finish real quick, and I'll give you the floor, please. Just give me one second. Ms. Lopez Valdez replied, okay, please finish. Ms. Pena continued, thank you, and I do see, I've seen it happen before. I just would like to see that we could do it that way, but it's a possibility. I know for a fact, but thank you. **Ms. Garza stated, we can go ahead and take the Forensic audit piece from this budget amendment and bring it at a later meeting.** Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, thank you, Ms. Garza. Ms. Grantland, I know you had a follow-up question, and then I have Ms. Gonzalez and Ms. Garza. Ms. Grantland stated, I do, and I'll make it quick. What triggers a Forensic audit? **Ms. Garza stated, it's a Board request.** Ms. Grantland stated, okay, is there a criterion that we use as a Board to justify a forensic audit? Or is it just because somebody wants a Forensic Audit? I think that's foolish. If it's just because somebody wants it, that's foolish. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, Ms. Gonzalez. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, let me partly respond to you while I'm, I guess, asking my question. If I remember correctly, I voted against having a Forensic Audit because I knew that was going to cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. But no matter how many times I said it, it ended up going through. And, you know, obviously as a Board Member, it is my job to respect everybody else's vote. Now, yes, I did make a motion to approve it now because, again, I'm respecting my colleagues' wishes. I still don't see why we need a Forensic Audit. We just got presented a couple of a little bit ago that we continue to have consecutive Superior ratings. We have an Internal Auditor. We have External Auditors. I do not see the need for paying any amount of money, even if it's 20 bucks. I do not think we should do it. But again, I'm just respecting the wishes of the Board. Now, I'm willing to modify my motion and approve it without the Forensic Audit if you guys will be happier because at the end of the day, honestly, I'm 100% happy with that because I was never forward in the first place. Ms. Grantland stated, just to clarify quickly, I know in the interest of time, but this is very important. Number one, I do not believe that bringing the two items, the fund balance and the state comp money on the same item was wise to do. I mean, it seemed efficient, but when you start looking at the discussions that are concerned, especially the way we're sitting with our Fund Balance, I think that probably for the future, bring them separately. because it'll streamline things for us. The other thing is I recognize that the state comp money has to be spent on state comp things. And so, I think that that, although I don't like the fact that I don't know specifically what they're going to be looking at training people in, you know, we could be spinning our wheels spending money on something that could be spent on something much more effective, especially since these are schools of concern. So I don't have a problem necessarily with that, I think it'll develop as we go, and we'll learn what is going to be looked at. But I do think that the fund balance one, this triggering of a Forensic Audit that's really just on somebody's whim, I don't think is good. I think we, the Board, need to set up a criteria as to what can justify a Forensic Audit, because those are not to be taken lightly. And obviously, and the Police Force needs I think are important, but I'd like to revisit that because you're coming from the fund balance and I'm very concerned about that. Ms. Gonzales stated, I just wanted to add that to my understanding as far as regarding the staff development, each campus is getting about \$10,000 and ultimately, it's the principal's, I don't know who to ask, it's the principal's decision where those \$10,000 goes? **Ms. Garza replied, yes.** Ms. Gonzalez continued, okay that's my understanding of it. So, the campus principal will decide where those \$10,000. **Ms. Garza stated, and I just want to clarify something. For the state compensatory money, we're bringing in from fund balance because of the fact that the other functions that are available for that fund do not have the money. And**



typically, we do not allow any of the funding sources to decrease Function 11 in order to increase other functions when they do budgets within one function to another. Because Function 11 historically in the past, the boards would not approve any budget amendments to move money from 11 to 13, because 11 is instruction. So, the reason why they, since they need it, they have the money overall in their budget, but not in the right function. So, in order for us to bring Function 13, I'm bringing it as an increase, but they really are not going to be tapping into Fund Balance, because at the end, they're not going to be using other monies in other Functions overall, but it won't settle until the end of the year. And they need money in function 13. So, it's a temporary decrease to their Fund Balance but it won't materialize. Ms. Beatriz Hernandez, Chief Academic Officer stated, I just want to clarify these are categorical funding that's what we were sharing earlier can only be spent on specific activities. These are not additional monies. This is already funding that's within the categorical funds being directed at the campus for the principal to have that autonomy to decide based on the guidelines how to spend these monies. Ms. Grantland stated, so you're borrowing from one pocket to give to the other and then you're going to pay back to that pocket, is that wise? Ms. Garza stated, temporary yes. Ms. Grantland continued, I mean, why can't we just wait till that state comp money you're saying has not come in yet, is that correct? Ms. Garza replied, the budget is already there. In other words, his budget is set at \$29 million. Ms. Pena interjected, has the money come in that is our question. Ms. Garza replied, the money has been allocated and the money is there. The thing is that he has the extra money in Function 11, not in Function 13. Historically, when we would bring a budget amendment decreasing Function 11 to put in another function, the Boards would not approve them. Ms. Grantland, in my day as a principal, that was a no-no, you did not go from one function to another. You did go in line items within the function, and it worked really well. Why have we changed that? Ms. Garza stated, we haven't. We have not changed that practice when we tell the campuses. The need arose that they needed more money in function 13 that the department no longer has extra money in Function 13. The extra money is sitting in Function 11. So technically what they wanted to do is to bring a decrease from Function 11, a reallocation of money, a decrease from Function 11 to an increase to Function 13. Ms. Grantland stated, remind me what Function 13 is. Ms. Garza stated, Staff development. Ms. Pena stated, and why didn't you write it like that in the agenda item? Ms. Garza replied, the reason.... Ms. Pena interjected, to be specific and separate it. Ms. Lopez Valdez interjected, Ms. Pena I have Ms. Garza who's next. Ms. Pena continued, I'm sorry, and be specific like she said. Ms. Garza stated, the reason why it was not presented as a reallocation is because the Boards have not approved budget amendments in the past when we decreased function 11 to increase another function. So, the reason why we're doing it was, okay, let's go ahead and take the money from your Fund Balance even though you're not going to be using Fund Balance at the end because not all your Function 11 funds are going to materialize. Ms. Pena stated, you should have asked us and not gone by that past, we're a different Board. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, okay, I have Ms. Garza next. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, thank you, Ms. Lopez Valdez and Mr. Porras, I know you mentioned earlier that there was not, I guess, a focus, right, on the forensic audit, but back in February 4th of 2025, there was a motion for a Forensic audit by an External Auditor limited to TRE Bond funds and projects. Now, that was approved, but prior to this meeting, I know we had already given you a list of projects to audit. Were any of those projects part of this TRE Bond projects? Mr. Marcos Porras, Internal

