

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FEBRUARY 9, 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: Mario Mesa, Trustee

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

VISITORS:	Paloma Moreno	Sandra Blanton	Dora Badillo
	Erica Hinojosa	Christine Melendez	Alexis Garcia
	Levy Herrera	Andrea Martinez	Katrina Herrera
	C. Robles	Benito Portillo	Maribel Trevino
	Jaime Velasco	Bryan Groves	Eddie Floyd
	Rachel Medrano	Anisa Chavera	Ventura Paredez
	Giana Morales		

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 – Absent, and Yvette Villalobos – Present

Present – 6

Absent – 1

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**

Trustee Erik Gallegos 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 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 Erik Gallegos 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)**

Trustee Cezar Martinez read the following statement: “The Robstown ISD Board of Trustees welcome comments from citizens on any agenda items or non-agenda items. 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 citizens' concerns as per the Texas Open Meetings Act.” Paloma Moreno, a community member, shared with the Board that it was important to go back to basics for changes to occur at Robstown ISD.

6.0 **OPEN PUBLIC HEARING**

Motion #7071 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee E. Gallegos to open the Public Hearing.

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

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

7.0 **PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS THE TEXAS ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE REPORT 2024-2025 (T.A.P.R.)**

Diana Silvas reviewed the Texas Academic Performance Report 2024-2025 (T.A.P.R.) with the Board. She reported that the report was divided into the following eight sections: 1) Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) 2024-2025, and in some cases, the

10.0 **MADAM PRESIDENT REMARKS:**

10A TASB GOVERNANCE CAMP, POWERED BY STUDENT VOICE – MARCH 4-7, 2026

10B SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

10C RESCHEDULE BOARD MEETING March 9, 2026, TO MARCH 23, 2026

President Lori Ann Garza announced that the TASB Governance Camp, Powered by Student Voice is scheduled for March 4-7, 2026. The RECHS students would be presenting on Friday, March 6, 2026. Dr. Marc Puig, the teachers, and the administrators will be presenting on Thursday. She will contact all of the board members to schedule a meeting on the superintendent’s contract. The regular board meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2026, during spring break week, so the board meeting has been rescheduled for March 23, 2026.

11.0 **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

11A RISD DONATIONAS

Dr. Marc Puig reported that TESLA has donated \$10,000 to the school district’s Education Foundation, La Oruga Hunting Camp donated vet supplies to the CTE Vet Science Class, and the Wyatt Foundation came in with \$50,000 for the RISD Education Foundation.

11B ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE

Dr. Marc Puig reported that the school district has lost 117 students compared to the sixty-two students that were lost in 2024-2025. The school district will have a \$1.9 million deficit at the end of the school year. The first way to improve is to accept the challenge and how to respond. The administration has come up with the following four strategic budget communications: 1) Districtwide virtual meeting, 2) School board budget workshops, 3) TASBO navigating deficit budget series, and 4) Voter referendum to move the M&O debt to I&S.

11C RISD STATE OF THE BUDGET TOUR

Dr. Marc Puig reported that he had a virtual budget meeting with the district employees, school board workshops were held with the Board, and they are receiving training and a voter referendum could be held.

11D TRANSFORMATION LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Dr. Marc Puig reviewed the transformative learning that was going on at the different campuses. He shared a journal that the second-grade students put together on what they had learned. He shared a tool that TEA has recommended for them to use on content-agnostic classroom observations. The form includes the following: 1) Implementing routines and student engagement, 2) Academic expectations and rigor of lesson, 3) Lesson delivery, 4) Monitoring student work and adjusting instruction, and 5) The teacher delivery checks for understanding through questioning, student work tasks, and formative assessment throughout the lesson. Also, the tools help with students practicing writing religiously across the campus, are students making a collective effort, are the lessons taught within five days of the scope and sequence, and is the district-approved curriculum being used for Tier I instruction. He announced that the Lotspiech Library reveal will be on February 12, 202, at 5:30 p.m. The RISD Team will be presenting on March 5, 2026, at

1:30 p.m., and the student-led session (RECHS and Seale Jr. High School students) will be on March 6, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. The ESC2 Women in Education Awards will be on March 6, 2026. The school district has nominated four brilliant women: Cecilia Loera, Norma Cornejo, Bertha Ramos, and Michelle De La Pena. These individuals have impacted and left a legacy at Robstown ISD.

11E SPRING BREAK – MARCH 9, 2026, THROUGH MARCH 13, 2026
Dr. Marc Puig announced that Spring Break would be held on March 9, 2026, through March 13, 2026.

