

Consider approval of an overnight student trip for the Southwest Legacy High School Mariachi Program to attend the Robstown High School Mariachi Festival in Robstown, Texas.

1. Background:

The Southwest Legacy High School Mariachi Program has been invited to participate in the Robstown Mariachi Festival Group Competition hosted at Robstown High School in Robstown, Texas. The festival is designed to promote mariachi music education and the Hispanic cultural traditions of Texas while providing students with a positive and educational competitive performance environment. Two ensembles from Southwest Legacy High School, the Varsity Mariachi and Junior Varsity Mariachi, will participate in the competition. Students will perform prepared repertoire and receive adjudicated feedback from experienced mariachi educators and judges. Participation in this festival provides students valuable performance experience, evaluation, and the opportunity to observe other mariachi programs from across Texas.

2. Process:

The mariachi director coordinated the participation in the Robstown High School Mariachi Festival with the event organizers. Registration for the competition requires a \$350 entry fee per ensemble. Southwest Legacy High School will enter two ensembles in the competition. Transportation will be provided through a district-approved charter bus company. Lodging accommodations will be secured at a hotel in Corpus Christi to accommodate the student group, director, chaperone, and bus driver. The trip will also include a scheduled educational visit to the Texas State Aquarium while students are in Corpus Christi. All students participating in the trip will follow SWISD policies, district travel guidelines, and student code of conduct requirements.

3. Fiscal Impact:

The estimated cost of the trip is approximately **\$10,090**.

Estimated expenses include:

- Charter Bus Transportation: \$5,000
- Competition Registration (2 groups): \$700
- Hotel Lodging (13 rooms): \$2,340
- Student Meals: \$2,730
- Texas State Aquarium Admission: \$2,050

Most expenses will be paid using the Fine Arts program budget, while lodging expenses will be paid using the Student Activity Fund (SAF).

4. Recommendation:
That the Board approve the overnight student trip for the Southwest Legacy High School Mariachi Program to attend and participate in the Robstown High School Mariachi Festival in Robstown, Texas on April 11, 2026.

5. Required:
Board action.