**Auditor replied, TRE? No, we worked on Sams Stadium, Resaca, HVACs. That was what the Board voted on. I know that one of our Board Attorneys later said in one of the Board meeting kind of left it open to the board to decide on which projects to select once the Board selected an auditor. So, at that point, it was going to be decided.** Ms. D. Garza stated, okay, because in fact, in that February 4th meeting, we did approve a Forensic audit that was limited to TRE Bonds, funds, and projects. Now, as our auditor, would you be able to conduct such an audit? **Mr. Porras replied, on the bonds, well, the way it was stated, the TRE was not a bond election. Okay, it was a Tax Ratification Election. It wasn't a Bond election. So, I think I brought that up to the Board before, but the way it was stated was not correct. So, we've done an audit on TRE funds in the past, which dealt with the, if I remember correctly, the tracks, Ms. Garza. I think the tracks were part of the TRE, part of the, yeah, not all the lanes, not all the lanes, campuses, but there were several that we've done in the past. That was a request from the Board also for us to audit TRE funds at that time. I think one of the things that was mentioned was the Performing Arts Center, which is something that we have not done, that never realized we didn't have expenditures for that purpose. I think that was one of the items that was mentioned as part of the TRE. But again, I think that was explained by Ms. Mary Garza that the, The Performance Arts Center was not part of TRE but was part of the TRI, the tax rate increase.** Ms. D. Garza stated, okay so there, okay, so there, from my understanding, the way you're telling me, the way it was worded as the motion, TRE Bond Funds and Projects was incorrectly worded but yet it was never brought back to our attention that the motion was wording that we need to be maybe more specific just to TRE funds by removing the word bond. **Mr. Porras replied, I did, ma'am. I brought it up to the Board, I discussed it with you all in Executive Session. I think that's when the Board Attorney said, just bring me...** Ms. D. Garza interjected, but it was never mentioned to correct the motion. Mr. Elizondo was never corrected to make or amend his motion, because there was... Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member interjected, I don't think I need to be corrected, ma 'am, just to be honest with you, this is the reason that people want, that just what happened yesterday, people want to know where our money went. That's the whole purpose of having a bond. Ms. Grantland, it's not just because a Board Member wants it, it's because the community wants it. They want to know where the ESSER money went, the TRE money went. You're asking for \$460 million for roofs. Ms. Lopez Valdez interjected, Mr. Elizondo, could you put your camera on, please? Mr. Elizondo stated, excuse me ma'am, I don't need my camera to speak, just to vote. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, yes, according to Board Operating Procedures, page three, number eight, you have to have your camera on to participate. Mr. Elizondo stated, only to vote. Only to vote. Ms. Pena interjected, ma 'am, Denise can do it when she was doing it the last time, when she was driving. Mr. Elizondo stated, Mr. Attorney, do I have to have my camera on or just when I vote? Ms. Pena stated, no, you're driving, you took it off, I remember. Ms. D. Garza stated, no but when I was speaking I had it on, yes I did. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, Legal Counsel. Mr. Elizondo stated, Mr. O'Hanlon, do I have my camera on now or only when I vote? *Mr. Kevin O'Hanlon Board Attorney stated, no when you speak as well.* Mr. Elizondo stated, okay, thank you. Mr. Elizondo continued, so anyway, so like I was saying, super simple. People want to know where all the money went so that the community is informed of where all that money went in the past. Because now we're claiming, we're crying that the air conditions are falling and we have no roofs in our buildings. This is a reason why we need to know where that money went. You're saying that it's just because? It's not just because. There was a big proof yesterday why people

don't want to give us any more money. They don't trust us anymore. And this is a reason for a Forensic Audit, so we can bring back the trust back to BISD and people can believe in it. People don't believe in BISD anymore because of this. And for us to not go out there and claim that we don't need it and that we can have Mr. Porras do it, but he's not a certified auditor, then that's the issue. We're going to continue to have no trust against this Board. This is the reason that we need to make sure that we get this Forensic Audit. I think it's too early to be claiming that it's going to cost us \$350,000, when we don't even know the basis of it. So I think we are bringing it a little early. I don't think it needs to be up for a vote for \$350,000. I have to agree with most of you there. But do we need a forensic audit? 100% we do. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, okay, so we, Ms. Gonzalez, you will modify your motion, then we will vote each item is that okay legal counsel we would vote on this specific item there's three budgeted items on this item. Ms. Gonzalez stated, no, I want to, if I may legal, I want to modify my motion to remove the Function 41 item. *Mr. Kevin O'Hanlon stated, the Function 41 item is the....* Ms. Gonzalez interjected, administration correct. Mr. O'Hanlon stated the funding. Ms. Gonzalez stated, so my motion is to approve Function 13 Staff Development and Function 52 for Security and monitoring services. Ms. Grantland stated, I second it. Mr. Ortiz stated, if I can make one comment, I clearly understand everything that we're talking about and the information that's coming back and forth my biggest concern is dipping into the Fund Balance and that is what I'm against just for the record. Mr. Elizondo stated I vote no.

**An Amended Motion was made by Jessica Gonzalez and seconded by Neida Ruth Grantland to recommend approval of Budget Amendment #014 in the amount of 410,000.00 for Local Funds (\$160,000.00 from the Categorical Fund Balance and \$250,000.00 from the Fund Balance). Ms. Gonzalez clarified that the motion is to approve funding for Function 13 - Staff Development and Function 52 - Security and monitoring Services.**

**The following vote was recorded**

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

**Motion Carried: 4-3-0**

**Ms. Patricia C. Perez, Executive Assistant stated, Motion passes, 5 yes, 2 no.** Ms. Pena stated, mine was a no, did it go through as a no? **Ms. Perez stated no ma'am, it came as a yes.** Ms. Pena continued, no, it's a no and Dr. Chavez. **Ms. Perez interjected, would you like to change it, ma'am?** Ms. Pena stated, yes, please and Dr. Chavez, in the future, can you make sure that we get the information separate and not filed in like this and everything specifically, please? **Dr. Chavez replied, yes, ma'am I've made a note of that.** Ms. Pena stated, and not judge us by the past Board from 20 years ago? **Dr. Chavez stated, yes, ma'am, I've made a note of that. Ms. Perez stated, ma'am, would you like to change your vote, ma'am? Yeah, I haven't ended the vote yet.** Ms. Pena stated, and I vote no because I don't, some of the specifics here I don't think is necessary. **Ms. Perez stated, four yes, three no.** Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, Ms. Garza. Ms. D. Garza stated, thank you Ms. Lopez Valdez, legal I have a question, being that they mentioned that the

TRE was not a Bond and that is part of the motion, is that going to affect the RFQ that we've already started the process on or is that something that we can update when they bring us back all of the information? *Mr. O'Hanlon replied, as I understand the RFQ process, you have requested qualifications. The way this is going to work, it's like a two-step RFQ, which is under the Professional Service Procurement Act. You select the most qualified, and then you sit down and negotiate whatever procedures that you want them to, in which you want them to engage. So, no, you're all right, because the Board's will be superseded by any negotiation before we get into a contract.* Ms. D. Garza stated, thank you.

