

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE  
SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
JUNE 10, 2024

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lori Ann Garza, President  
Larry Cantu, Vice-President  
Cezar Martinez, Secretary  
Bobby Marroquin, Assistant Secretary  
Mario Mesa, Trustee

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Erik Gallegos, Trustee

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

VISITORS: Laura Cueva                      Anisa Chavera                      Alma Studer  
Benito Portillo                      Mary and Beth Zurick                      Ron Lawver  
Leo Ramon                      Sandra Blanton                      Maribel Trevino

**1.0                      GENERAL FUNCTIONS**

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM**

At 6:03 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, Larry Cantu – Present, Cezar Martinez – Present, Bobby Marroquin – Present, Erik Gallegos – Absent, and Mario Mesa – Present

Present – 5

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**

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 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**

Trustee Cezar Martinez read the following statement: “The Robstown ISD Board of Trustees welcomes comments from citizens on any agenda items or non-agenda items at a regular board meeting. Those wishing to address the school board must provide their name for the record and observe a three-minute time limit. During this time, the Board of Trustees may not respond to the citizen's concerns as per the Texas Open Meetings Act.” Alma Studer asked the board members to place on the next school board agenda a list of the school district’s tax abatements for transparency. The tax abatement would show how much money the school district has abated and other incentives. She was against the ammonia plant because she felt that the community needed to vote on it. Beth Zurick expressed her concerns on why she was against the ammonia plant. She was not against economic growth, she was against placing it in areas that are a danger to the community.

**6.0**            **PRESIDENT REMARKS:**

6A            2024 SUMMER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

- 1) JUNE 12-15, 2024 – SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
- 2) JUNE 19-22, 2024 – FORTH WORTH, TEXAS

President Lori Ann Garza announced that the school board members would be presenting at the 2024 Leadership Conference on June 12-15, 2024, in San Antonio, Texas, and on June 19-22, 2024, in Forth Worth, Texas. Trustee C. Martinez announced that he would be attending the Safety Conference on June 23-28, 2024, in San Antonio, Texas.

**7.0**            **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORTS:**

7A            SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

RISD DONATIONS

Dr. Marc Puig reviewed the final attendance across the school district. He reported that each of the campuses had an increase and that the enrollment in 2022-2023 was 2469 vs. the 2023-2024 school year of 2475. The ADA was 2105 for the 2022-2023 school year vs. 2151 in 2023-2024. The actual enrollment fiscal impact was at \$506,000. The property study was finally completed on the re-appraisals. The the administration will be recommending to go out for request for qualifications for realtors at the next regular board meeting. He also announced that the following companies had submitted donations to the school district: 1) Hitech Industrial Group donated \$500 to Lotspeich Academy, 2) Solar Nails donated a \$40 gift certificate to Robert Driscoll Stem Academy, 3) Barrera's Fried Chicken donated a gift certificate to Robert Driscoll Stem Academy, 4) HEB donated a gift certificate to Robert Driscoll Stem Academy, and 5) K-Bob's donated a gift certificate to Robert Driscoll Stem Academy.

**8.0 PRESENTATIONS/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

**8A SWEARING-IN OF NEW ROBSTOWN ISD POLICE OFFICERS**

Dr. Marc Puig announced that there would not be any swearing-in of the new Robstown ISD Police Officers at this time.

**8B SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Dr. Marc Puig recognized the school district's new Maintenance and Operations Director, Mr. Ron Lawver. Also, he recognized Rusty Miller and he could not be present this evening because he had workouts at this time.

**8C ACADEMIC UPDATE**

Adriana Tagle presented the Academic Update to the Board. She reported that they would build on this year's progress through strategic staffing, professional development, and PLCs and coaching. She reviewed the does not meet, approaches, meets, and masters for the following subjects: Reading Language Arts, Mathetics, Science, and Social Studies. She reviewed how they were doing compared to the last school year in the following subjects: English I, English II, Algebra I, Algebra I-Seale Jr. High School, Biology, and US History, for the last four years. She shared the six-week failure report. At this time, they are offering summer school and they have increased instructional time, increased offerings, increased support for teachers and students, and ongoing enrollment. They will continue to work on the four pillars of teaching and learning: Alignment and Design, Purposeful PLCs, Learning Walks, and Coaching.

**8D M & O UPDATE**

Ron Lawver reported that the fencing at Lotspeich Academy and San Pedro Fine Arts schools have been completed, and the water line at the RECHS Football Stadium has been installed and as soon as they have finished testing it, they will tie it into the system. The previous pipe has asbestos and it has been removed and put away accordingly. The equipment has already started to come in for the stadium parking lot and they are scheduled to start on the north side. The HVAC Project will start on Thursday of this week. The clearing out of Ortiz Intermediate will take about two to three weeks. The waxing and stripping of all of the campuses are occurring at this time and they will also work on the beatification of all of the campuses. A

total of nine doors will be replaced at RECHS (six standard doors and three custom-made doors).

