TEJANO CENTER

RYSS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2950 Broadway, Houston, Texas 77017
Phone: 713-640-3700 FAX: 713-644-6232 www.tejanocenter.org

"The mission of the Tejano Center is to educate, empower, and transform lives to elevate communities by fostering collaboration, championing equitable resource allocation, cultural preservation, and inclusivity for all."

PUBLIC NOTICE

Meeting Agenda for Thursday, February 26, 2026

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of Tejano Center will hold its regular meeting on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 5:30 pm. This meeting is open to the public, and community input is welcomed during the time designated for public comment. Members of the Board and public may attend the regular meeting via web conferencing at https://bit.ly/TejanoCenter-RYSS-BoardMeeting as allowed by Texas Government Code Â§ 551.127 with the principal location containing audio-visual equipment for use by the Board and public and where the presiding member is physically present, and the location is open to the public. If a member of the public can provide testimony or otherwise wishes to participate in the meeting when public input is permitted, but lacks the necessary technology, such will be provided at 2255 N. Coria Brownsville, TX 78520. The Board will consider, discuss, and adopt such orders, resolutions, and/or motions, and take direct or indirect actions as may be necessary, convenient, or desirable with respect to the matters outlined in this agenda.

Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 1:00 PM - Board Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER** (2 minutes) 1:00pm

2. **PRAYER** (3 minutes) Maria P. Gonzalez

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/TEXAS PLEDGE** (2 minutes) Justin Fuentes

4. **ROLL CALL** (3 minutes)

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived	Departed
David Corpus	Board Chair	Present – In Person	1:00 PM	
Anthony Magdaleno	Board Vice Chair	Present – Virtual	1:00 PM	
Margaret Dunlap	Board Secretary	Absent		
Maria Gonzalez	Board Member	Present – In Person	1:00 PM	
Marco Martinez	Board Member	Absent		
Laura Mayorga	Board Member	Present – Virtual	1:00 PM	

Chairman Corpus noted that Dr. Adriana Tamez, Dr. Jesus Amezcua, and Sandy

Gomez were joining virtually.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT** (7-10 minutes) Any individual wishing to address the Board of Directors of Tejano Center must sign in with Maribel Guerra by emailing a request to speak, at least 72-hours prior to scheduled meeting. The request must include the name of speaker, telephone, number and email address of the speaker, and the topic of the intended comments, to Maribel.Guerra@tejanocenter.org. Those doing so will be allowed to address the board for a maximum of three minutes. Individuals will address the board in the order that they have signed in. Alternatively, the individual may email comments to the above email address.

6. **PUBLIC HEARING**

6.a. **RYSS ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2024-2025 PUBLIC HEARING**

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Justin Fuentes, Chief Schools Officer; Carla Stevens, Data & Accountability

Justin Fuentes presented alone.

7. **PRESIDENT'S PRESENTATIONS & UPDATES**

7.a. **RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE ACROSS TEJANO CENTER (OFFICIALLY OPERATING AS TEJANO CENTER FOR COMMUNITY CONCERNS) AND RYSS TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS (OFFICIALLY OPERATING AS RAUL YZAGUIRRE SCHOOLS FOR SUCCESS)**

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Justin Fuentes, Chief Schools Officer

No updates presented.

7.b. **RYSS BROWNSVILLE (OFFICIALLY OPERATING AS RAUL YZAGUIRRE SCHOOLS FOR SUCCESS BRYSS ACADEMY AND BRYSS ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL) EXPANSION PRESENTATION**

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Justin Fuentes, Chief Schools Officer; Hector Vogliotti, Associate Director, LevelField; Rob Tate, Director, Level Field

No updates presented.

7.c. **EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT AND SINGLE AUDIT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2025, BY WHITLEY PENN LLC**

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant

Chairman Corpus shared that report was presented to the Finance Committee on Monday, February 23, 2026; no modified opinions; no questions.