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

1. Recommend approval of a contract between Paper Education America, Inc. and Brownsville ISD for the 2025-2026 school year to support college and career readiness goals and objectives by providing an online platform for career exploration for BISD students in the amount not to exceed \$12,000.00. \* **(Consent Agenda)**
2. Recommend approval to enter into an Experiential Learning Program Agreement with Walgreen Co. to offer a clinical practicum training site for BISD Pharmacy Technician candidates for the 2025-2026 school year. Walgreen Co. will provide a Pharmacy Technician practicum training site to support the goal of equipping our students with the necessary skills to earn a nationally recognized industry certification, at no cost to the District. \* **(Consent Agenda)**
3. Recommend approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Brownsville Independent School District and Texas A&M University Kingsville to provide graduate students practicum/internship sites on BISD school campuses beginning in the 2025-2026 school year through September 15, 2030. No cost to the District. \* **(Consent Agenda)**
4. Recommend approval of the ratified grant agreement between BISD and H-E-B for the H-E-B Trees for Texans: For Communities grant, supporting the District's reforestation goals at Burns Elementary and Del Castillo-Morningside Elementary Schools. The agreement shall be for one year, which includes monitoring and maintenance reports. At no cost to the District. **(Consent Agenda)**
5. Recommend approval to amend the Subaward agreement between UTRGV Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Grant and BISD at Lincoln Park School at no cost to the District. The modified agreement shall remain in place through August 31, 2029. \* **(Consent Agenda)**

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

1. Recommend awarding RFP #26-007 Fine Arts Uniforms, Music Supplies, Equipment, and Services District-wide to several vendors. The contract period will be in effect from November 05, 2025, through November 05, 2026. (Annual Proposal)**(Consent Agenda)**
2. Recommend awarding RFP #26-013 Athletic Supplies for Boys/Girls Wrestling District-wide to several vendors. The contract period will be in effect from November 05, 2025, through November 05, 2026. (Annual Proposal) **(Consent Agenda)**

3. Recommend awarding RFP #26-030 Truck Rental District-wide to several vendors. The contract period will be in effect from November 05, 2025, through November 05, 2026. (Annual Proposal) **(Consent Agenda)**
4. Recommend awarding RFP #26-040 Charter Bus District-wide to several vendors. The contract period will be in effect from November 05, 2025, through November 05, 2026. (Annual Proposal) **(Consent Agenda)**
5. Recommend approval for RFQ #26-143 Architectural Services for Elementary Mini Gyms HVAC and Restroom Addition Group III to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. Brownsville, TX., to provide Architectural Services and authorize Administration to negotiate a fee for said services to be paid from 188 funding.
6. Recommend approval of CSP #26-160 Commingled (Single-Stream) Recycling Services District-wide to Redfish Recycling (Marck Industries of Texas) of Brownsville, Texas. The contract period will be in effect from November 05, 2025 through November 05, 2026, with the option to renew for two (2) additional one-year (1) terms if all parties agree. Year one (1) of a three (3) year contract.

Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, Motion to approve. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member stated, Second. Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, once again, I come back to saving money. we're looking at \$776,166.26 for the next three years for recycling purposes. Dr. Chavez, I've got some questions on recycling, who can I address these questions to? **Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent stated, we actually have our person who takes care of that, so if she'll come forward and respond. Thank you, ma'am, for coming to the podium. How long has this company been recycling for us? Ms. Micaela Escobar, Director stated, good afternoon, President Lopez Valdez, distinguished Board Members, Dr. Chavez. We've been recycling since 2020.** Mr. Ortiz stated, since 2020, five years ago. Okay, how much... Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member interjected, with this company. Mr. Ortiz stated, may I Ms. Pena, may I finish. Ms. Pena continued, (inaudible) this company. Mr. Ortiz continued, yes this company. **Ms. Escobar replied yes.** Mr. Ortiz stated, she answered 20 since 2020. Now, how much of a percentage do we get back from them recycling for us. **Ms. Escobar replied Commingled Recycling is basically you gather all of the items in one container and we pay a fee for that, which is actually.** Mr. Ortiz interjected, I know that we pay a fee but when the recycling is being, when it gets done, do we get a percentage back because we are providing these items to be recycled. **Ms. Escobar stated, no sir. Actually, the cost saving is actually cheaper to recycle than it is to actually throw it in the trash and take it to the landfill.** Mr. Ortiz stated, but that's not my question, my question is that once they recycle, do we get a percentage back? **Ms. Escobar replied, no, sir, there is no return of money.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay, so they get paid the you know, two point the twenty-five, what's it a year, it's about two point five million a year plus they get they keep the proceeds as well it's not a bad deal for them. We don't get anything back. Let me ask you we recycled at one time ourselves the district did we had our own truck? We had our own bins and so forth. Why did we get away from that? **Ms. Escobar replied, there is not a, even though recycling is a very good thing to do, it is more expensive to actually do the single recycling of individual items than it is to have commingled recycling. And I would like to add that to actually throw away items that can be recycled actually cost a lot more than it**

