

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE  
SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
NOVEMBER 17, 2025

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  
Eva Cisneros, Chief Financial Officer

VISITORS:	Richard Gonzalez	Maribel Trevino	Anisa Chavera
	Gianna Morales	Jaime Velasco	Jacqueline Padilla
	Rachel Medrano	Tito Tagle	Belinda Alaniz
	Ron Lawver	Katrina Alejandro	Ron Powell

**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 Mario Mesa 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 Cezar Martinez 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

There was no public participation.

## 6.0 OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

Motion #7037 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee M. Mesa to open up the Public Hearing.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, E. Gallegos – Yes, C. Martinez –Yes, B. Marroquin – Not present during the motion, L. Cantu - Yes, M. Mesa – Yes, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1  
6:06 p.m.

**7.0 PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS THE ROBSTOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FIRST (FINANCIAL INTEGRITY RATING SYSTEM OF TEXAS) RATING**

Eva Cisneros presented the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas Rating to the Board (FIRST). She reported that the primary goal of School FIRST is to achieve quality performance, and ensures that Texas school districts are accountable not only for student learning, but also for achieving these results cost-effectively and efficiently. The FIRST rating uses twenty-one indicators to assign a rating that indicates the quality of a school's financial management. She was happy to announce that the school district received a "Superior Achievement" with a score of ninety-six points, going up two points from the previous report. The report was based on the 2023-2024 financial data for the 2024-2025 school year. The school district could have received 100 points; however, they needed to have scored a ten on indicators 12 and 13. Both indicators have improved, but they are not at the ten points yet. These two indicators are keeping the school district

from scoring 100 points. Dr. Marc Puig reported that this school year, the school district has reduced the indicator cost. President Lori Ann Garza asked if there were any questions from the audience. There were no questions or comments from the audience.

For the record, Trustee Bobby Marroquin was present for the Board Meeting at 6:08 p.m.

## **8.0** **CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING**

Motion #7038 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee M. Mesa to reconvene back into the Regular Board 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  
6:09 p.m.

## **9.0** **AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS**

### **9A** PROUD YOU'RE A PICKER AWARD

Katrina Alejandro announced that at this time, they only had one Proud You're a Picker Award recipient. She congratulated Benito Portillo, RECHS Assistant Principal/District CTE Coordinator, for being selected as the Proud You're a Picker Award recipient. The person who nominated Mr. Portillo stated that he embodies what it means to be a Proud You're a Picker through his commitment to student growth, innovative learning, and community engagement, making him a great leader.

Motion #7039 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee Y. Villalobos to move item number 12A - RISD Education Foundation Cycle 2 Grants up and for the rest of the items to follow accordingly.

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  
6:12 p.m.

## **12.0** **PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

12A On behalf of the Robstown Education Foundation, Tony Gonzalez presented a check in the amount of \$31,170.85 to the school district. The check was for the second round of the teacher grants. Also, on behalf of the ESC 2, Bertha Roldan presented a profit-sharing check in the amount of \$2427.00 from the Goodbuy Program to the school district.

## **10.0** **MADAM PRESIDENT REMARKS**

### **10A** ROBSTOWN EDUCATION FOUNDATION GOLF TOURNAMENT

Trustee Yvette Villalobos thanked everyone who participated, contributed, and helped out in the event. The food was very good, and the event was very successful. President

Lori Ann Garza also stated that the event was very successful, and she enjoyed participating in the event.

10B                   UPCOMING BOARD TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

President Lori Ann Garza announced that the TASB Governance Camp Conference was coming up on March 4-7, 2025, in Galveston, Texas. She was interested in attending the conference, and if anyone else was interested in attending to let the superintendent know. Trustee Cezar Martinez reported that Trustee Yvette Villalobos and himself had attended the same TASB Fall Legal Seminar workshop, but on different dates. The following topics were discussed at the workshop: Compensation, overview of new laws, open meetings acts, board roles, policy updates, parents' rights in schools, legislative update, and new changes. Trustee Yvette Villalobos reported that the safety measures was one of the main topics, and the safety belts for school buses was one of the new changes coming up. The school district will be able to apply for grants to pay for the seatbelts.

11.0                   **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

11A                   ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE

Dr. Marc Puig reported that the school district's attendance was at 92.6% at this time. The attendance continues to go up daily. The enrollment was down by 101 students compared to the last school year as of today. Almost 40% of the students are being home-schooled. The Open House during American Education Week has been scheduled for the week of November 18-20, 2025; however, the elementary Open House on Thursday will be rescheduled for sometime in December because of the Pickers' playoff football game.

