



Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: General Function Board of Education Meeting: 06/10/2025

Item Title: TASB Region One, Position B X Action
Dr. Sylvia Sanchez Garza Information
Discussion

BACKGROUND:

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approving the endorsement of Dr. Sylvia Sanchez Garza for the nomination of the TASB Board of Directors, Region One, Position B.

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:

Dr. Jesus H. Chavez

Prepared by: Superintendent

Recommended by: Superintendent

Approved by: Superintendent

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jesus H. Chavez".

Dr. Jesus H. Chavez
Superintendent

When Necessary, Additional Background May Follow This.

May 13, 2025

Dear School Board Members:

Thank you for your leadership, commitment, and support for all our students. Your dedication ensures that our children obtain the best education possible.

I believe strongly in the power of education. The love of advocacy for our students has led me to serve on the STISD School Board since 2008, which allows me to support our community's students. This opportunity has been a true blessing for me. I am excited to also serve on the TASB board representing Region One and as an officer of TASB. It is an honor, and I am thankful to you all for the great work you are all doing to help our students of our Region One districts.

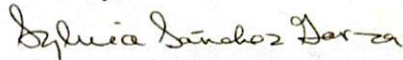
My parents, Joe V. Sanchez and Elida Reyna Sanchez, instilled in me the importance of advocating for education, literacy, and service. Our students and school districts need representatives who understand their needs and are willing to give their time to ensure all our students receive the best education and opportunities possible, especially the underserved.

The issues facing our school districts have not just affected us locally or in Texas; they are affecting everything around us. Our world is changing rapidly. We must think ahead and be ready for what's to come, especially with the ongoing legislative session. By staying positive, we'll keep doing what we do best: focusing on our students first. Together, we will ensure they continue to succeed while they remain safe. Thanks to outstanding leadership, excellent results are taking place in our schools every single day, and the hope for brighter and reimagined possibilities is a reality. Let's continue to celebrate our students and share their amazing stories.

We have creative, talented, and brilliant students, teachers, community members, and school board members at Region One. Our school districts are doing fantastic work! I want to ensure everyone knows about the great things happening at all our public schools in our region.

I would love to continue serving and representing the best region in Texas, Region One. I kindly ask for your endorsement once again. Attached you will find my short bio and photo along with an Endorsement Form to be approved by your board and signed by the board president. TASB must receive all endorsements by August 1, 2025. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Thanks again for your support and for all that you do for our students every single day. You are all amazing!

Sincerely,



Sylvia Sánchez Garza, Ph.D.
South Texas ISD Board Vice-President
TASB Director Region One, Position B
TASB Board Secretary

**TASB****TASB ENDORSEMENT FORM**

DATE: _____

Our school board endorses the candidacy of the following individual nominated to fill a position on the TASB Board of Directors.

CANDIDATE INFORMATIONNAME: Dr. Sylvia Sanchez Garza, TASB Region I, Position BSCHOOL DISTRICT: South Texas Independent School District

*****Board action must be taken no earlier than May 12, 2025, and no later than August 1, 2025*****

This endorsement was approved by our school district's board of trustees at a duly called meeting on

(Date)

Best regards,

(Signature of board president or officer)

PRINTED NAME: _____

SCHOOL DISTRICT: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

This form is to be used to endorse a nominated individual from a board of trustees within your TASB Region who is a timely candidate for a position on the TASB Board of Directors.

Must be received by TASB on or before AUGUST 1, 2025.

RETURN TO: E-mail: boardcommunications@tasb.org



TASB BOARD CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

DATE: March 26, 2025

NAME: Sylvia Sánchez Garza

MAILING ADDRESS: 3518 Plazas del Lago

CITY: Edinburg ZIP: 78539

BUSINESS PHONE: 956-383-6295 RESIDENCE PHONE: _____

CELL PHONE: 956-638-7017 FAX NUMBER (if applicable): _____

We communicate with our Board members primarily via e-mail. Please list your preferred email address.

E-MAIL: sylviagarza4@gmail.com

SCHOOL DISTRICT: South Texas ISD

LOCAL TERM EXPIRES: 2028 YEARS ON BOARD: 17
(Month/year)

Upon expiration of current term on your local board, will you seek reelection?