would be to actually recycle. And that's where the cost savings is to our District. Mr. Ortiz stated, yeah, I understand that. But my point is, it's good to recycle. I agree with you 100%, I mean, we need to recycle. And I'm just saying that we used to do this ourselves before. Why did we stop doing it? I know we had the trucks, we had the bins, and as a principal, I remember having all the kids recycle. We would pick up everything. We'd put them in our bins. And then the BISD truck would come around. Like a garbage truck, they'd come around and they'd load them and we'd do our recycling. Why didn't we stop doing that? **Ms. Escobar replied, because we were only recycling paper. By doing the Comingle recycling, we do the cardboard, the plastic, the paper, and the tin, the aluminum.** Mr. Ortiz stated, and could we not do that ourselves, looking at it for the future? Like I said, we're in a crunch right now, and we're looking at another \$726,000 or so. I'm very, very concerned. We're at the point that we need to find how we can save money because of the crunch that we're in and all the things that need to be done district-wide. That is my biggest concern, the savings that we need to start looking at. But thank you for clarifying that for me. Ms. Pena stated, okay. I know that there's a place downtown where people take their recycling material. Have you seen it? I guess the city's the one that runs it? And you drive up and you give them all your recycle stuff? **Ms. Escobar stated, that actually closed down already.** Ms. Pena stated, when did it close? **Ms. Escobar stated, I don't know the exact date, but I know it's closed.** Ms. Pena stated, okay, I went, I went two, three weeks ago. So there's a place close to Palm Boulevard and I drive up and I give them my recycled material. They were still there, so my question is, and I'll go tomorrow, I'm going to go back over there and say, and say you're supposed to not be here but don't tell me that they are maybe they close the other one my question is why couldn't we get that stuff and give it to them and they search and see you know you put everything that's possibly recycled into one trash bin you take it to them because I know for a fact that a lot of people don't know this you cannot recycle Styrofoam. It is the most deadliest thing you can use to eat because it releases the dioxin's, which really damage your body. That's another story. My question is, why couldn't we do that at the schools and have them put their trash or recyclable stuff and then take it to that place at the city? You just give it to them. It doesn't cost you anything to other than the drive on Elizabeth Street to hand it to them instead of spending all this money, because right now we're in a crunch. We're closing positions. We're eliminating, you know, frontline employees. And I just want to find a way that we can do it a lot easier. Have we looked into that, Dr. Chavez, about that location where I go literally and take my trash, and I recycle and put, you know, the plastic, the aluminum, and all that, because I can't put, what is it, Styrofoam, because they told me, ma'am, we don't recycle that. I go put it in the back, and we're going to get it out and throw it. So, I mean, kind of polite enough to say we do that. So why couldn't we go and give it to them there to do it? It won't cost us anything and we don't have to pay. How much is this going to cost us a year? **Ms. Escobar stated, a year is about 776,000.** Ms. Pena continued, okay, we can save almost more than half a million dollars and that's good salary. How many employees can we pay on that? We have employees making 40,000, divide that into the 776,000. So my thing is have we looked at that, that we can take it ourselves or have someone just literally drive it over there. Has something like that been looked at so it doesn't cost us a lot. It's very hard for me to approve something when we keep telling our teachers and our students and our faculty we have no money, we have no money, we have no money. If we don't have money, how are we spending this amount of money? That's my only concern and my fear, that the things that we're doing, it's not that we don't have money, it's that we're driving this district bankrupt because we're

spending stuff we don't have to. And I think we should look at other ways. You do an excellent job, by the way. You do an excellent job, and I'm very proud of you. It's just that when something like this comes up, it really concerns me because I don't want tomorrow for someone to come and say, well, we don't have enough money to pay your position, bye, wait a minute. You gave this company this money. That's \$725, but 7 % interest is \$776,000 for three years. You know how many employees you can pay with that three years? Sorry, 776,000, quite a few. And I am more in apt to take care of our employees who make our district shine than do stuff that we don't really have to. Okay, so can we look at that? Is that a possibility? **Ms. Escobar stated, we'll look into it, but again, to the best of my knowledge, that place did close down, but I'll research tomorrow morning.** Ms. Pena stated, yeah, no, I'll go there tomorrow to see, because I've been taking it to them and they have a bunch of stuff there, but I wonder if they change, maybe they change locations, I don't know. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, thank you, I just wanted to take advantage and thank Ms. Micaela for all the hard work that you do. I know the students I've been to, not all, but I have been to some of the events that you hold at campuses for various reasons. And especially those recycling ones are always an absolute hit. And we're literally changing the future and we're saving the world, literally, for these children. And just so thank you for constantly pushing the message and the benefits of recycling for our children because we have to educate them mind, body and soul as well. So just thank you for all that you do and all your team does out there as well. Mr. Ortiz stated, yes, ma 'am, once again, you are doing a very, very good job, and we appreciate, or at least I appreciate everything that you're doing. I know we have baby chicks now, but that's off another topic, okay, thank you. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated Dr. Chavez, did you have something? **Dr. Chavez stated, I don't know if I heard this, maybe in a different way, or maybe I didn't hear it, but I guess what I understand you saying is that when you look at trash versus recycling, we actually get charged less for recycling than we do trash. Did I hear that correctly?** Ms. Escobar stated, that is correct. **Dr. Chavez continued, all right. So here, with regards to the information, I mean, that's the information, right? And so here, if we say, oh, we don't want to do the recycling, right, and we're going to go to the trash, then that's going to cost more. I do think here, you know, the conversation around, you know, are there other ways of recycling? Are there cheaper ways of recycling? We certainly want to take a look at that. So we'll work on that, but I just wanted to emphasize that, you know, I had heard that correctly, that you save dollars when you recycle versus, you know, you spend more dollars if you just put it in a trash can and they come pick it up for you.** Ms. Escobar stated, correct. Ms. Lopez stated, Ms. Pena and then Ms. Grantland. Ms. Pena stated, yes, and a question, detail on to why it costs you more to throw it in the trash than it does to have it recycled. Is it because we're getting charged by weight when they pick up the trash? **Ms. Escobar replied, so the city usually charges \$24.50 per cubic yard, and to recycle it's \$18.75. That's a cost saving of \$5.75.** Ms. Pena stated, okay, so then the city recycles, so we have a different container that we put the recycled material? or they pick it up? **Ms. Escobar stated, and we go through the city, it's actually going to the landfill, so it's trash.** Ms. Pena stated, okay, and it costs us more to take it to the trash? **Ms. Escobar stated, correct.** Ms. Pena stated, because why? **Ms. Escobar stated, because it goes to the landfill. They don't sort anything, it just goes to the landfill.** Ms. Pena stated, I know, but why does it cost us more for them to take it to the landfill? They charge you by weight? Is that what I'm saying? **Ms. Escobar replied, by cubic yard.** Ms. Pena stated, that's what I'm asking, because it's more. Okay, and another thing

