

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APRIL 13, 2026

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lori Ann Garza, President
Cezar Martinez, Secretary
Larry Cantu, Trustee
Yvette Villalobos, Trustee

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Erik Gallegos, Vice-President
Bobby Marroquin, Assistant Secretary
Mario Mesa, Trustee

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

VISITORS:	Rachel Medrano	Sandra Blanton	Adolfo Gonzalez
	Jaime Velasco	Julianna Castillo	Katrina Herrera
	Maribel Trevino	Kylie Galvan	Gilbert Rios
	Ricardo Ruiz	Josh Hernandez	Andrea Garza
	Ariana Morales	Anisa Chavera	Lorena Pacheco
	Delia Aleman	Richard Gonzalez	Delia Aleman

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 – Absent, Cezar Martinez – Present, Bobby Marroquin – Absent, Larry Cantu – Present, Mario Mesa – Absent, and Yvette Villalobos – Present

Present – 4

Absent – 3

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. He asked for everyone to keep Bobby Marroquin's family in prayer as they deal with a difficult loss.

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 Lori Ann Garza 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 **PROUD YOU'RE A PICKER AWARD**

Katrina Alejandro recognized the following two employees who received the Proud You're A Picker Award: Anisa Chavera, Principal at Seale Jr. High School and Ron Lawver, Director of Maintenance and Operations, for going above and beyond by exemplifying service, one of the school district's core values. They showed what it truly meant to be a Cotton Picker.

6B **SUPERINTENDENT'S IGNITING BRILLIANCE AWARDS**

Katrina Alejandro recognized the following two groups of students: 1) RECHS Girls' Powerlifting Team and coaches for making history for the fifth time, in a row, at the state meet held on March 20, 2026, in Edinburg, Texas. Also, Coach Tony Ramon was recognized for being the most winning coach of the meet, and 2) RECHS Boys' Powerlifting Team for earning the THSPA State Championship, securing the first state team title in program history. The team was guided by Coach Josh Hernandez, who was also recognized as the winning coach of the meet. The two state titles are a true testament to the culture of excellence in the school district's athletic program.

6C **HEART OF GOLD**

Katrina Alejandro recognized the following two recipients of the Heart of Gold Award: 1) Jax Ramon, a 5th-grade student at Robert Driscoll Jr. Stem Academy, for demonstrating

courage and compassion when he quickly stepped in to help a classmate who was choking, and 2) Andrea Garcia, Cafeteria Manager at Lotspeich Leadership Academy, for acting swiftly and courageously when a student began choking. She performed the Heimlich maneuver on a child who was choking. Her quick thinking and action show the care and commitment she has for every child in the school district.

7.0 **MADAM PRESIDENT REMARKS:**

7A 2026 SUMMER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE: SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS –
JUNE 10-13, 2026

President Lori Ann Garza announced that the 2026 Summer Leadership Conference was going to be held on June 10-13, 2026. She believed that registration was open and if anyone was interested in attending, to please let Dr. Marc Puig know. As soon as Dr. Puig finds out if they will be presenting, he will let them know.

8.0 **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

8A ENROLLMENT ADA

8B VOTER REFERENDUM

Dr. Marc Puig informed the Board that the STAAR/EOC Testing will begin on April 14, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. A town hall meeting for the voter referendum will be held on April 15, 2026, at Hattie Martin Elementary School at 6:00 p.m. A virtual town hall meeting will be held on April 16, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. The Robstown Education Foundation Banquet will be held on April 29, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. They have lost one hundred and twenty-one students, and the ADA was at 91.4%. The loss in students will be around \$1.9 million in deficit. He explained how they could create financial relief, and one of the ways was to have a voter referendum election. Also, he reviewed the school district's historical tax rate, and it has dropped significantly.

8C EIC LOCAL POLICY UPDATE

Dr. Marc Puig informed the Board that a committee will be formed at the Robstown Early College High School to review the EIC LOCAL Policy for the next school year. The Board has already approved some revisions, but they would like to look at the policy again.

8D EXTRACURRICULAR HANDBOOK

Dr. Marc Puig informed the Board that the draft of the extracurricular handbook had been submitted to the administration for their review. Once they have reviewed it, they will bring it to the Board for final approval.

9.0 **PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

9A RISD DONATIONS

Dr. Marc Puig announced that the following companies had submitted donations to the school district for the TECH Connect: 1) UTeach PD donated \$1000, 2) Padlet donated \$1000, 3) DMAC Solutions donated \$750, 4) School AI donated \$750, and 5) GlassLink donated \$250.