YES X NO _____

BOARD POSITIONS HELD (including dates): Secretary, 2020, Vice-President, 2022-present,
Committee Chair, Finance, Curriculum, Buildings & Ground,

OCCUPATION: BIC Development/Author

CURRENT EMPLOYER: BIC Development/Author DATES: BIC 1991-present/ Author-2016-present

EDUCATION-HIGH SCHOOL: Weslaco High School COLLEGE: Pan American University, Lamar
University, Our Lady of the Lake University, & National University

OTHER EDUCATION: Teacher Certifications, TASB Leadership Class of 2012, TASB Continuing
Education Courses, Board Training, Educational Workshops, Writing Workshops and Seminars

DEGREES: B.A. English, M.A. Ed Leadership, M.F.A. Creative Writing, Ph.D. Leadership Studies

HOBBIES/SPECIAL INTERESTS: Reading, writing, volunteering, playing with my grandbabies &
dogs, dancing, karaoke, the arts, enjoying nature, & Animal Crossing, Documentaries

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL/CIVIC GROUP MEMBERS (offices held including dates): South Texas
I.S.D. School Board- 17 years, South Texas I.S.D. School Board Secretary, 2020, Vice President,
2022 – present, Texas Association of School Boards Director, Region One, Position 1B, TASB

Officer/Secretary, TASB Past Chair Bylaws Committee, TASB Present Chair Finance Committee, Leadership TASB Class of 2012, National School Board Association, Mexican American School Board Association, National Hispanic Council of School Board Members, Past National Hispanic Council Director of Southern Region, Member NALEO, Past Museum of South Texas History Chair, STISD Education Foundation, 2004 – present, Texas Authors member, Writer's League of Texas member, South Texas Literacy Coalition member, Discovery School Board past board president, American Cancer Society steering committee, Discovery 4-H Manager, Mayor Joe V. Sanchez Library Committee, Mayor Joe V. Sanchez Memorial Book Festival founder and co-chair, TASA/TASB Exhibit of School Architecture Jury

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

My parents instilled in me a love of learning and made me realize that one's background should never be a barrier to obtaining educational goals or success. They were my greatest teachers. I plan to carry on their legacy as best I can by serving our students and community. Like my parents, I believe education and literacy empower and positively impact everyone's lives.

This year has been a challenge, especially with the 89th Texas Legislative Session underway and districts struggling with funding. We continue to stand united to support public education and encourage our representatives to increase funding for all our school districts who are required to educate every child. Students deserve every opportunity to succeed, and thanks to outstanding leadership in our region, excellent results continue to take place in our schools. In Region One, we have outstanding and amazingly talented students. It is up to all of us to make their educational journeys a positive and beneficial experience.

As a lifelong learner, I am passionate about helping all our students succeed. It doesn't matter what district our students are from; they are all our students, and it is up to all of us to support them. Our students are proof that we have so many stories that need to be celebrated. We will continue to advocate and stand united for all our students, teachers, and districts. Together, the unimaginable is possible, and the future is bright.

It is an honor to serve as TASB's Region 1 Director, position B. Let's keep working together for our students, teachers and districts. Thank you all for everything that you do every single day to make a significant difference in all our students' lives.

***My bio and photo are attached.**

Please attach a short bio and include a current picture in jpeg format.



Sylvia Sánchez Garza

Sánchez Garza, a strong advocate for all students' educational success, is a lifelong learner passionate about education, literacy, and the arts. She has served on the South Texas ISD Board since 2008 and currently serves as vice-president. She also is on the Education Foundation Board of South Texas ISD, where she has served since 2004. Sylvia serves on the Texas Association of School Board (TASB), representing Region One, is currently a TASB Officer/Secretary, is a graduate of Leadership TASB 2012, and a Master Trustee. Sánchez Garza is also a member of MASBA, NALEO, and is the past National Hispanic Council Southern Regional Director. She is active in her community, currently serving on The South Texas Literacy Coalition Board, and is the past chair of the Museum of South Texas History Board. Sylvia is also a member of Texas Authors, the Writer's League of Texas, and The Author's Guild. She has served on the American Cancer Society's steering committee and helped organize local Relay for Life events; she was a 4-H club manager and involved with parent organizations such as serving as vice-president of PTSO, Swim Club, KMAC, Boys Scouts, and soccer, her family has hosted three foreign exchange students.

Sylvia has a Ph.D. from Our Lady of the Lake University's School of Business and Leadership. She also has an M.Ed. from Lamar University, an MFA in creative writing from National University, and a B.A. in English from The University of Texas–Pan American. She is the vice-president of B.I.C. Development and Garco Ranch Communities. Sánchez Garza is an author and speaker and is available to speak at events and schools. She has published three books; her work has been included in three anthologies and has been published in several literary magazines. Her website is sylviasanchezgarza.com.

She grew up in Weslaco, where the local library is named after her father, a former migrant farmworker, veteran, superintendent, mayor, and author. Sylvia is a founder of the Mayor Joe V. Sanchez Memorial Book Festival, an event created in memory of her dad to celebrate education, literacy, and the arts. She is a family representative for The Mayor Joe V. Sanchez Public Library.