also is if we recycle this material and it's costing us this much money, what can we do to find a better way so we don't spend this much money? Can we look into it? Because at this point in time, like I said, it's a little too expensive. And I know it's costing more if we turn around and go to the trash. You don't want it in the landfill. I totally understand that. But can we really, is it a possibility to maybe table this item to look and see if the city does have that on Elizabeth Street where I went two weeks ago to give them my recycled material? And maybe we can save more money instead of spending that millions of dollars on this. And no offense, I'm here to give people business when they need business. But at this point in time, we don't have the money. We don't have the money. So can we look at it and then maybe bring it back if we see that no, there's no other way to do it? Is that a possibility, Dr. Chavez, that we can do something like that just to make sure that way the public will know that we are doing our best to save every penny that we can? And if we see that there's no way, no other way to do it, and but going to a company that's going to charge us, you know, over a million, there's, I mean, nothing we can do at that point. But can we do that? **Dr. Chavez replied, let me say this and, you know, you're happy to add to this information too. As I understand it, if we don't do the recycling piece and when we hold off on that, then that goes to the trash and they're going to charge us more when we put it in the trash. So, I mean, as long as the Board is comfortable with that, that we're going to pay more because we're going to put it in the trash, for a month, for two months, three months, you know, looking at this. I would rather move forward with this.** Ms. Pena interjected, but no, we don't have to take a month, two months, three months, we can do it right away. You can even have a Special Called Board Meeting for something as important as this. And that's what my concern is, because I want to save the district money, because we're short on money. And you've been emphasizing that for a while. And I want to help you save. **Dr. Chavez stated, well, let me ask on this then here, can we wait a few weeks? Can we wait a month on this?** Ms. Escobar stated, **I would have to contact the company and suspend any services for that time period.** Ms. Pena stated, when is their contract over for this time? **Ms. Escobar replied, November.** Ms. Pena stated, so November, at the end of November? **Ms. Escobar stated, I guess, like I said, I would have to contact the company and suspend the services for this month.** Ms. Pena stated, but are they, so they didn't get paid for this month? Is that what you're saying? **Ms. Escobar stated no, for the month of November, we wouldn't be able to pay them.** Ms. Pena stated, so they haven't gotten paid for this month? **Ms. Escobar stated, not for November, correct.** Ms. Pena stated, and they haven't picked up anything, today is the 5<sup>th</sup>, so they haven't they pick it up what once a week or how often do they pick up. **Ms. Escobar stated, the payment would be in December?** Ms. Pena stated, no, how often do they pick up. **Ms. Escobar stated, well depending on the schools, what I do is I monitor every single school and I post everything that's being recycled on the website because I do believe in the one city concept. So when we recycle the city's recycling, so if a school is very actively recycling They go up to three times a week if they recycle again, depending on the volume, they go two times a week for administrative buildings. It usually is one time a week.** Ms. Pena stated, and I'm asking because I was wondering if we could wait a week or two with that effect or they haven't picked up yet, right? So if we don't approve it tonight they stopped completely that's what you're saying, right? **Ms. Escobar stated I'm speculating that that's what would happen.** Ms. Pena continued, but if we wait a week.... Ms. Lopez Valdez interjected, Ms. Pena you've actually reached your time. Miss Grantland stated, I just have a quick question. Do we pay for recycling and do we pay for garbage also because not everything



we throw away is recycled, so we get double whammy, right? Okay. That's all I wanted to know. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, I just wanted to make a point and just remind everybody that the city of Brownsville is now mandating recycling. So even us as property owners will be having a fee monthly. I believe it starts January, you know, that's a whole different story. I don't want to get off the agenda. But I just wanted to make a point that the city of Brownsville is mandating recycling. So I just wanted everybody to keep that in mind. And as with everything, obviously there's a cost. Thankfully, it's less than trash. Ms. Pena stated, thank God it's not a million dollars. Ms. Grantland stated, I call a question. Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated, I have a question. Ms. Grantland stated, I call the question. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, a question has been called. Mr. Elizondo stated, a question ma'am. Ms. Grantland stated, oh I am sorry I didn't hear you. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, Mr. Elizondo. Mr. Elizondo continued, yes, just real quick, just a real quick question. Is there anybody here as a Board member, Dr. Chavez, that has a financial gain out of this Redfish? I'm talking about Board Members. Ms. Lopez Valdez replied, no, sir. Mr. Elizondo stated, nobody? There's not been any conflict of interest forms submitted? Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, there's no conflict, I discussed with Legal counsel and there is no conflict. Mr. Elizondo stated, there's no conflict, okay, thank you. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, we have a first and a second. Mr. Elizondo stated, I vote no ma'am.

**Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Denise Garza, to recommend approval of CSP #26-160 Commingled (Single-Stream) Recycling Services District-wide to Redfish Recycling (Marck Industries of Texas) of Brownsville, Texas. The contract period will be in effect from November 05, 2025 through November 05, 2026, with the option to renew for two (2) additional one-year (1) terms if all parties agree. Year one (1) of a three (3) year contract.**

**The following vote was recorded**

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

**Motion Carried: 4-3-0**

Mr. Elizondo stated, I vote no, ma'am. **Ms. Patricia Perez, Executive Assistant stated, thank you, sir.** Ms. Pena stated, I'm sorry, I vote no because it's too much money and we don't have this money to spend right now. Ms. Pena stated, did I push the wrong button. **Ms. Perez stated, you did, ma'am, Motion passes, four yes and two no, Ms. Pena yours is a no ma'am, okay.** Ms. Pena stated, I keep pushing it but it doesn't work right. Ms. Pena stated, did you correct that, so it's a no. **Ms. Perez stated for the minutes yes.** Ms. Pena stated, it is 4 and 3 then. **Ms. Perez stated, 4 and 2, I am sorry 5 and 2.** Ms. Pena stated, no its 4 and 3, 5 and 2. Ms. Pena stated, who voted no, I voted no. **Ms. Perez stated, Mr. Elizondo and Ms. Pena.** Mr. Ortiz stated and so did I ma'am. Ms. Pena stated it was two before my vote in and now it is three. **Ms. Perez stated, it would be 4-3, items will be corrected for the minutes.**

**XI. Board Member Request(s)**

**A. Action Item(s)**

1. Discussion, presentation and possible action pertaining to Resaca Technology Center regarding the technology vendor on the installation of the Network Operations Center (NOC). (Board Member Request Frank Ortiz/Board Support Carlos Elizondo)

Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, Mr. Nichols. Every week I see the weekly letter and it states there we're moving furniture in, we're getting ready to move into that building. My understanding was that we were supposed to have been in there a couple of months ago. The other thing that I've seen, I mean, this is year four already going into year five. We're in November already. Why is this particular vendor, Mr. Nichols, taking so long to do what he needs to do or what this vendor needs to do? And how many people do they have on the job doing this to get this ready for us to go in? And what is the projected date for us to finally have full control of this building so that we can go in? **Mr. Todd Nichols, Director of Computer/Technology Services stated, good evening, members of the Board, Board President, Dr. Chavez. There're several vendors that are included with this. With it, we are talking electrical. With this, we're talking APC. Insight, obviously, is one of the vendors. So, looking to see if Ramiro, the Project Manager, particularly the NOC itself, there's two items that were with that. One was with the fire suppression system. The city did write off as far as saying we're okay with the fire alarm, but the fire suppression with inside the NOC had to be done separately. In fact, today, they are there today. By Friday, that will be done so it can be signed off by the Fire Marshal. That is a key component in order to release the whole building.** Mr. Ortiz stated, have we paid these vendors already? **Mr. Nichols replied, yes well that portion hasn't been released yet until they finalize the project so that portion no.** Mr. Ortiz stated okay so we've paid some of the vendors others we have not. **Mr. Nichols stated correct until they invoice us when the job is complete that's when they get paid.** Mr. Ortiz stated, what is the estimated date of the completion and when will we be able to get in there. **Mr. Nichols replied, in working with the Ramiro today because we were with the vendors today also with electrical we're hoping by the end of November.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay, I'm going to hold you to that by the end of November. **Mr. Nichols stated, we're keeping our fingers crossed too, so yes.** Mr. Ortiz stated, okay thank you. **Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent stated, (Inaudible).** Mr. Ortiz stated, after five years, sir, four and a half years. Make sure it's a good one.

