

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DECEMBER 13, 2021

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lori Ann Garza, President (Video Conference)
Larry Cantu, Vice-President
Cezar Martinez, Secretary
Bobby Marroquin, Assistant Secretary
Ismael Gonzalez, Trustee
Bertha Roldan, Trustee

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Hector Lopez, Trustee

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Dr. José H. Moreno, Superintendent
Mrs. Diana L. Silvas, Deputy Superintendent
Mrs. Vanessa Riggs, Chief Financial Officer

VISITORS:	Hector Garza	Maribel Trevino	Judy Genz
	Belinda Alaniz	Marisela Gonzalez	Adolfo Gonzalez
	Elijah Garcia	Maricela Medina	Tanya Olmeda
	Jessica McComb	Michelle De La Pena	Lisa Persyn
	Paula Vela	Amy Resendez	Anisa Chavera
	Gage Perry	Mark Peppard	Jennifer Martinez
	Kelsey Cook	Lorena Ceballos	

1.0 **GENERAL FUNCTIONS**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM

At 6:00 p.m., Vice-President Larry Cantu called this meeting of the Robstown Independent School District Board of Trustees to order.

ROLL CALL: Lori Ann Garza – Present, Larry Cantu – Present, Cezar Martinez – Present, Bobby Marroquin – Present, Ismael Gonzalez – Present, Hector Lopez – Absent, and Bertha Roldan – Present

Present – 6

Absent – 1

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

2.0 **MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAYER**
Trustee Bertha Roldan led the board members and the public in a prayer.

3.0 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/TEXAS FLAG PLEDGE**
Vice-President Larry Cantu led the board members and public in the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Flag Pledge.

4.0 **VISION – INSPIRING LIFE-LONG LEARNING BY PROVIDING
LIMITLESS
OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS**
Trustee Cezar Martinez read the following vision statement: “Inspiring Life-Long Learning by Providing Limitless Opportunities for Success.”

**MISSION – EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS TODAY TO PREPARE FOR
TOMORROW**
Trustee Bertha Roldan read the following mission statement: “Empowering Individuals Today to Prepare for Tomorrow.”

5.0 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
There were no comments from the public.

6.0 **SUPERINTENDENT’S CELEBRATION(S)**
6A **SUPER READERS RECOGNITION**
Ms. Jessica McCombs presented the second six-week data and celebrated the students and their achievements for the second six weeks. She recognized the top three readers from each of the campuses. She reported that the campus with the most minutes logged in for the second six weeks was Robert Driscoll Elementary School for a total of 85,462 minutes. She announced the number of students per campus that had completed their challenges and reviewed the campus data for minutes logged per campus. The total minutes logged for the first six weeks was 75,672 and the total minutes logged for the second six weeks was 251,631 for a total of 327,303. Also, she reviewed the third and fourth six weeks Beanstack Challenges.

6B **RECOGNITION OF CHOIR STUDENTS**
Mr. Mark Peppard reported that they had several students compete in the All-Region Competition back in October, and they had to learn a Korean Folk Song, sight-sing in 8 measures, and sight-sing cuts. He was proud of the students that were successful, and he recognized each of the students that were present and the students that were not present were participating in a band concert this evening.

6C **RECOGNITION OF ATHLETES**
Coach Adolfo Gonzalez recognized the students that advanced to regionals. He reported that they had one boy and a team of eleven girls advance to regionals. Coach Jennifer Martinez recognized the girls from the volleyball team that made Defensive Player of the Year, Newcomer of the Year, 1st Team All-District, 2nd Team All-District, Honorable Mention, and every girl on the team made the

All-Academic Team. Coach Cage Perry recognized the football players that made the 1st Team Offense and 2nd Team Defense on the All-District Team.

