

San Juan Diego Catholic Regional High School Board of Trustees



Beatriz Gonzalez
Chairman

A proud parent of three children, all of whom attended Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School. Bea Gonzalez is an active mother, businesswoman, and member of the Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Community, where she serves as president of the school's PTSO, and member of the Advisory and Development Council. Bea has also participated on the ACTS Core Team, and as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. In the community, she is active in the McAllen Child Study Club and with the Girl Scouts.



Asa Cozad
Vice Chairman

Grandson of one of JDA's founding board members, Celine Cozad, Asa is a parishioner of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church. He is a member of the Equestrian Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre. Asa went to high school at Texas Military Institute and received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Texas at Austin. He worked in the engineering field for 10 years, including 4 years as VP of O'Brien Resources in Shreveport, LA. He returned to the RGV in August, 2018 and is the owner of El Rucio Consulting and Cozad Resources.



Sonia Candanoza
Secretary

Sonia Candanoza is a parishioner of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mission. Her two children are currently enrolled in Catholic Schools. She has been an active member of Catholic Schools. She served as the PTO Treasurer and Secretary at OLG School in Mission. She was an active member of the Turkeyfest Silent Auction Committee at St. Joseph Catholic School in Edinburg. In addition, she has served various roles at Our Lady of Sorrows.



George Cardenas
Treasurer

George Cardenas is a Regional President for Vantage Bank Texas and is responsible for Commercial Lending in the Rio Grande Valley, Laredo, and El Paso. He joined the Bank in 2003 and has over 20 years of lending experience. Mr. Cardenas is a Trustee Board Member of the Boys and Girls Club of Edinburg, a Board Member of the Juan Diego Academy, and on the Zoning Board of Adjustments in Edinburg. He is an Advisory Board Member of the UTRGV Business School and of the McAllen Economic Development Corporation. George is also actively involved in the Cattle Barons Ball for the American Cancer Society and served as committee chair in 2015. He and his family attend Our Lady of Sorrows Church. George is married to Christina Cardenas and they have a 7 year old daughter



Corazon Gladys Ajero, MD

Originally from the Philippines along with her husband, both doctors by profession, and both products of Catholic education from elementary, college and medical schools, Dr. Ajero greatly values Catholic education. Both of her children graduated from St. Joseph Catholic School, with the oldest graduating from Juan Diego Academy as valedictorian of the class of 2016 and the youngest graduating as valedictorian for the class of 2020. Dr. Ajero has served as a parish council member and currently serves as a school council member at St. Joseph Catholic Church, where she & her family worship. She is also involved in the ACTS ministry there.

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Raul Cabaza, III
Advisory Counsel



Sr. Sheila Carney



Lorena Castillo
Advisory Counsel



Jose Luis Contreras



Joshua Cummings

The Area President of HUB International Texas, Inc., Raul is a Certified Insurance Counselor specializing in insurance placement for school districts, utilities, non-profits, and other special entities. Dedicated to serving others, his many civic and church interests include Past Chair of the Knapp Medical Foundation and the McAllen Mayors Prayer Luncheon Committee. He currently serves on the Board of Su Casa de Esperanza. He is a proud father and husband of 28 years.

Born and raised in Utica, New York, Sr. Sheila graduated from the Utica Catholic Academy before receiving a BA in Education from St Joseph College and a Masters Degree in Teaching of Math from the University of Detroit. She entered the Daughters of Charity in Emmitsburg, MD. As a veteran educator, Sr. Sheila taught math and PE as well as having many roles with the school including athletic director, coach, and computer coordinator. She additionally has served as a principal and worked in many schools around the country. After moving to Evansville, IN to serve as provincial secretary, the provinces merged, and Sr. Sheila moved to Mission in 2011 to help at Juan Diego Academy. In her spare time she enjoys reading, watching sports, and doing puzzles of various kinds.