2. Presentation, discussion/explanation and possible action regarding current BISD Organizational Chart. (Board Member Request Minerva Pena/Board Support Neida Ruth Grantland)

Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, yes Dr. Chavez, the actual, hold on, let me pull it up here. It's here, right? Pat, it's in our backup here? Yeah, I had mine but I forgot it at home, the one that I printed out. But my question is, the way the organizational, will you have your copyright, sir? And the way that it's done, and the way people are under one person, and this one under this one, it's a little bit complicated in the way some of the positions are under certain people. What is your objective of putting, like, please, Mary has a hard job. She works really hard, she has two jobs and she's talking about. **Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent interjected, everybody has a hard job.** Ms. Pena continued yeah, but sorry, the people working with numbers, sir, will always be harder than me and you. And I'm going to admit it, and I'm not going to deny it. You have the hardest job.

And that's a fact. And I'm going to admit that. My question is, I see all the ones that you put under her, and she has a really hard job that she's got to concentrate on to make sure our budget is fine and aligned and that we have money we need. What was your objective of putting the other, departments or other people under her. What was your reasoning for that? **Dr. Chavez stated, well, let me say that I've been here almost two years, and I know I've made a few changes as time has gone on. I think any time you look at an organizational chart, you've got to consider you know, what's the best thing to do. And really, I say that from the aspect of if you look at school districts across Texas, yeah, there are changes made to the administrative chart. And, you know, I'll continue to take a look at that and work with our folks to make sure that, yes, everybody has the same level of work, if you will, so that we do balance that based on the positions that we do have. So, I'm open to taking a look at that is really what I'm saying. And there are considerations that, again, I've been thinking here over the last month, month and a half.** Ms. Pena stated, and the reason I say, because I know that you, the way you drew the lines and stuff, and they're equal pay, but one seems to be in charge of the other person. And I'm like, it's a little bit confusing. I just wanted to see what your theory was. But you say that you are looking at? **Dr. Chavez stated, well, let me say with that, it's really an advantage for the district to have that level of organization the way I've done it. Otherwise, it'd be costing us more. So again, from my sense, it's a situation where it's a fair thing for me to do.** Ms. Pena stated, and I respect what your beliefs are, but we've had organizational charts and it didn't cost us more. So I'm just concerned in the way it's done. But if you said you're looking at it, I appreciate that and I just have a concern and I'll address them to you so you can look at. But yes, thank you that you're looking at that. That's very important to me. Ms. Jessica Gonzalez, Board Member stated, question for legal, or actually just clarification. To my understanding, if I remember correctly, us as Board Members have no control over the organizational chart because it is an administrative decision, correct? *Mr. Kevin O'Hanlon replied, yes mostly, you have some influence on it because when you adopt the budget on an annual basis, you adopt pay scales, so you don't have direct control over but you have some indirect influence when you adopt a budget which contains the various pay scales.* Ms. Gonzalez stated, but I guess what I'm trying to say is I can't say and you guys are in front of me so I'm going to use you guys as an example I cannot I as a Board Member cannot say Dr. Chavez I think Bea and her staff should be under Mary per se, then that's just an example. I, again, as a Board member. *Mr. O'Hanlon replied, the Superintendent's duties under 11.201 of the Texas Education Code include organizing the administrative structure of the district and assigning and reassigning personnel. So that if you look at 11.201, that authority is the superintendent's.* Ms. Gonzalez stated, thank you. Ms. Pena stated, and we can make, Mr. O'Hanlon, all the Board can do is make recommendations and the opinion on what's going on, but he's going to make the final decision. *Mr. O'Hanlon stated, you are absolutely have the right to make...* Ms. Pena interjected, but we can make recommendations, what we're doing here, out of respect, because that's our job. Because if something fails and goes miserable, and we knew about it and did nothing about it, we get branded for that. And I want to make sure that we're allowed to just make a recommendation and that's all we're doing to look at it. That's it. Not telling them what to do, just telling them to look at what you're doing. *Mr. O'Hanlon stated, you're certainly entitled to make recommendations.* Ms. Neida Ruth Grantland stated thank you Dr. Chavez, I do appreciate the fact that you are saying that you're, you know, willing to go back and look at it. You and I have had a couple of conversations about this to begin with anyway. My comment

is in the spirit of focus and in the spirit of streamlining. The organizational chart that we have right now, and I'm not talking specifics because I cannot tell you how to organize it. I can only ask as a Board Member that you consider organizing it in such a way that everyone in the district has a focus and everyone in the district stays in their line of focus. I think that the accountability that we need to see in this and I researched back a few years before coming tonight on different organizational charts that we have worked under. I personally have been an employee here working under different organizational charts, and so I know what a chart can do for an organization. I think that if you would revisit it and look at the cluster setup that we had years ago, that was very focused because it had vertical alignment and the person in charge of that one cluster had a bird's eye view, and there I'm addressing you all, you're the persons in charge, had a bird's eye view of starting in early childhood and going on to graduation, and how the progression was coming along for that particular cluster. It seemed to focus the efforts, the expenditures, and everything in a much more effective way, in my humble opinion. I do believe that, for instance, Fine Arts is not in the area of curriculum, it's out in some other area, and I kind of wondered about that because Fine Arts is a curricular subject. And so, I couldn't see the logic in that. So as a Board Member, I'm asking that you consider looking back at the cluster concept that we had, the vertical alignment concept that we had. Everybody knew who was in charge of what. Nobody crossed lines. And it was very focused and very effective. We had a Broad Award. We had an A district under those kinds of things. And I think it's worth looking at. and I thank you for being willing to do that. Mr. Ortiz stated, Dr. Chavez, coming back to the organizational chart. And thank you for the clarification, legal, and the fact that we can't not tell the Superintendent how to organize this chart, but we can certainly make recommendations. And then, obviously, it's up to him to decide what he's going to do. My question or my recommendation is, in communication, when you are going to reassign someone from an immediate supervisor to another immediate supervisor, Before, this individual is reassigned, do you communicate with their immediate supervisor and their future supervisors? Because sometimes these changes are made, and I get a call and say, I was just changed here, and nobody even communicated with me. Or I got a call from my current supervisor, and I got a call from my future supervisor that I was going to be reassigned. And sometimes the current supervisors or the future supervisors don't even know until you make the reassignment. So it's just a matter of communication and courtesy, you know, to our employees, because I think that communication is very, very important. You obviously call the shots, okay? I mean, you're the one that's entitled to make those changes. I'm just thinking that communication needs to be there. You know, before a change is made, I think that the current supervisor and the future supervisor are made aware of before that happens. It's just like me, you know, as a principal sometimes, you know, HR would assign a teacher and a teacher would show up at my campus and give me her letter of authority, you know what I'm saying, where'd you come from? I didn't know that. So communication, I think, is very, very important before those changes are made. Ms. Pena stated, and if I may end with this and follow up, sir, and the possible action, the only action is that if you can look at it, and we recommend that you study a little better and take our recommendations because you're the only one that can make this district shine or make this district fall. But I know you have the ability, the skill, the want and desire to make this district shine and that's all we're asking. That's the possible action that I want that you look at it so you can make sure you take care of the people that are going to take care of you and have the right people under you that are going to make you shine and that's very important.

