



Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: Board Member Request Board of Education Meeting: 03/04/2025

Item Title: TSA State Advancement X Action
(Board Member Request – Minerva Peña) Information
Discussion

BACKGROUND:

Discussion, consideration and possible action to allow BISD to continue funding 3rd place winners to their national competitions; in all UIL, DI, Chess and all competitions that BISD students participate in that have a State and National Competition Level. Just like it has been done in the past.

Board Member Request: Minerva Peña

Board Support: Frank Ortiz

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:

Dr. Jesus H. Chavez
Prepared by: Superintendent

Recommended by: Superintendent

Board Member Request

Dr. Jesus H. Chavez
Superintendent

Approved by: Superintendent

Minerva Almanza

From: Frank Ortiz
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2025 9:13 PM
To: Minerva Almanza
Subject: Re: TSA State Advancement Concerns

I support the agenda items that Ms. Pena has requested to be placed on the agenda.

From: Minerva Almanza <malmanza1@bisd.us>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 2:25 PM
To: Minerva Almanza <malmanza1@bisd.us>
Subject: FW: TSA State Advancement Concerns

FYI: Board of Trustees
Superintendent
Superintendent Designee

From: Minerva Almanza
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 12:12 PM
Subject: FW: TSA State Advancement Concerns

FYI: Board of Trustees
Superintendent
Superintendent Designee

Board Agenda Request – Minerva Peña

From: Minerva Pena <pena4bisd@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 11:40 AM
To: Alejandro Cespedes <acespedes2@bisd.us>; Minerva Almanza <malmanza1@bisd.us>
Subject: Re: TSA State Advancement Concerns

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Brownsville ISD. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

Would please like to add the item below to our next school board meeting agenda.

1. Discussion, consideration and possible action to allow BISD to continue funding 3rd place winners to their national competitions; in all UIL, DI, Chess and all competitions that BISD students participate in that have a State and National Competition Level. Just like it has been done in the past.

Respectfully,

Minerva Pena
BISD Trustee
956-345-5564

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 8:53 AM, Alejandro Cespedes <acespedes2@bisd.us> wrote:

We are looking into these concerns and will be providing the board with an update soon. Thank you.

Thanks,

Alex Cespedes

Chief Financial Officer

Brownsville ISD

Email: acespedes2@bisd.us

This email and any files transmitted with it are the property of the Brownsville Independent School District, are confidential, and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom this email is addressed. If you are not one of the named recipient(s) or otherwise have reason to believe that you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete this message immediately from your computer. Any other use, retention, dissemination, forwarding, printing, or copying of this email is strictly prohibited.

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BISD no discrimina a base de raza, color, origen nacional, género, religión, edad, discapacidad o información genética en el empleo o en la provisión de servicios, programas o actividades.

From: Minerva Pena <pena4bisd@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, February 17, 2025 10:04 PM

To: Alejandro Cespedes <acespedes2@bisd.us>

Subject: Fw: TSA State Advancement Concerns

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Good Evening Sir,

Can you please look into the concern in the email below and help our students.

It does not seem fair that upper administration has decided to not fund 3rd winners this year. It is heart breaking how hard students work to earn these ranking and then not be funded to go compete at next level, which they worked so hard to earn.

Please, please assist our BISD students who placed 3rd in their competition, just like it has been done in the past.

Really appreciate all your hard work in assisting our hard working students.

Respectfully,

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BISD Trustee
956-345-5564

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Will look into this asap.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Monday, February 17, 2025, 9:40 PM, David Salazar <david1930@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

Dear Mr. Dorsett,

My son, Joshua Salazar, is a senior at Homer Hanna High School and an active member of their Technology Student Association chapter. He recently competed at the 2025 Regional TSA competition held at Porter High School on February 1, 2025 (preliminaries), and February 8, 2025 (semifinals). My son has been a TSA member (now officer) since his sophomore year and has always advanced to the state competitions. Fortunately, this year, my son and his team won third place in their competitive event, advancing to state by TSA rules. However, he was notified by his TSA advisor, Ms. Socorro Rios, that, this year, only 1st and 2nd place would be advancing.

As a concerned parent, I searched through the BISD CTE website and found on the CTE travel guidelines that there are no stated limitations on the number of teams who may attend state beyond the limitations set by the CTSO organization themselves (TSA). Instead, the guidelines state, "Only those CTSO students who advance to a state conference in a competitive event at the regional/area level can attend the State CTSO conference."

I kindly ask for your support on this matter. I believe that BISD CTE must honor the travel guidelines publicly published on their website and allow those students who rightfully advance in their events to attend their respective competitions. Furthermore, any changes like these should have been announced in advance to students and parents before the beginning of the school year.

I hope to hear from you soon. If you have any questions, my wife is available at this number, 956-561-1703. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Respectfully,
Mr. David Salazar and Mrs. Elizabeth Salazar

Minerva Almanza

From: Minerva Almanza
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 2:26 PM
To: Minerva Almanza (malmanza1@bisd.us)
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Superintendent Designee

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