6D **PROUD YOU'RE A PICKERS AWARD**

Mrs. Kelsey Cook reported that nominees for the Proud You're a Picker Award can be nominated by their peers, by students, and by community members. If anyone was interested in nominating someone for this award, they could do so on the school district's website. She read the information submitted on the nominee and announced that Sally Rivera, RECHS Receptionist, was the recipient of this award.

7.0 **INFORMATIONAL ITEM(S)**

7A **CHRISTMAS BREAK – DECEMBER 20, 2021 – JANUARY 1, 2022 (PAYROLL PERIODS: DECEMBER 10, 2021, AND DECEMBER 17, 2022)**

Dr. Jose Moreno reminded the Board that the Christmas break would be from December 10, 2021, through January 1, 2022 (Payroll Periods: December 10, 2021, and December 17, 2021).

7B **TASB GOVERNANCE CAMP – MARCH 2-5, 2022 – GALVESTON, TEXAS- GALVESTON ISLAND**

Dr. Jose Moreno reminded the Board about the upcoming TASB Governance Camp on March 2-5, 2022, in Galveston, Texas – Galveston Island. If anyone was interested in attending, to please let Ms. Padilla know.

7C **TASB LOCALIZED POLICY MANUAL UPDATE 118**

Dr. Jose Moreno presented TASB Update 118 to the Board. He informed them that the update had been emailed to them because it was over 900 pages long. The update only has around eleven local policies, the rest were all legal. The local policies would go before the Board at the next regular board meeting.

7D **SUPERINTENDENT SCORE CARD REPORT**

Dr. Jose Moreno presented an overview of a plan of action for student truancy to the Board. He reported that they have contacted several judges, have identified local non-profits, correlated top 25% of most truant students, and identified residence zones through PEIMS. They will be working with Judge Bobby Gonzalez to share different ideas, they will start a relationship with a caseworker to help with mediation, and they will be working with Rhonda Voorhees to help with truancy services. At this time, they are eighteen students short of the projected enrollment. The overall attendance average is 87.80%, and the goal is to be at 91%. He also shared the discipline numbers by campus.

7E **RISD FACILITY PROJECTS UPDATES AND TIMELINES**

Dr. Jose Moreno presented capital improvements with priorities, recommendations, and improvements to the Board. The priorities included the item numbers, the project, estimated cost, funding source, and design professional for the following four projects: 1) Welding Lab, 2) Bus Concrete Pad, 3) Bus Barn, and 4) Band Hall restrooms, athletic locker rooms, a/c replacements, and sale of properties. The

batting cages for baseball and softball, the scoreboard for baseball, and competition gym are recommendations. The following are the projects that fall under improvements: Salazar shipping and receiving, athletic parking lot entrance, utility truck, cargo truck, food service van, the press box at the baseball field, and a bullpen fence or net. The estimated cost was close to what it could cost for each item. He has scheduled a Finance Committee meeting for Friday, January 7, 2022, to review the school district's audit, and he proposed to have a finance workshop to look at the most immediate items.

7F

MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS UPDATE

Dr. Jose Moreno reported that weekly meetings have been scheduled on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays with the M & O staff. The phones and clips were distributed on December 12, 2021, a training on the Eduphoria was held on December 6th and 10th, and all M & O workers have access to Eduphoria. A practice of monitoring work orders on a daily basis has been established, and a date is pending for training for campus secretaries and administration. They are developing a tracking system to monitor the identification of "Request Types" by percentages. On November 29th through December 3rd, they had 216 open work orders and 60 closed, and on December 6th through December 10th, they had 186 open work orders and 97 closed.

Trustee Ismael Gonzalez joined the board meeting at 7:18 p.m.

