

Minutes of Public Hearing

The Board of Trustees

Uvalde Consolidated Independent School District

The Board of Trustees met to conduct the Public Hearing on August 25, 2025 at 5:30 pm at the Benson Boardroom, 601 Dean St, Uvalde, TX 78801

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by JJ Suarez at 5:30 pm.

A. A roll call and establishment of quorum.

Members present: JJ Suarez, Jaclyn Gonzales, Jesse Rizo, Robert Quinones, Erika Munoz

Members absent: Laura Perez, Javier Flores

Staff present: Ashley Chohlis, Amy Graeber, Pam Bendele, Anne Marie Espinoza, Zeke De La Fuente, Mario Rangel, David Zamora, Mikka Sanchez, Jorge Cerna, Margaret Tarski, Pat Merlos, Isidro Escamilla, Sandra Gonzales, Bryan Perez, Monica Deleon, Edward Puente, Jorge Johnson, Christy Perez, Lorretta Dalrymple, Susan Bineham, Katie Hughes, Gina Vilches

Guests present: Michael Robinson, Hali Mecklin, Juanita Rizo, Manuel Rizo, Julissa Rizo, Amy Franco, Denise Feldtman, Priscilla Moreno, Anson Bills, Jennifer Gilleland, Selena Vasquez, Rosenberg Risa, Cody Smith, Kasey Schlessier, Kathleen Rambie, Paula Hale, Jennifer Bills, Savanna Martinez, Nancy Garza, April Rahaman, Hector Gonzales, Simon Ortiz, Zaniatha Leyva, Maricela Leyva, Adranner Feely, Roxanne Hernandez, Patricia Guajardo, Juliana Botello, Sonny Velasquez

B. Moment of Silence

There was a moment of silence for 21 seconds to honor our 21 beautiful souls.

C. The invocation was led by Kathleen Maxwell Rambie.

D. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flags of the United States of America and the State of Texas was led by JJ Suarez.

2. Open Forum

No one spoke in the open forum.

3. Item of information for Public Hearing to discuss proposed budget and proposed tax rate for 2025-2026

Pam Bendele presented information on the proposed budget and proposed tax rate for 2025-2026.

Questions from the public:

- Hector Gonzales commented on fund/function reporting, the \$348,000 ABC allotment, and recommended clearer communication to reflect a \$1.2 million surplus rather than a deficit.
- Simon Ortiz noted the maintenance contract is funded through the loan and, with timing differences considered, reflects a \$1.6 million surplus rather than a deficit.
- Trustee Gonzales questioned the \$447,000 transportation item, noting transportation appears to be a significant public need.
- Trustee Gonzales asked if they can go back to revisit the compensation plan.
- Trustee Rizo questioned the \$8,000 increase
- Trustee Rizo asked how the survey was promoted.

- Trustee Suarez asked how soon will pay letters would go out
- Trustee Rizo asked about the process in hiring retired teachers.
- Trustee Gonzales questioned shifting people, vacant campuses and saving money

4. Adjournment

The motion was made by Robert Quinones and seconded by Jesse Rizo to adjourn the meeting. Robert Quinones, Jaclyn Gonzales, Jesse Rizo, and Erika Munoz all voted in favor. The motion was carried unanimously with Laura Perez and Javier Flores absent.

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 pm

Board Secretary

Date