12.0 PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

12A TIA UPDATE

Diana L. Silvas reported that they had a committee meeting with representatives from every campus on January 28, 2026, to share Phase 2 of TIA. At the meeting, they discussed the application and timeline to submit the new application. The administration has already started meeting with the teachers at the different campuses to review their mid-year data on where they are at. The first school that they started with was Robert Driscoll, the day before they were at San Pedro, and they will move on to Lotspeich.

12B M & O UPDATE

Ron Lawver reported that they have officially started on the field house, the demolition has begun, the permits have been pulled on the building and plumbing, and they will start prepping for the plumbers. They are excited to start seeing more progress on the field house. The baseball bathrooms have been painted, and they have added red and white floor tiles. The inside of the boys' and girls' bathrooms in the Carrillo Gym have been painted, and new doors will be installed. A truck of sand was donated for the track. Also, new lighting will be installed at the softball field. He was happy to report that the maintenance department accomplished a lot of repairs during in February.

12C RISD SAFETY UPDATE

Filiberto Tagle reported that on the Red and White Day, all of the district's officers were trained to "Stop the Bleed." The school district's officer will now be able to train other district employees. This training has to be offered once a year, and now they have officers to do it. They will be moving forward to apply for a grant to purchase specialized equipment for the school district. Also, they are looking at applying for safety equipment, infrastructure support, and other grants that will be coming up soon. A summer safety committee meeting will be scheduled, and as soon as the date is established, he will let them know.

12D LIST OF BILLS

12E FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

President Lori Ann Garza informed the Board that the List of Bills and Financial Statement Reports were both included in their board packets. If they had any questions, to please get with Dr. Puig.

13.0 CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

13A MINUTES: REGULAR BOARD MEETING – JANUARY 12, 2026

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

Motion #7073 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, E. Gallegos – Yes, C. Martinez –Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, L. Cantu - Yes, M. Mesa – Absent, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
7:10 p.m.

14.0 ACTION ITEMS:

14A CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AN ORDER CALLING A MAY 2, 2026, ELECTION AND APPROVING RELATED ELECTION DOCUMENTS TO AUTHORIZE THE DISTRICT TO RESTRUCTURE REPAYMENT OF ELIGIBLE EXISTING MAINTENANCE TAX NOTES AND LEASE DEBT CURRENTLY PAID FROM M&O BY PROVIDING FOR REPAYMENT FROM I&S (DEBT SERVICE), INCLUDING APPROVAL OF RELATED FINANCING DOCUMENTS AND PROJECTED FINANCIAL IMPACT AND INTEREST COST REDUCTION ASSOCIATED WITH EARLY PAYOFF AT CLOSING

Dr. Marc Puig recommended a slight amendment to the Order Calling a May 2, 2026, election documents to authorize the district to restructure repayment of eligible existing maintenance tax notes and lease debt currently paid from M & O by providing for repayment from I&S (debt service), including approval of related financing documents and projected financial impact and interest cost reduction associated with early payoff at closing. In speaking with the school district's bond counsel and Robert Tijerina, the order should include what was discussed at the board workshop that really clarifies the intent of the order as follows: "Consideration and possible approval of a resolution and order calling a May 2, 2026, election and approving related election documents to authorize the district to restructure repayment of eligible existing maintenance tax notes currently paid from M&O by providing for repayment from I&S (debt service), including approval of related financing documents, projected financial impact, and interest cost reduction associated with early payoff at closing. Thomas Lastrapes informed the board members that if the voters approved the referendum, the school district could save six years of interest and pay it off by 2036. For the record, Trustee Cezar Martinez read the attached resolution (see attachment). After the discussion, Dr. Puig recommended approving the resolution as presented and read and the order calling a May 2, 2026, election and approving related election documents to authorize the district to restructure repayment of eligible existing maintenance tax notes currently paid from M&O by providing the repayment from I&S, including approval of the related financial documents projected financial impact and interest cost reduction associated with early payoff at closing.

For the record, Trustee Mario Mesa joined the board members for the board meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Motion #7074 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin 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
7:26 p.m.

For the record, Trustee Mario Mesa excused himself from the board meeting at 7:32 p.m.

14B DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE “APPLICATION FOR DELAY OF TEACHER CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS” AS REQUIRED BY HB2
Diana Silvas presented the HB2 Teacher Certification Transition Plan to the Board for their review and approval. She reviewed the following three DOI Certification of Exemption Phase-Out timelines: 1) For the 2025-2026 school year, school districts can maintain the currently approved DOI Plan, 2) For the 2026-2027 school year, the school district’s DOI Plan may no longer exempt K-5 reading and mathematics teachers from TEC 21.003, and 3) For the 2027-2028 school year, school districts' DOI Plan may no longer exempt any foundational subject teacher (ELA reading, math, science, social studies) at any grade level from TEC 21.003. Dr. Marc Puig informed the Board that to delay the certification timeline, they had to create a plan. The plan needs to specify specifically, the requirements that the plans should have. The plan is based on a line data showing how many teachers are not certified in the foundation areas per campus. Currently, the school district has a total of twenty-nine teachers who need to follow their certification. The administration had to create goals and explain how the school district would transition to meet the goals. Also, she covered the assignment controls and hiring practices. If approved, the plan will be posted on the school district’s website and submitted to TEA for approval. TEA will inform them if the plan has been approved or not. After the discussion, Dr. Puig recommended approving the application for the delay of teacher certification requirements as presented.