7G

RISD BUSINESS OFFICE UPDATE

Mrs. Vanessa Riggs reported that the school district was able to refund \$6.3 million in bonds on December 7, 2021, at a 2.65%, for a savings of \$967,000. The school district has received from the Texas Education Agency the COVID-19 School Health Support Grant for \$100,000. The grant can be used for several items; however, the administration would like to use the funds to purchase air-purifiers and janitorial supplies. She is working on going out for RFP's on the school district's copiers, HVAC's, and voluntary benefits. The auditor will be at the school district on January 7, 2022, to review the audit with the Finance Committee and on January 10, 2022, with the rest of the board members. The fund balance is at \$8.8 million and \$500,000 has already been committed. They will be adding approximately around \$2 million to the fund balance. She has submitted everything to TEA in referenced to the procurement and administrative audit, and the RFP for Food Service will be due on December 31, 2021.

7H

RISD FOOD SERVICE UPDATE

Mr. Chris Teager presented an up-to-date report to the Board. He reported that they have been having training at the Seale Jr. High School on reimbursements for breakfast and lunch. He has been meeting with the managers on produce, a la cart items, ordering, inventory, etc. At the end of the meetings, he allows the managers an opportunity to voice any concerns or questions they might have. He holds different competitions with the campuses and awards a trophy and gift cards to the winners. Unfortunately, their chef resigned on December 3, 2021, and they have five new potential candidates. A menu committee has been formed,

they have iced coffee as a new a la cart item at the high school and at the junior high school, they are serving slushes with no added sugar. The Roving Chef is on-going.

7I LIST OF BILLS

Mrs. Vanessa Riggs reported that the list of bills for the month of November was \$774,581.66. She asked if anyone had any questions on the list of bills.

7J FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT/QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT

Mrs. Vanessa Riggs reported that the Financial Report ended on November 30, 2021. The General Fund had revenues over expenditures of \$1,820,234, the Food Service Fund had revenues over expenditures of \$58,150, and the Interest and Sinking Fund had revenues over expenditures of \$1,672,326. At this time, a total of \$1,786,649.90 has been collected in tax collections.

8.0 CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

8A APPROVAL OF MINUTES

8B APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS #2, #3, #4, & #5.

8C APPROVAL OF MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE EXCEPTION WAIVER

After discussion, Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving the minutes, budget amendments #2, #3, #4, & #5, and the maximum class size exception waiver as presented.

Motion #6853 A motion was made by Trustee B. Roldan and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:09 p.m.

9.0 BUSINESS AND SUPPORT

9A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE LOCATION OF THE RISD BUS BARN

Dr. Jose Moreno recommended moving the bus barn behind Salazar Elementary School, where the old pavilion is located. After discussion, Dr. Moreno asked for a motion.

Motion #6854 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:11 p.m.

9B DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDER EXCEEDING \$50,000 FOR RUBRIK (BACKUP SOLUTIONS)
Mrs. Vanessa Riggs reported that according to the school district’s local policy CH LOCAL that any purchase and services over \$50,000 needed board approval. The administration would like to purchase the Rubrik Backup Solution for \$73,533.16. The program helps with backups and protection of data as the risk of data loss has increased during the pandemic. She obtained several quotes, and the lowest quote was for \$73,533.16 from Computer Solutions. After discussion, Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving the purchase of Rurik Backup Solutions for \$73,533.16.

Motion #6855 A motion was made by Trustee B. Roldan and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to approve the superintendent’s recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez –Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:14 p.m.

9C DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDER EXCEEDING \$50,000 FOR TEXAS INSTRUCTION LEADERSHIP TRAINING (ESC-2)
Mrs. Vanessa Riggs requested the Board’s approval of the Texas Instruction Leadership Training-ESC-2 for a total of \$68,000. The training will help the school district’s administrators with effective instructional practices. After discussion, Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving the Texas Instructional Leadership Training with the ESC-2.

Motion #6856 A motion was made by Trustee B. Roldan and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to approve the superintendent’s recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez –Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:16 p.m.