11B                   TEA VISIT

11C                   ACADEMIC PILLARS

Dr. Marc Puig reported that the Texas Education Agency had visited the school district. The school district's strategic plan is the four pillars. The four pillars help to make sure that the students' instruction is solid and is constantly being coached. The TEA visit will be addressed in the upcoming Academic Update Report.

11D                   BUDGET STATUS

Dr. Marc Puig reported that the state of the budget meeting has been scheduled for January 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. The location will be announced at a later date.

11E                   RISD DONATIONS

Dr. Marc Buick announced that the following three companies had donated to the school district: 1) Laurie Hernandez donated jerseys to sell, 2) Rally Credit Union donated \$800 for Professional Staff Red Day, and 3) Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union donated \$2000 to the Teaching and Learning Department.

11F                   THANKSGIVING BREAK – NOVEMBER 24-28, 2025

Dr. Marc Puig announced that the Thanksgiving break was going to be from November 24-28, 2025.

11G

## CHRISTMAS BREAK – DECEMBER 22, 2025 – JANUARY 2, 2026

Dr. Marc Puig announced that the Christmas Break was going to be from December 22, 2025, through January 2, 2026.

12.0

## **PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

12B

### ACADEMIC UPDATE/TIA UPDATE

Joshua Garcia reported that the school district's strategic plan was the Four Pillars. Anisa Chavera reported that the Texas Education Agency had visited her campus to show their support to the staff and how they could help them. The ESC 2 was also present to help and support them. The administration and staff shared with TEA and ESC 2, what they have been doing at Seale Jr. High School. The accountability not only rested on the four reading teachers and four math teachers but on everyone else. They could not do it alone because everyone is tied to the rating. During the summer, they looked at what reading and math should really look like. The teachers have high-quality instruction with the students every day for 47 minutes in an advisory class. They are all responsible for good quality learning at Seale Jr. High School. TEA saw that the students were engaged in what they were doing and that a strategic plan was in place. Josh Garcia informed the Board that they have hired interventionists to do actual lessons with the students. The lessons are targeted on the needs of the students. Gianna Morales, reported that they meet with the teachers during the PLC meetings by subject. During this time, they look at the curriculum to make sure that the teachers are prepared, what they are teaching for the week, and for teachers to collaborate on where the students are at. The instructional coaches help the teachers to see what is happening in the classroom. The tutors are the interventionists. Maribel Trevino reported that they did not have an instructional coach at RECHS because she has a very strong instructional team and two directors who are amazing with data and learning walks. Jacqueline Padilla reported that the teachers are teaching the core values once a week instead of once a month. The core values motivate the students to earn points so that they attend celebrations and the different clubs that they have. Her campus also works on attendance incentives. Jaime Velasquez reported that he had a teacher who was absent, and he volunteered to sub for the math teacher. He shared two stories on how he was able to motivate students who were not participating in the classroom and how to use tutorial models. His campus also pushes the Knights' virtues weekly. Josh Garcia informed the Board that they are working on investing in how they can build Tier I on every single campus. Each campus has leaders who are being trained to build capacity by Robert Stell. Mr. Stell is helping the staff build a culture of Tier I instruction, the staff is being trained on how to become better leaders. Overall, they are internalizing lessons, showing teachers that the administration is there for them, and aligning the system's structure of the school system. Also, Josh Garcia reported that the school district had hosted the Academic Bee on November 1, 2025, at Seale Jr. High School. The Nationals will be held in Orlando, Florida on May 21-25, 2026. A total of fifty-two students will be advancing to Nationals in grades first to eight grades. The students have started to raise funds for the trip. Belinda Alaniz reported that on October 20-21, 2025, they spent two days at Robert Driscoll with the teachers. On October 28, 2025, they met to have a panel discussion, on November 13<sup>th</sup>, they met to discuss the teacher survey, and this Thursday, they will meet with teachers who were absent.

12C M & O UPDATE  
12D SAFETY REPORT  
12E LIST OF BILLS 12F  
12F FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
12G DISTRIBUTION OF TASB UPDATE 126

Dr. Marc Puig informed the Board that item numbers 12C, 12D, 12E, 12F, and 12G were all informational items. He passed out copies of the reports prepared by the administrators. Ron Lawver reported that the Salazar Library had not been used for the past several years. His crew cleaned it and painted it to be used for meetings. He invited the board members to a staff recognition luncheon on December 19, 2025, 12:00 noon. President Lori Ann Garza reported that this was the first reading on Update 126, and it would go for final approval at the next regular board meeting in December.

**13.0 CONSENT AGENDA ITEM:**

13A MINUTES: REGULAR BOARD MEETING: OCTOBER 13, 2025, AND  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING: OCTOBER 29, 2025

Trustee Cezar Martinez stated that the minutes will be posted on the school district's website after the Board has approved them. The Board has meetings once a month, so the minutes will be behind about a month. Also, resolutions have to be posted. President Lori Ann Garza asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented.