Motion #7075 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez 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 – Absent, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
7:51 p.m.

14C DISCUSS AND CONSIDER RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH KEETCH AND ASSOCIATES FOR PROPERTY INSURANCE EFFECTIVE MARCH 17, 2026
Eva Cisneros reported that they had gone out for bids back in December of 2025, because it has been six years since they had not advertised for bids. The bids were opened in January, and based on the pricing and the customer service that they have received from Keetch & Associates, she recommended renewing the contract with Keetch & Associates. The bid is lower by \$200,793.03 compared to the last school year.

The savings would be for the upcoming school year. Bryan Grove reported that they have been the school district's property insurance company for the past twenty years, along with Floyd Insurance Agency. This year, they are very fortunate because the market has changed. They work very well with Mrs. Cisneros and the staff. He appreciated the business. After discussion, Dr. Puig recommended the renewal contract with Keetch & Associates for the property insurance, effective March 17, 2026.

Motion #7076 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez 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 – Absent, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
7:54 p.m.

14D DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A PERIOD OF PRAYER AND READING OF THE BIBLE OR OTHER RELIGIOUS TEXT ON EACH SCHOOL DAY AND AT EVERY CAMPUS FOR STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES PURSUANT TO SB 11

Dr. Marc Puig recommended not approving a resolution to adopt a period of prayer and reading of the bible or other religious texts on each school day and at every campus for students and employees pursuant to SB 11. The school district is required to go on record to vote yes or no. His recommendation was based on that there was not a specific issue related to persons of faith or religious freedom at Robstown ISD.

Motion #7077 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 – Yes, C. Martinez –Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, L. Cantu – Not present during the motion, M. Mesa – Absent, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 2
7:58 p.m.

14E DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF NOMINATION OF VACANCY ON THE TASB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Lori Ann Garza announced that Moises Cortez had resigned from his position on the TASB Board of Directors and the Mathis ISD Board. His term will expire in 2026, with two additional years if elected at the TASB Assembly. After discussion, Trustee Yvette Villalobos recommended nominating President Lori Ann Garza for the vacancy on the TASB Board of Directors Region II.

Motion #7078 A motion was made by Trustee Y. Villalobos 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 – Not present during the motion, M. Mesa – Absent, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 2
8:01 p.m.

14F APPROVAL OF 2026-2027 AND 2027-2028 RISD CALENDARS
Rachel Medrano presented the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 RISD Calendars for the Board’s review and approval. She reported that the reason they were bringing two school calendars for approval was that it was one of the requirements of the Twenty-First Century grant that the district applied for. If approved, they will no longer be on minutes but on 175 instructional days. The calendars were also approved by the DEIC Committee. The spring break for the second calendar might need to be modified because Del Mar does not have its spring break for that date at this time. The proposed calendars only have one red day per six weeks. After the discussion, Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving the two calendars as presented.

Motion #7079 A motion was made by Trustee Y. Villalobos 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 – Absent, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:06 p.m.

14G APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR THE ACTIVE ATTACK RESPONSE EQUIPMENT GRANT PROGRAM
Filiberto Tagle requested the Boards’ approval to apply for the Active Attack Response Equipment Grant Program. He reported that House Bill 33 requires all campuses to have active threat breacher equipment on every campus. At this time, they have some of the equipment, but the grant will help in getting the rest of the equipment needed. After the discussion, Dr. Marc Puig recommended approving the Active Attack Response Equipment Grant Program as presented.

Motion #7080 A motion was made by Trustee E. Gallegos and seconded by Trustee Y. Villalobos 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 – Absent, and Y. Villalobos – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:10 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

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

Motion #7081 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin 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 – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, M. Mesa – Absent, and Y. Villalobos – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:10 p.m.

Motion #7082 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez 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 – Absent, and Y. Villalobos – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:56 p.m.

16.0 **OPEN SESSION**

16A 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 presented in the executive session.

Motion #7083 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez 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 – Absent, and Y. Villalobos - Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:57 p.m.

17.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion #7084 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee E. Gallegos to adjourn the meeting.

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

Motion carried
8:57 p.m.

Yes – 6

No - 0

Absent – 1

(The details of this meeting are recorded on tape dated 02/09/2026, except for the executive session.)