9D DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT FOR ENGEERING SERVICES WITH WHEATON ENGINEERING FOR THE DISTRICT’S WELDING LAB PROJECT
Dr. Jose Moreno reported that the school district now has three service providers that they can choose from. For this project, they will be bringing in Wheaton Engineering to help out with the school district’s welding lab project. Wheaton Engineering has already provided the school district with a preliminary layout. At this time, they are charging the school district \$29,000.00, for the engineering design of the welding lab. After discussion, Dr. Jose Moreno recommended

approving the contract for engineering services with Wheaton Engineering for the school district's welding lab project in the amount of \$29,000.

Motion #6857 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:20 p.m.

10.0 INSTRUCTION

10A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE 2021-2022 DISTRICT GOALS, DISTRICT AND CAMPUS PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES AND DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Dr. Jose Moreno informed the Board that the school district's DEIC had already approved the district goals, campus performance objectives, and district improvement plan. Mrs. Diana Silvas presented the 2021-2022 District Goals, District and Campus Performance Objectives and District Improvement Plan to the Board. She reported that the following five district goals are the identical same goals that they presently have: 1) Academic Achievement, 2) Communication, 3) School Climate, 4) Highly Qualified Staff, and 5) Technology. She reviewed the performance objectives under each goal with the Board. The performance objectives in red showed that they did not meet the goal and the ones in green showed that they did meet the goal. By law, the Board is required to approve the district goals and the campus performance objectives. Also, she reviewed the District Improvement Plan and stated that it was a living document, and it could be updated at any time. After the Board approves this item, it will be posted on the school district's website. After discussion, Vice-President Larry Cantu requested for a motion.

Motion #6858 A motion was made by Trustee L. Garza and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to approve the 2021-2022 District Goals, District and Campus Performance Objectives and District Improvement Plan as presented.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:38 p.m.

10B DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ADVANCED CLASSES IDENTIFICATION NO PASS, NO PLAY EXCEMPTION FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR SPRING SEMESTER

Mrs. Diana Silvas reported that this item needed to be brought forth to the

Board because of a situation they had at the high school. The high school was presently offering some AP Classes, and they can no longer call them AP Classes so they had to change them to Honor Classes. After discussion, Vice-President Larry Cantu asked for a motion.

Motion #6859 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to approve the Advanced Classes Identification No Pass, No Play Exception for the 2021-2022 School Year Spring Semester.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:41 p.m.

10C DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN ROBSTOWN ISD AND COASTAL BEND COLLEGE; AND TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE
Mrs. Lorena Ceballos recommended approving the MOU between Robstown ISD and Coastal Bend College; and Texas A & M University-Kingsville. The MOU will allow the school district to offer college prep courses in English Language Arts and Mathematics. After discussion, Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving the MOU between Robstown ISD and Coastal Bend College; and Texas A & M University-Kingsville.

Motion #6860 A motion was made by Trustee B. Roldan and seconded by Trustee L. Garza to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:43 p.m.

11:0 **CLOSED SESSION – SECTION 551.074 AND 551.072 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE**

11A PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.074 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, THE BOARD WILL ADJOURN INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION, REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEES

11B PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.072 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, THE BOARD WILL ADJOURN INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING TO SELL DISTRICT REAL ESTATE AS LISTED ON EXHIBITS A, B, C, D, & E

Motion #6861 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee B. Roldan to go into executive session as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.074 and 551.072.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:46 p.m.

President L. Garza excused herself from the Board meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Motion #6862 A motion was made by Trustee B. Roldan and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to reconvene back from executive session.

Roll Call L. Garza – Absent L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 2
9:10 p.m.

12.0 OPEN SESSION

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

Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving the two resignations and appointment as discussed in executive session.

Motion #6863 A motion was made by Trustee B. Roldan and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Absent, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 2
9:11 p.m.

12B DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL TO SELL DISTRICT REAL ESTATE AS LISTED ON EXHIBIT A, B, C, D, & E

Vice-President Larry Cantu requested a motion on this item.

Motion #6864 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to approve Exhibits A, B, C, D, & E and to exclude No. 6 on Exhibit B.

Roll Call L. Garza – Absent, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