9B ACADEMIC UPDATE/TIA UPDATE

Josh Garcia reported that everything that they do in teaching and learning is rooted in the school district's vision, mission, and core values, and always aligning with the

pillars of teaching, learning, and coaching. They have started working on the LASO 4 Lift Grants. The Lift Grant is for the HQIM implementation and instructional leadership support. The Lift PLC Grant is to target the PLC support for school improvement campuses at Lotspeich Leadership Academy, Robert Driscoll Stem Academy, and Seale Jr. High School, and the PREP Mentor Allotment Grant is to partner with NIET, the mentor pathway, the District and Campus Leader Pathway, and allotment based on the number of mentors. They have selected Great Minds for the LIFT Grants. Rachel Medrano reported that they had received the Blended and Learning Grant for a total of \$375,000 for two years. The administration chose to implement it at Robert Driscoll Stem Academy and Seale Jr. High School. The grant requires Kinder through 8th-grade participation in math and reading. They have also partnered with UTEACH PD to support the teachers through PD and coaching. Since August, the teachers and coaches have completed over 250 continuing education hours thus far. Also, she reviewed how the Blended Learning would be implemented at the campuses.

TECH CONNECT 2026

Rachel Medrano reported that the TECH Connect 2026 will be on July 16, 2026. She will be looking at AI to see what is happening in the classroom. She stated that AI is to help you, not to replace you, or not meant to do your thinking. This will be the fifth year, and the speakers all have a background in AI. There will be seven school districts present at the school district's conference.

TIA UPDATE

Diana Silvas presented the TIA Update. She reported that on March 24th, they attended a webinar about planning for data submission and validation and met with the Rural Cohort to review and finalize the application. On March 26th, they attended an OnDate Suite and Data. On April 7th, the TIA Team met to review the application that had been submitted, and the team has been notified to present at the TIA Conference once TEA approves it.

9C

SPECIAL EDUCATION PERFORMANCE (PER SENATE BILL 568)

Sandra Blanton presented the Special Education Performance (Per Senate Bill 568) Report to the Board. She reported that, as per Senate Bill 568, school districts are required to report to the Board on Special Education Performance. She walked the Board through the accountability performance rating, where they are at, what contributed to the rating, and what they were doing to improve performance. The decisions that they make are guided by the school district's core values. The state evaluates special education programs through what is called result-driven accountability. The system measures not only compliance but also student outcomes. She shared the performance measures, data trends, comparison, and strategies that they are implementing to improve with the Board. Their ratings are based on the following three domains: 1) Domain 1: Academic Achievement, 2) Domain 2 – Post-Secondary Readiness, and 3) Domain 3: Disproportionate Analysis. The 2025 school district's rating was a three on a scale from zero to four, and a zero or a one is preferred. Because they are on a level three performance, they are being closely monitored by TEA. Over the last several years, the academic performance has declined, and within the last several years, there have been some improvements in some of the subjects. They are underperforming in some areas; however, they are outperforming the region and the state on CCMR Ready. Also, she reviewed what they were doing to address where they were

underperforming. The professional development systems included the following: Igniting Tier I Instruction, Academic Manifestations, Masterclass Internalization and Backward Designs, NIET: Building effective instructional leadership teams, and Spinning Success for every student (igniting inclusion support). A major shift will be interweaving special education students into the general education. In closing, two of the campuses earned B ratings, students at the high school passed STAAR & EOC after transitioning from STAAR to Alt., for the first time, students at the high school passed STAAR, and a student at San Pedro Fine Arts Academy tested into GT.

9D

M & O UPDATE

Ron Lawver reported that all of the inspections had come in for the plumbing, the concrete will be poured on Wednesday morning, and the materials for the electrical are coming in; they are working closely with Robstown Electrical Company for the transformer. If it does not work out with the electrical company, they have a plan B for the transformer. The HVAC should be in around eight to ten weeks. The summer projects are coming along, and he has met with Eva Cisneros about the supplies that they will need. During the summer, they will work on all of the things that need to be done before school starts. The bleachers at the baseball field were fixed, and yellow lines in the areas that needed it were painted. He would look into putting rails where the board members have expressed a concern about.