**XII. CLOSED MEETING: as pursuant to the Texas Government Code Sections: 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.082, and 551.084. 7:30 p.m.**

**A. LEVEL III GRIEVANCE(S): (Action taken after Executive Session)**

1. Level III Parent Grievance No.002/25-26 on Maricarmen Saldivar on behalf of Student J.S.
2. Level III Grievance No.007/25-26 on S.O.
3. Level III Grievance No.008/25-26 on M.A.
4. Level III Grievance No.009/25-26 on R.V.

**B. INTRUDER DETECTION AUDIT(S): Action taken after Executive Session)**

1. Discussion of the findings of the intruder detection audit report.

**C. PERSONNEL MATTER(S): Action taken after Executive Session)**

1. Presentation of Retirements. (1)
2. Presentation of Resignations. (5)
3. Personnel Update with Superintendent (Dr. Jesus H. Chavez)
4. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025-2026 school year(s) — Assistant Principal. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)  
**Amendment: Item 4 Page 3 will be replaced with Page 3a**
5. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025-2026 school year(s) — Counselor. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1)  
**Amendment: Item 5 Page 3 will be replaced with Page 3a**
6. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025 - 2026 school year(s) - Coordinator, Assessment/Research/Eval. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)  
**Amendment: Item 6 Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a**
7. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025-2026 school year(s) — Director, Construction. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)  
**Amendment: Item 7 Page 3 will be replaced with Page 3a**
8. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025-2026 school year(s) — Director, Employee Benefits/Risk Mgmt./Policy. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)  
**Amendment: Item 8 Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a**
9. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025-2026 school year(s) — Lead Teacher, Adult Continuing Education. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1)  
**Amendment: Item 9 Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a**

10. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025-2026 school year(s) — Lead Teacher, Advanced Academics. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1)
11. Campus Professional Employee (D.S.) for change in contract for the 2025-2026 Fiscal School Year.
12. Campus Professional Employee (S.I.) for a change in days, change in salary for the 2025-2026 Fiscal School Year.
13. Qualified administrators as Texas Teacher Evaluation Support System (T-TESS) Appraisers for the 2025-2026 Fiscal School Year.

**D. ATTORNEY CONSULTATION Action taken after Executive Session)**

**1. Staff Attorney**

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

**2. Board Attorney:**

- a. Legal Update with Board Counsel.

**E. INTERNAL AUDITOR CONSULTATION**

**1. Consultation with Director of Internal Audit.**

**F. BOARD SELF-EVALUATION.**

**1. Board Self-Evaluation.**

**XIII. BOARD RECONVENES - Board action on agenda items discussed in Executive Session. 8:51 p.m.**

**A. LEVEL III GRIEVANCE(S):**

1. Level III Parent Grievance No.002/25-26 on Maricarmen Saldivar on behalf of Student J.S.

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

**Motion was made by Daniella Lopez Valdez, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, to recommend approval to instruct Dr. Jesus H. Chavez, Superintendent to proceed as discussed in Executive Session.**

**The following vote was recorded**

Yea: Ms. Lopez, Ms. Garza, Ms. Gonzalez, Ms. Grantland

Nay: Mr. Ortiz, Ms. Pena, Mr. Elizondo

Abstain:

**Motion Carried: 4-3-0**

Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, and if I may please comment. Ms. Daniella Lopez Valdez, Board President stated, Ms. Garza. Ms. Denise Garza, Board Member

stated, Ms. Saldivar, thank you for bringing your concern to the Board. Your concern is very concerning and has brought to our attention that there is a lot that we need to look into when it comes to the Fine Arts Handbook. So thank you for bringing your concern. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, Ms. Pena. Ms. Pena stated, and yes, ma'am, I agree. Football doesn't have tryouts. Band doesn't have tryouts. Your daughter should have been allowed to continue. My heart breaks but for children there's nothing I won't do because we are going to answer when God calls us home what we did to the children. And I thank you for fighting for your child. Lift her spirits up. She should have continued there. I know how much it means to them. I did that for years. And we took first place at Porter High School in the state of Texas. Continue fighting for her. She should be on that team. We should allow these kids, once they get on, they stay on unless they get demerits and they got to go. Yes, ma'am. I agree with you 100%. Your child deserves to be blessed on that team. So God bless you and I wish you the best. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, Ms. Grantland. Ms. Neida Ruth Grantland stated, many times we want to make a decision based on our hearts. And as a parent, I totally understand what you are facing with your daughter. I hope that she will go past this, and I think she will because you seem to be very good parents and very interested in her. Sometimes there are things that keep us from doing the decision that we think we need to do because of numbers, because of the nine other students or whatever. But I want you to please tell her that we felt that rules need to be looked at and that we feel that she should try out again next year because she has been on it before. And I think that if she doesn't give up, I think she, you know, she should try out again next year. And we truly are sorry that this happened, there's just nothing we can do to put one person back onto the team when there's nine others that also might need to. We just can't do that thank you. Ms. Lopez Valdez stated, Mr. Ortiz. Mr. Frank Ortiz, Board Member stated, I do feel that your daughter does belong on the team. We certainly have to take a look at the process that was followed. We certainly need to go back and make some changes to those processes. But in the meantime, I truly feel that your daughter should have been placed back on the team. Ms. Pena stated, let me just tell them one more think, thank you very much and please keep fighting for your daughter. And I'm the kind of thing, put all nine of them on the team. The more children you have, the better and higher blessed you are. So that's feasible. Trust me, it's feasible. It's wanting to do it for the children. So thank you so much. God bless you.

**Closed Meeting: 8:55 p.m.**  
**Board Reconvenes: 11:49 p.m.**

Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, Carlos are you still there? Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated I vote no. Ms. Pena stated, you are there.

2. Level III Grievance No.007/25-26 on S.O.

**Motion was made by Daniella Lopez Valdez, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, to recommend approval of Level III Grievance No. 007/25-26 on S.O, thereby upholding the Level II decision as recommended by administration.**

**The following vote was recorded**

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

**Motion Carried: 5-2-0**

3. Level III Grievance No.008/25-26 on M.A.

Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated I vote no. No for me ma'am.

