



## **South Texas ISD Safety and Security Committee Meeting December 5, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

The STISD Safety and Security Committee met on Friday, December 5, 2025, beginning at 12:00 p.m. in the Central Office Teaching and Learning Center.

### **The following committee members were present:**

Marco Antonio Lara, Superintendent

Steven Cortez, STISD Chief of Police

Efrain Garza, Deputy Superintendent

David Molina, STISD Captain

Eric Cantu (proxy), Hidalgo County Emergency Mgmt.

Juan Lopez, Brownsville Police Department

Michael Cortez (proxy), San Benito Police Department Captain

Jaime Ayala, Edinburg Police Department Chief of Police

Arturo Huerta, Rancho Viejo Police Department Lieutenant

Armando Espinoza

Cassidy Sanchez

### **STISD Chief of Police addressed the following items on the agenda:**

#### **1. Approval of Minutes from the June 10, 2025 Committee Meeting.**

A motion was made by Captain Michael Cortez, seconded by Lieutenant Arturo Huerta, approving the minutes from the June 10, 2025 Committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **2. STISD Police Departmental Updates.**

Chief Cortez discussed the importance of community involvement, highlighting the presence of the STISD Police Department at multiple campus and community events. He also informed the committee of the hiring of a highly specialized K-9 handler, adding many years of experience to the police department. The K-9 and its handler would be concentrating on enhancing security by detecting narcotics and firearms.



### **3. Intruder Detection Audits.**

Chief Cortez presented results from the TEA Intruder Detection Audit conducted at two of the campuses (Medical Professions and World Scholars). There were zero findings at both campuses. The most frequently reported issues this year so far has been vaping.

### **4. Adjournment.**

A motion was made by Chief Jaime Ayala, seconded by Lieutenant Arturo Huerta, adjourning the meeting at 12:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.