8E

LIST OF BILLS

8F

FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Dr. Marc Puig informed the board members that the list of bills and financial statement was included in their board packets. He asked if anyone had any questions.

**9.0**

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

9A

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

9B

APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #9

9C

APPROVAL OF ADVANCED CLASSES IDENTIFICATION NO PASS, NO PLAY EXEMPTION FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

9D

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SEMESTER EXEMPTION POLICY FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

9E

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REMOTE HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION WAIVER

Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving the Consent Agenda Items as presented.

Motion #7427 A motion was made by Trustee L. Cantu 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, E. Gallegos – Absent, and M. Mesa – Yes

Motion carried

Yes – 5

No - 0

Absent – 1

7:25 p.m.

**10.0**

**ACTION ITEMS**

10A

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDER EXCEEDING \$50,000 FOR 2022 PROPERTY VALUE STUDY APPEAL

Dr. Marc Puig informed the Board that the state comptrollers study is not always accurate and the school district can ask for a review. The appeals are costly and this one will cost around \$51,571. After discussion, Dr. Puig recommended approving a purchase order exceeding \$50,000 for legal services for the 2022 property value study appeal.

Motion #7428 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, E. Gallegos – Absent, and M. Mesa – Yes

Motion carried

Yes – 5

No - 0

Absent – 1

7:26 p.m.

10B DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A PURCHASE EXCEEDING \$50,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF COLLEGE AND CAREER READY LABS FOR SEALE JR. HIGH SCHOOL

Adriana Tagle reported that this item was in collaboration with Benito Portillo and Anisa Chavera to help with the concept of Picker Paths. A trip was scheduled to Rockport ISD Middle School to see this program in action because their goal was to create Picker Paths. This program can help the students with a path to brilliance. The students will receive exposure by visiting labs, facility focus, and project management. Anisa Chavera shared with the board members where the the program would be housed and what it entailed. The program can also be bridged with the pathways at RECHS. The administration would like to purchase twenty labs for a total of \$92,437.40. After discussion, Dr. Puig recommended approving the purchase exceeding \$50,00 for the purchase of college and career ready labs for Seale Jr. High School.

Motion #7429 A motion was made by Trustee L. Cantu 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, E. Gallegos – Absent, and M. Mesa – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 1  
7:56 p.m.

10C DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A PURCHASE EXCEEDING \$50,000 AND AUTHORIZATION TO USE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS ALLOTMENT (IMA) FUNDS TO PURCHASE EUREKA K-5 MATH CURRICULUM

Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving a purchase order exceeding \$50,000 and authorization to use instructional materials allotment (IMA) funds to purchase Eureka K-5 Math Curriculum.

Motion #7430 A motion was made by Trustee L. Cantu 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, E. Gallegos – Absent, and M. Mesa – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 1  
7:58 p.m.

10D DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A PURCHASE EXCEEDING AND AUTHORIZATION TO USE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS ALLOTMENT (IMA) FUNDS TO PURCHASE AMPLIFY K-5 CURRICULUM

Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving a purchase order exceeding and authorization to use instructional materials allotment (IMA) funds to purchase Amplify K-5 Curriculum.

Motion #7431 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee L. Cantu to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

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

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 1  
8:01 p.m.

10E DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO DEC (LOCAL)  
Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving the following revision to DEC (LOCAL):  
“a full-time employee shall be granted three days of bereavement leave, per occurrence, upon the death of a member of the employee's immediate family. Such leave shall be taken with no loss of pay or other paid leave.” After discussion, the following motion was made:

Motion #7432 A motion was made by Trustee L. Cantu 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, E. Gallegos – Absent, and M. Mesa – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 1  
8:04 p.m.

**11.0 CLOSED SESSION - SECTIONS 551.074**

11A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION, RESIGNATIONS, REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEES

Motion #7433 A motion was made by Trustee L. Cantu and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to go into executive session as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Sections 551.074.

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

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 1  
8:04 p.m.

Motion #7434 A motion was made by Trustee L. Cantu and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to reconvene from the executive session.

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

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 1  
8:46 p.m.

**12.0** **OPEN SESSION**

12A 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 closed session.

Motion #7435 A motion was made by Trustee L. Cantu 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, E. Gallegos - Absent, and M. Mesa – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 1  
8:46 p.m.

**13.0** **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion #7436 A motion was made by Trustee L. Cantu and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to adjourn the meeting.

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

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 1  
8:47 p.m.

(The details of this meeting are recorded on tape dated 06/10/24, except for the executive session.)