**Motion was made by Daniella Lopez Valdez, seconded by Denise Garza, to recommend approval of Level III Grievance NO. 008/25-26 on M.A., thereby upholding the Level II decision as recommended by administration.**

**The following vote was recorded**

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

**Motion Carried: 5-2-0**

4. Level III Grievance No.009/25-26 on R.V.

Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated, that is a no for me ma'am.

**Motion made by Daniella Lopez Valdez, seconded by Jessica Gonzalez, to recommend approval of Level III Grievance No. 009/25-26 on R.V., thereby upholding the Level II decision as recommended by administration.**

**The following vote was recorded**

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

**Motion Carried: 5-2-0**

So the meeting is online. Mr. Elizondo stated, yea, look its still on. (inaudible). Mr. Elizondo stated, yea they are .... stupid. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, Carlos they can hear you. (inaudible) **Ms. Patricia Perez, Executive Assistant stated, under B1.** Mr. Elizondo stated, I am sorry. **Ms. Perez stated, no action.** Mr. Elizondo stated, they are stupid, its crazy. Ms. Pena stated Carlos. Mr. Elizondo stated, yes I know I am muting right now.

**B. INTRUDER DETECTION AUDIT(S): No action taken**

1. Discussion of the findings of the intruder detection audit report.



**C. PERSONNEL MATTER(S):**

Ms. Minerva Pena, Board Member stated, number 7 was removed? (inaudible) Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated, go ahead ma'am I vote yes.

**Motion made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Daniella Lopez Valdez, and unanimously carried to recommend approval grouping under Personnel items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13. (7-0-0)**

1. Presentation of Retirements. (1) **(G7-0-0) Tomasa Torres**
2. Presentation of Resignations. (5) **(G7-0-0)**  
**Tomas Alvarado, Jorge Flores, Juan Hernandez, Marisol Z. Perez, Thomas J. Rios**
3. Personnel Update with Superintendent (Dr. Jesus H. Chavez) **(G7-0-0)**
4. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025-2026 school year(s) — Assistant Principal. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1) **(G7-0-0) Silvia G. Murillo-Paredes Elementary School**  
**Amendment: Page 3 will be replaced with Page 3a**
5. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025-2026 school year(s) — Counselor. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1) **(G7-0-0) Dina Prince Hernandez-Hudson Elementary School**  
**Amendment: Item 5 Page 3 will be replaced with Page 3a**
6. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025 - 2026 school year(s) - Coordinator, Assessment/Research/Eval. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1) **(G7-0-0) Hector DeLeon**  
**Amendment: Item 6 Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a**
7. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025-2026 school year(s) — Director, Construction. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1) **No action taken**  
**Amendment: Item 7 Page 3 will be replaced with Page 3a**
8. Non-chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025-2026 school year(s) — Director, Employee Benefits/Risk Mgmt./Policy. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1) **(G7-0-0)**  
**Corpus J. Zorola-Employee Benefits/Risk Mgmt/Policy Department**  
**Amendment: Item 8 Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a**
9. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025-2026 school year(s) — Lead Teacher, Adult Continuing Education. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation.(1) **(G7-0-0) Dora Y. Tamayo**  
**Amendment: Item 9 Page 2 will be replaced with Page 2a**
10. Chapter 21 contractual personnel for the 2025-2026 school year(s) — Lead Teacher, Advanced Academics. Subject to receipt of all outstanding documentation. (1) **(G7-0-0) Daisy Lugo**

11. Campus Professional Employee (D.S.) for change in contract for the 2025-2026 Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**
12. Campus Professional Employee (S.I.) for a change in days, change in salary for the 2025-2026 Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**
13. Qualified administrators as Texas Teacher Evaluation Support System (T-TESS) Appraisers for the 2025-2026 Fiscal School Year. **(G7-0-0)**

**D. ATTORNEY CONSULTATION**

1. **Staff Attorney**
  - a. Regarding Cause No. 2021-DCL-06699; Jimmy Haynes vs. Brownsville Independent School District. **No action taken**
2. **Board Attorney:**
  - a. **Legal Update with Board Counsel. No action taken**

**E. INTERNAL AUDITOR CONSULTATION**

1. **Consultation with Director of Internal Audit. No action taken**

**F. BOARD SELF-EVALUATION.**

1. **Board Self-Evaluation. No action taken**

**XIV. Announcement(s):**

**Dr. Jesus H. Chavez, Superintendent stated, November 6<sup>th</sup> we have a Board Workshop TIA at 5:00 p.m. November 7<sup>th</sup>, Texas Arbor Day, 9 a .m. at Burns Elementary. On November 7<sup>th</sup>, we also have Texas Arbor Day at 1:30 p .m. at Del Castillo/Morningside. November 8<sup>th</sup>, we have the Elementary Science Fair beginning at 8:00 a.m. over at Gonzales Elementary. November 10<sup>th</sup>, Veterans Day Ceremony, 9:00 a.m. here in our Boardroom. November 11<sup>th</sup>, Veterans Day Holiday. November 12<sup>th</sup>, Area1 Special Olympics Bowling Meet Middle Schools, 9:30 a .m. at the Galaxy Bowling Center. November 13<sup>th</sup>, Area 1, Special Olympics Bowling Meet Early College High Schools, 9:30 a.m. at the Galaxy Bowling Center. Canvas at 5:00p.m. BISD Boardroom. Facilities Committee Workshop at 5:30 here at the BISD Boardroom. Thank you so much. Ms. Minerva Pena, Board member stated question, yes, I know that on November 7<sup>th</sup> at nine o'clock at Benavides are having the Safety Patrol Induction Ceremony at nine o'clock at the same time that they're having the Burns event. **Dr. Chavez stated, so yes, and we're dividing up for that...** Ms. Pena interjected, yeah, we're divided. **Dr. Chavez stated some of us at Burns and some at other schools.** Ms. Pena continued, yes we are I was invited at Benavides, I was going to go and I already to Ms. Micaela who does a wonderful job, but I was invited to the Safety Patrol for the children to get sworn in and I will do the second event at 1:30. She understood. **Dr. Chavez stated I was Chief for a little bit, 5<sup>th</sup> grade.** Ms. Pena stated, yea good.**

**XV. Adjournment.**

Mr. Carlos Elizondo, Board Member stated, yes for me ma'am.

**Motion was made by Jessica Gonzalez, seconded by Daniella Lopez Valdez, and unanimously carried to recommend approval to adjourn Regular Board Meeting at 11:55 P.M. (7-0-0)**

- 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 Regular Board Meeting held on February 3, 2026)**