

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JANUARY 12, 2026

MINUTES

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: All board members were present.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Dr. Marc Puig, Superintendent
Diana Lopez Silvas, Assistant Superintendent
Eva Cisneros, Chief Financial Officer

VISITORS:	Sandra Blanton	Nicole Flores	Belinda Alaniz
	Rachel Medrano	Jacqueline Padilla	Gianna Morales
	Noemi Ortiz	Jaime Velasco	Jessica Juarez
	Candace Rodriguez	Dalia Rodriguez	Benito Portillo
	Cystal Carrillo	Francisca Martinez	Anisa Chavera
	Maribel Trevino	Roxana Ybarra	

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM

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

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

Present – 7

Absent – 0

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

2.0 MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAYER

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

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/TEXAS FLAG PLEDGE

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

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

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

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

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

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

There was no public participation.

6.0 AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS

6A BOARD APPRECIATION MONTH – JANUARY 2026

Katrina Alejandro announced that January was School Board Recognition Month. She called on each of the campus principals and their assistant principals to present a gift, as a token of their appreciation, to a designated board member. The RECHS Jazz Band and the Seale Jr. High School Choir serenaded the Board and audience during the recess. Also, a dinner was provided for the Board during the executive session.

Motion #7060 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to take a fifteen-minute recess.

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

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
6:13 p.m.

Motion #7061 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee M. Mesa to reconvene into regular session.

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

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
6:40 p.m.

7.0

MADAM PRESIDENT REMARKS

7A

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

President Lori Ann Garza reminded the board members that the TASB Governance Camp, Powered by Student Voice, will be held on March 4-7, 2026, in Galveston, Texas. If anyone was interested in attending, please contact the superintendent's office. Dr. Marc Puig announced that the administration and students have submitted proposals to present. As soon as they get confirmed, he will let them know.

7B

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

President Lori Ann Garza reminded the board members that the Education Service Center Region 2 will be hosting a dinner on January 30, 2026, in honor of the Board Recognition Month. If anyone was interested in attending, please contact the superintendent's office.

7C

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

President Lori Ann Garza announced that a special board meeting will be held in February to conduct the superintendent's evaluation.

8.0

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

8A

RISD DONATION/ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS

Dr. Marc Puig announced that Melissa Mendez had donated \$600 to the school district to be used to purchase blankets, board games, and hot chocolate for the Christmas Kits.

8B

ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE

Dr. Marc Puig reported that the attendance was on the way up, with 92% compared to 91.3% from the last school year. The Texas Education Agency approved the low attendance waiver that they submitted. As of today, the ADA was at 2,193 below last school year's ADA, and they would probably end up with 2128 ADA. They are starting to think strategically by having districtwide virtual budget meetings, TASB will help navigate the deficit budget series, a TASB Staffing Study, a secondary schedule analysis will be done, and a voter referendum (M & O Debt to I & S) will be recommended.

8C

RISD STATE OF THE BUDGET

Dr. Marc Puig announced that the first State of the Budget will be virtual, and it has been scheduled for Friday, January 16, 2026, at 3:30 p.m.

8D

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

Dr. Marc Puig reported that a committee had been formed to streamline all of the handbooks for the athletic department so that they can have consistency and uniformity. Maribel Trevino will be heading the committee.

9.0

PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

9A

ACADEMIC UPDATE/TIA UPDATE

Rachel Medrano reported that, as always, the district's vision and mission drive the teaching and learning, along with the four pillars. Amy Chase from the Education Service Center Region 2 came out on Friday afternoon to meet with the teachers on the Early Childhood Literacy Coalition to conduct the second part of the training. At the meeting, they came up with a vision and plan to be accomplished by the end of the month of May. The plan is to design a year-long PD plan (will cover the summer, fall and the spring semester) and administrator-level training in foundational literacy. Belinda Alaniz presented the EOC 2025 data. The EOC are the five tested subjects that the students need to take to graduate. She shared the increases in English I, English II, Algebra, Biology, and a slight decrease in US History. They are working on different strategies for students who keep retesting. Also, she reported that House Bill 8 would go into effect in 2027-2028, and it will include mitigating potential student test anxiety, grades 3-8 will be tested in the beginning/middle/end of year assessments. The end-of-course options, English II EOC assessment is being eliminated, and shorter assessments for faster results. Rachel Medrano also reported that they have started working on the Twenty-first Century Grant, a community survey was sent out, and they received around five hundred responses. They have secured MOU's with Keach Family Library, the Robstown Young Future, and Agrilife. They will be taking a tour of the Robstown Young Future on Friday, January 16th, and the application is due on February 16, 2026. Diana Silvas reported that they met with the teachers at San Pedro, who were absent during the first round of TIA, the team provided a TIA update to the DEIC, the team met to discuss which CTE classes should be included in Phase 2, and the team attended a webinar to learn about the fall updates to the 2027 school year.

