



Brownsville Independent School District

Board of Trustees

Special Called Board Meeting

October 14, 2020

1:00 PM

BISD Administration Building Boardroom
1900 East Price Road
Brownsville, Texas 78521

A G E N D A

- I. Meeting Called to Order.
- II. Moment of Silence.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Roll Call:
- V. Recommend approving the **agenda** of the **Special Called Board Meeting of Wednesday, October 14, 2020** with any corrections/deletions.
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
- VII. **General Function Item(s):**
 - A. Recommend approval to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Brownsville to continue collaborating the implementation of the Broadband Feasibility and Digital Inclusion Plan. The COB will support the payment to BISD in an initial amount of \$250,000.00, under the request of funding through the Coronavirus Relief Fund matching program (CRF), as a first phase of a multi-phased approach towards addressing the immediate technology needs of BISD students who lack internet connectivity and hardware for distance learning as implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. 2
- VIII. **Announcement(s):**
 - A. **Next scheduled Board Meeting** of the **Board of Trustees** is on **Wednesday, November 4, 2020.**
- IX. **Adjournment.**



Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: General Function Board of Education Meeting: 10/14/2020

Item Title: City of Brownsville X Action
Memorandum of Understanding Information
Discussion

BACKGROUND:

The Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Brownsville and Brownsville Independent School District is for the purpose of establishing and achieving various goals and objectives relating to the establishment of a collaborative effort in mutually assisting one another with major partnership initiatives and projects for the betterment of the City of Brownsville Community.

City of Brownsville will support, an initial amount of \$250,000.00 as a first phase of a multi-phased approach of up to \$1,000,000.00 towards addressing the short and long-term needs of BISD to meet the technology needs of students who lack internet connectivity and hardware for distance learning as implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Brownsville to continue collaborating the implementation of the Broadband Feasibility and Digital Inclusion Plan. The COB will support the payment to BISD in an initial amount of \$250,000.00, under the request of funding through the Coronavirus Relief Fund matching program (CRF), as a first phase of a multi-phased approach towards addressing the immediate technology needs of BISD students who lack internet connectivity and hardware for distance learning as implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:

Dr. Nellie Cantu/by David Robledo
Submitted by: Deputy Superintendent

David Robledo
Recommended by: Chief Financial Officer

Miguel Salinas
Reviewed by: Staff Attorney

Dr. Nellie Cantu
Approved by: Deputy Superintendent

Dr. René Gutiérrez, Superintendent

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding, (hereinafter “Memorandum”), entered into as of the last date of the authorization and execution of this document, by and between the City of Brownsville, Texas (hereinafter “COB”) and the Brownsville Independent School District, Texas (hereinafter “BISD”), collectively referred to as (the “Parties”) for the purposes of establishing and achieving various goals and objectives relating to the establishment of a collaborative effort in mutually assisting one another with major partnership initiatives and projects for the betterment of the City of Brownsville community (hereinafter “MOU”).

WHEREAS, the Parties are desirous to enter into an agreement setting out all necessary working arrangements that the Parties agree shall be necessary to achieve the goals and objectives of this MOU;

WHEREAS, the Parties understand the partnership benefit for identifying joining initiatives and projects benefitting the City of Brownsville community;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree to the following:

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Parties intend for this Memorandum to provide the cornerstone and structure for the establishment of mutual collaboration amongst them in the following major partnership initiatives and projects referred to as (“Projects”):

- By October 31st of every year, establish a Calendar of Joint Quarterly Meetings and Joint Visioning Session.
- COB will support, an initial amount of \$250,000.00 (Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars) as a first phase of a multi-phased approach of up to \$1,000,000.00 (One Million dollars) towards addressing the short and long-term needs of BISD to meet the technology needs of students who lack internet connectivity and hardware for distance learning as implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

COB and BISD will continue collaborating in the implementation of the Broadband Feasibility and Digital Inclusion Plan for development of a long-term solution for internet connectivity.

- COB and BISD may explore the possibility of the implementation of the Gladys Porter Zoo Master Plan Expansion Project and explore the creation of a BISD veterinarian technician career path.

- COB and BISD may explore the possibility on whether the City can assist with facilities toward BISD’s goal of establishing a Performing Arts Center.
- COB and BISD may explore the possibility on future workforce development education and possible funding from the Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation (GBIC) on these initiatives, subject to approval from the GBIC board.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

The COB will support the payment to BISD in an initial amount of \$250,000.00 (Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars) by December of 2020, under their request for funding through the Coronavirus Relief Fund matching program (CRF), as a first phase of a multi-phased approach towards addressing the immediate technology needs of BISD students who lack internet connectivity and hardware for distance learning as implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

FURTHER AGREEMENTS NECESSARY

The Parties agree that this document is only an expression of the current intent of the parties and does not create any binding legal obligation or a commitment by either party to the expenditure of public funds. The parties recognize the necessity for additional agreements between them, by way of Public-Public Partnerships (PP) to further delineate the Scope of Services as well as formalizing agreements and additional funding opportunities for the intended Projects.

MODIFICATION AND DURATION

This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the Parties through their authorized officials and may be modified only by mutual written consent of the Parties. This MOU shall remain in effect until terminated in writing by any one of the Parties or by mutual consent.

AUTHORIZATION AND EXECUTION

The signing of this Memorandum constitutes acceptance to its terms as well as recognition of the authorization granted to the signatories by their respective institutions.

Juan “Trey” Mendez

Mayor
City of Brownsville

Date: _____

Minerva M. Pena,

President, Board of Trustees
Brownsville Independent School District

Date: _____

Minerva Almanza

From: Dr. Nereida Cantu
Sent: Thursday, October 8, 2020 6:04 PM
To: Minerva Almanza; Patricia Perez
Subject: Fwd: Draft COB BISD MOU

FYI

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Baltazar Salazar <balsalazar@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 8, 2020 5:58 PM
To: Dr. Nereida Cantu
Cc: Miguel Salinas
Subject: Re: Draft COB BISD MOU

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Brownsville ISD. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dr. Cantu,

I have reviewed and approve for signature.

Thanks,
Baltazar Salazar

...loyal, faithful, and aggressive representation...

On Oct 8, 2020, at 5:35 PM, Dr. Nereida Cantu <drncantu@bisd.us> wrote:

Revised MOU for your review and feedback.

Dr. N. Cantu
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Helen Ramirez <helen.ramirez@cob.us>
Sent: Thursday, October 8, 2020 5:07 PM
To: Dr. Nereida Cantu; Dr. Rene Gutierrez
Cc: Noel Bernal; Rene De Coss
Subject: Re: Draft COB BISD MOU

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Brownsville ISD. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dr. Cantu and Dr. Gutierrez,

Please see final version approved by the City Commission on Oct. 6th. Our City Attorney did include one last change in the Financial Commitments section specifically referencing the ?Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF).

Thank you and please let us know when the MOU will be taken to the board for consideration.

Best,

Helen Ramirez

Deputy City Manager

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<COB BISD MOU 10_06_2020.docx>

<COB BISD MOU 10_06_2020.pdf>



Brownsville Independent School District

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Dr. René Gutiérrez
Superintendent

City of Brownsville

Company Name

Dr. René Gutiérrez
Superintendent

Date

Minerva M. Peña
Board President

Dr. Prisci Roca Tipton
Board Secretary

Date

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