Lorena Castillo is a partner in the accounting firm of Negrete & Castillo, L.L.P. She is a board member with Affordable Homes of South Texas, Inc. and the Love Builds Hope Foundation which serves the Diocese of Brownsville. She has served as president for the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants, RGV Chapter, Junior League of McAllen and the Children's Advocacy Center of Hidalgo & Starr Counties, She is a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish where she has served on the finance council, taught CCD and been involved with the ACTS ministry

Jose Luis Contreras, Managing Partner of North Park Lexus, is a product of Central Catholic High School and is a great supporter of Catholic education and other RGV community initiatives. After graduating with a BBA from the University of Notre Dame, Jose Luis continued his studies, earning his MBA from the University of Texas @ San Antonio. As Co-President of the Notre Dame Alumni Club of the Rio Grande Valley, Jose has helped reignite connections and support systems for prospective and current students, as well as create service opportunities in RGV. He also serves as a member of the advisory board for Our Lady of Sorrows School. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Boys & Girls Club of Pharr/San Juan and VADA (Valley Automobile Dealers Association).

Joshua Cummings has been a member of Atlas, Hall & Rodriguez, LLP since 2007. In 2018, he was part of the first ever group of attorneys certified for Property Owners Association Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, and he was the only attorney to receive that certification in Hidalgo County. He is also certified to be appointed attorney ad litem in Texas probate and other courts. Mr. Cummings' areas of practice also include but are not limited to estate planning, probate, trusts, commercial lending, guardianships, bankruptcy, foreclosures, landlord/tenant relationships, and all aspects of real estate.

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Robert A. Dyer

Robert "Bob" Dyer is President and CEO of Growers Select Produce Inc, a company that grows, packs, ships and markets watermelons grown in Mexico and the U.S. since 1987. He and his wife, Christina, are active members of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in McAllen. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from Texas A&M University in 1983 and is a member of Knights of Columbus . His hobbies include organic gardening, enjoying grandchildren, and cooking. A third generation Valley native, Bob Dyer grew up south of Pharr and speaks fluent Spanish.



Rolando Guerra

Rolando "Ronnie" J. Guerra is a native of Linn-San Manuel and has lived in Edinburg all of his life After graduating from Pan American University in 1973, he was hired in Edinburg CISD as a teacher/coach. In 1982 he moved to Brewster school in San Manuel and after teaching/coaching 32 years, he retired in 2001. Coach Guerra was inducted to the RGV Coaches Hall of Fame in 2005.

Mr. Guerra began his new career as a financial advisor for VOYA. Retirement planning has become his primary business focus – helping many school and private sector employees with their retirement and voluntary benefits needs. He is currently a parishioner at Sacred Heart Church in Edinburg and Our Lady of Sorrows in McAllen. He served in the ACTS core in Sacred Heart Church in Edinburg and has been actively participating in ACTS retreats for over 15 years. Mr. Guerra is also a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus at Sacred Heart Parish in Edinburg.



Fr. Gregory T. Labus

Rev. Gregory T. Labus was ordained a priest for service in the Catholic Diocese of Brownsville on May 27, 2006. He has served as assistant to the rector at the Basilica of Our Lady of San Juan del Valle-National Shrine, parochial vicar of Immaculate Conception of Mary Church in Harlingen, parish administrator at St. Mary's Church in Santa Rosa, and pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Church in Mercedes. On May 18, 2012, Father Labus returned to his home parish, St. Joseph Catholic Church, as pastor of the parish and school. He was the first new pastor in more than 16 years, proceeding the death of Msgr. Robert Maher, who was Pastor since November 16, 1995. Father Labus plans to continue to highlight the importance of music to the liturgy, which is sustained by a strong level of participation by the people.



Doug Martin

Doug Martin is a life-long resident of the Valley whose three children followed him in attending St. Joseph Catholic School in Edinburg, where he received a Spirit Award for his service to the school as President of the PTSO and the School Council. A successful business owner, Doug devotes as much time as possible away from work to spend with family and friends, and to nurture the faith life of his Church and community through the ministry of music, involvement in a small faith community, and membership in civic clubs and organizations.