9E

SAFETY REPORT

Tito Tagle reported that they had an audit back in March, which they passed, and they will have another one in May. A date will be set to have another safety meeting during the summer. He had another grant meeting, and there is no progress yet, but they were informed that they should be hearing from them soon.

9F

LIST OF BILLS

President Lori Ann Garza informed the Board that the bills were included in their board packet for their review, and if they had any questions, please contact Dr. Marc Puig.

9G

FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

President Lori Ann Garza informed the Board that the Financial Statement Report was included in their board packet for their review, and if they had any questions, please contact Dr. Marc Puig.

10.0

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

10A

MINUTES: REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

Motion #7093 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee Y. Villalobos to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented.

Roll Call

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

Motion carried Yes – 4 No - 0 Absent – 0
7:14 p.m.

11.0 ACTION ITEMS:

11A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN ROBSTOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AND HERITAGE COMMUNITY SERVICES

Josh Garcia reported that with Board approval, Heritage Community Service would be partnering with the school district to offer a curriculum that would be instituted through the P.E. Department and the Health Department to deliver knowledge to the students on character-based and abstinence education. Counselors will come in and discuss several topics with the students on sexuality, abstinence, and human trafficking, etc. The parents will have to opt in if they want their child to participate in the class. The program is for three weeks, and the MOU is for three years. After discussion, Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving the MOU between Robstown ISD and Heritage Community Services as presented.

Motion #7094 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 – Absent, C. Martinez –Yes, B. Marroquin –Absents, L. Cantu Yes, M. Mesa – Absent, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 4 No - 0 Absent – 3
7:27 p.m.

12.0 CLOSED SESSION – SECTION 551.074

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

12B DISCUSSION OF EXTENSION AND NON-CERTIFIED CONTRACTS FOR ADMINISTRATORS/DIRECTORS

12C DISCUSSION OF RENEWAL OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS FOR TEACHERS, LIBRARIANS, COUNSELORS, AND NURSES (RN’S)

President Lori Ann Garza asked for a motion to go into the executive session.

Motion #7095 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee Y. Villalobos to go into the executive session as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Sections 551.074.

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

Motion carried Yes – 4 No - 0 Absent – 3
7:27 p.m.

For the record, Trustee Mario Mesa arrived for the board meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Motion #7096 A motion was made by Trustee M. Mesa and seconded by Trustee L. Cantu to reconvene from the executive session.

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

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 2
8:46 p.m.

13.0 OPEN SESSION

13A 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 discussed in the executive session.

Motion #7097 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 – Absent, C. Martinez –Yes, B. Marroquin – Absent, L. Cantu - Yes, M. Mesa – Yes, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 2
8:46 p.m.

13B DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF EXTENSION OF CERTIFIED AND NON-CERTIFIED CONTRACTS FOR ADMINISTRATORS/DIRECTORS
Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving the Extension of Certified and Non-Certified for administrators/Directors, as discussed in the executive session.

Motion #7098 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 – Absent, C. Martinez –Yes, B. Marroquin – Absent, L. Cantu - Yes, M. Mesa – Yes, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 2
8:46 p.m.

13C DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RENEWAL OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS FOR TEACHERS, LIBRARIANS, COUNSELORS & NURSES (RN’S)
Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving the renewal of employment contracts for teachers, librarians, counselors, and nurses, as discussed in the executive session.

Motion #7099 A motion was made by Trustee M. Mesa and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

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

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 2
8:47 p.m.

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion #7100 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee M. Mesa to adjourn the meeting.

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

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 2
8:48 p.m.

(The details of this meeting are recorded on tape dated 04/13/2026, except for the executive session.)

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

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APRIL 21, 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

VISITORS: There were no visitors.

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 (OPEN FORUM) AS PER POLICY BED (LOCAL)**
There was no public participation.

6.0 **CLOSED SESSION – SECTION 551.074 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE**

6A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS, EMPLOYMENTS, EVALUATIONS, RESIGNATIONS, REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEES

6B DISCUSSION OF SUPERINTENDENT’S EVALUATION

6C DISCUSSION OF SUPERINTENDENT’S CONTRACT

President Lori Ann Garza asked for a motion to go into the executive session.

Motion #7101 A motion was made by Trustee M. Mesa and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to go into the executive session as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Sections 551.074.

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

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
6:02 p.m.

For the record, Trustee Bobby Marroquin arrived for the board meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Motion #7102 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee L. Cantu 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
8:30 p.m.