Motion #7040 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee M. Mesa to approve the Consent Agenda Item 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  
7:27 p.m.

**14.0 ACTION ITEMS:**

14A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SELECTION OF A CONTRACTOR  
FOR THE RECHS FIELD HOUSE AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT  
TO NEGOTIATE CONTRACT

Dr. Marc Puig reported that, because of funds, they will only be able to focus on the field house. President Lori Ann Garza added that because the enrollment has declined, the school district will not be receiving about a million and a half in revenues. They will not be able to build the field house, the old locker room next to the gym, and the red area. After the discussion, Dr. Puig recommended to reject the proposals and rebid the project as only the field house.

Motion #7041 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

Absent – 0

14B DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE TURNAROUND PLANS FOR LOTSPIECH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY, ROBERT DRISCOLL, JR. STEM ACADEMY, AND SEALE JR. HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE 2025-2026 AND 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEARS AND THE TARGET IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR SAN PEDRO FINE ARTS ACADEMY FOR THE 2025-2026 AND 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEARS

Joshua Garcia presented the Turnaround Plans for Lotspeich Leadership Academy, Robert Driscoll, Jr., Stem Academy, and Seale Jr. Seale Jr. High School for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years, and the Target Improvement Plan for San Pedro Fine Arts Academy for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years for the Board's review and approval. He informed the Board that the plan needed to be developed to show how they were going to get out of the rating. The four pillars will be the strategic plan, and the goal is to exit the school improvement by August 2027. After the discussion, Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving the plans as presented.

Motion #7042 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee Y. Villalobos to approve the superintendent's recommendation 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

Absent – 0

14C DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE LEARNING ACCELERATION  
SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES (LASO) CYCLE 4 GRANT AND ALLOTMENT  
APPLICATION FOR THE 2026-2027 AND SUBSEQUENT SCHOOL YEARS

Joshua Garcia recommended approval of the Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO) Cycle 4 Grant and Allotment Application for the 2026-2027 and subsequent school years. He reported that before the application could be submitted, it needed to be approved by the Board. The school district will be applying for select opportunities, including the Leadership and Instructional Foundations for Texas, Lift School Improvement, School Improvement Curriculum and Instruction, and other support grants available. After the discussion, Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving the Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO) Cycle 4 Grant and allotment application for the 2026-2027 as presented.

Motion #7043 A motion was made by Trustee E. Gallegos and seconded by Trustee Y. Villalobos to approve the superintendent's recommendation 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

Absent – 0

14D DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO SOLICIT RFP RESPONSES FOR PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE

Dr. Marc Puig reported that the school district has been with Keetch and Associates since 2015. He felt that it was the perfect opportunity to go out for proposals at this time. After the discussion, Dr. Puig recommended to authorize the staff to solicit RFP responses for property and casualty insurance.

Motion #7044 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee E. Gallegos to approve the superintendent's recommendation 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  
7:45 p.m.

**15.0 CLOSED SESSION – SECTION 551.074 AND 551.076**

15A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATIONS, RESIGNATIONS, REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEES

15B SAFETY AUDIT REPORT

15C DISCUSSION REGARDING VOLUNTARY RESIGNATION AGREEMENT FOR DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

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 #7045 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee L. Cantu 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  
7:46 p.m.

Motion #7046 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  
8:45 p.m.



## 16A

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS,  
EMPLOYMENTS, EVALUATIONS, RESIGNATIONS, REASSIGNMENTS,  
DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEES

Motion #7047 A motion was made by Trustee M. Mesa and seconded by Trustee E. Gallegos 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  
8:46 p.m.

Dr. Marc Puig recommended that the Board authorize the superintendent to provide the appropriate stipend for the CTE Coordinator, as discussed in the executive session.

Motion #7048 A motion was made by Trustee E. Gallegos and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez 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
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Motion carried Yes – 7 No - 0 Absent – 0  
8:46 p.m.

16B PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PAYMENT TO DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS  
ACCORDING TO VOLUNTARY RESIGNATION AGREEMENT (SECTION  
180.0007 TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE)  
There was no action taken on this item.

16C DISCUSSION/ACTION TO APPROVE VOLUNTARY RESIGNATION  
AGREEMENT FOR DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving the voluntary resignation agreement for the Director of Athletics as discussed in the executive session.

Motion #7049 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  
8:47 p.m.

**17.0**                    **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion #7050 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee L. Cantu 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  
8:48 p.m.

(The details of this meeting are recorded on tape dated 11/17/2025, except for the executive session.)

Attest:

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Lori Ann Garza, President

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Cezar Martinez, Secretary