9B

M & O UPDATE

Ron Lawver reported that hopefully, after this evening, he will have a start date on the field house. He met with the superintendent and project manager of the company that will be renovating the RECHS Field House last week. They were impressed that, at this time, the building was empty and the shape that it was in. They are looking forward to starting the work. At this time, they are doing a field house at Bishop ISD. The smart thing to do was to just get new air-conditioning units for the field house and reuse one at Hattie Martin, and donate the other one. The units are in working condition, but a new field house needs new air-conditioning units.

9C

LIST OF BILLS

President Lori Ann Garza informed the Board that the list of bills was in their board packets. If they had any questions, please contact Dr. Marc Puig.

9D

FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Dr. Marc Puig reported that the fund balance was at \$10.9 million at the end of August 31, 2025. The amount has already been audited, and it is now official.

10.0

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

10A

MINUTES: REGULAR BOARD MEETING: DECEMBER 8, 2025

10B

BUDGET AMENDMENT #1

10C

2025-2026 DISTRICT GOALS AND PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

10D

PURCHASE ORDER EXCEEDING \$50,000 FOR THE CCISD REGIONAL DAY SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR THE DEAF

President Lori Ann Garza asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented.

Motion #7062 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee Y. Villalobos to approve the Consent Agenda Items A-D as presented.

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

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
7:19 p.m.

11.0 ACTION ITEMS

11A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RISD ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1, 2024, THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2025
Marc Puig reported that for the first time in history, the auditor will not be present to present the audit because it was a good audit. Eva Cisneros reported that a copy of the audit was in their board packets, along with a one-pager with the auditor's highlights. The school district's auditors have given the school district a clean, unmodified opinion, which is the best that they can get. The audit was free of materially insignificant findings, and the fund balance was \$10.9 million at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. She also reviewed the funds in the other fund balances that the school district has. After discussion, Dr. Puig recommended approving the Annual Financial Audit Report for September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2025, as presented.

Motion #7063 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee M. Mesa to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

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

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
7:24 p.m.

11B DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR THE RECHS FIELD HOUSE WITH HELLAS CONSTRUCTION
Dr. Marc Puig informed the Board that the sum of \$3,648,114 included the two alternates (AC and painting) for the field house. The amount exceeded the budget by \$148,000, and the money is available. The project will not be completed no later than two hundred and forty calendar days from the date of commencement of the work. After the discussion, Dr. Puig recommended approving the contract documents for the RECHS with Hellas Construction and authorizing the superintendent to execute as such.

Motion #7064 A motion was made by Trustee M. Mesa and seconded by Trustee L. Cantu to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

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

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
7:29 p.m.

11C DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE 2025-2026 LIBRARY BOOK TITLES IN THE DISTRICT’S LIBRARY CATALOG IN ACCORDANCE WITH SENATE BILL 13

Dr. Marc Puig reported that, as per Senate Bill 13 and EFA Policy, he recommended the approval of the 2025-2026 Library Book Titles in the District’s Library Catalog in accordance with Senate Bill 13 as presented. The links were forwarded to you from Mrs. Jessica Juarez for your review. Mrs. Juarez reported that the list contained the titles of all of the books that they are planning on purchasing for the library this school year. After the discussion, Dr. Puig recommended approving the 2025-2026 library book titles in the district’s library catalog in accordance with Senate Bill 13.

Motion #7065 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee Y. Villalobos to approve the superintendent’s recommendation.

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

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
7:34 p.m.

12.0 CLOSED SESSION – SECTION 551.074 AND 551.076

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

12B DISCUSSION OF OFFER MADE FOR DISTRICT PROPERTY

12C SAFETY AUDIT REPORT

President Lori Ann Garza asked for a motion to go into the executive session under sections 551.074 and 551.076 to discuss the appointments, employment, evaluations, resignations, reassignments, duties, discipline, or dismissal of employees.

Motion #7066 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee E. Gallegos to go into the executive session as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Sections 551.074 and 551.076.

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

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

Motion #7067 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to reconvene from the executive session.

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

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
8:25 p.m.

13.0 OPEN SESSION

16A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS, EMPLOYMENTS, EVALUATIONS, RESIGNATIONS, REASSIGNMENTS, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEES
Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving the Personnel List as presented in the executive session.

Motion #7068 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee M. Mesa to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

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

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
8:25 p.m.

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion #7069 A motion was made by Trustee E. Gallegos and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to adjourn the meeting.

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

Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0
8:26 p.m.

(The details of this meeting are recorded on tape dated 01/12/2025, except for the executive session.)