7.d. **INTRODUCTION OF MARISSA TREVINO, NEIGHBORWORKS AMERICA SENIOR RELATIONSHIP MANAGER, WESTERN REGION**

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Graciana "Graci" Garces, MPAff, Chief Strategy & External Affairs Officer; Gabriela "Gabby" Luna, Director of Housing & Community Redevelopment; Marissa Trevino, NeighborWorks America, Senior Relationship Manager, Western Region

Marissa introduced herself; looking forward to working with Tejano Center.

8. **ACTION ITEMS**

8.a. **APPROVAL OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT AND SINGLE AUDIT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2025, BY WHITLEY PENN LLC**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant; Celena Cereceres
Motion made by Gonzalez; Seconded by Magdaleno; MOTION PASSED.

8.b. **APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2025 UNAUDITED FINANCIALS FOR RYSS AND TEJANO CENTER**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant
Motion made by Gonzalez; Seconded by Mayorga; MOTION PASSED.

8.c. **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2026 UNAUDITED FINANCIALS FOR RYSS AND TEJANO CENTER**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant
Motion made by Gonzalez; Seconded by Magdaleno; MOTION PASSED.

8.d. **RATIFICATION OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #13 IN THE AMOUNT OF $8000 TO TRANSFER FUNDS BETWEEN FUNCTIONS WITH NO EFFECT ON RESERVES, TO SUPPORT TRAVEL FOR RYSS BROWNSVILLE**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant
Motion made by Gonzalez; Seconded by Magdaleno; MOTION PASSED.

8.e. **RATIFICATION OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #14 IN THE AMOUNT OF $304,000 TO APPROPRIATE THE SAFETY GRANT FOR SECURITY COSTS**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant
Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by Gonzalez; MOTION PASSED.

8.f. **RATIFICATION OF MONTHLY DISBURSEMENT REPORT/VENDOR CUMULATIVE PAYMENTS FOR DECEMBER 2025 TO INCLUDE PROCUREMENT PROCESS AND EXPENDITURE APPROVALS**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant
Motion made by Gonzalez; Seconded by Magdaleno; MOTION PASSED.

8.g. **RATIFICATION OF MONTHLY DISBURSEMENT REPORT/VENDOR CUMULATIVE PAYMENTS FOR JANUARY 2026 TO INCLUDE PROCUREMENT PROCESS AND EXPENDITURE APPROVALS**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant
Motion made by Gonzalez; Seconded by Magdaleno; MOTION PASSED.

8.h. **APPROVAL OF RFP #25-01JA FOR A THREE YEAR CONTRACT WITH BEST VALUE VENDORS AS FOLLOWS: (1) PS LIGHTWAIVE IN THE AMOUNT OF $184,259 FOR HOUSTON MAIN INTERNET CONNECTIONS; (2) CONTRACT WITH FOREMOST IN THE AMOUNT OF $35,548 FOR INTERNET CONNECTIONS IN BROWNSVILLE, AND (3) NON ERATE CONTRACT FOR BACKUP LINES IN THE AMOUNT OF $79,340 FOR HOUSTON CAMPUSES, AND (4) NON ERATE CONTRACT FOR BACK UP LINES IN THE AMOUNT OF $39,240 FOR BROWNSVILLE CAMPUS**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant
Motion by Gonzalez to amend to "**RFP #26-02JA";** Seconded by Magdaleno; MOTION PASSED.
Motion (to approve as amended) by Gonzalez; Seconded by Magdaleno; MOTION PASSED.

8.i. **APPROVAL OF RFP #25-02JA FOR A THREE YEAR CONTRACT WITH BEST VALUE VENDORS AS FOLLOWS: (1) NETSINC IN THE AMOUNT OF $575,330 FOR MAIN INTERNET EQUIPMENT AND $48,750 FOR MAINTENANCE COSTS**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant
Motion by Gonzalez to amend to "**RFP #26-01JA";** Seconded by Magdaleno; MOTION PASSED.
Motion (to approve as amended) by Gonzalez; Seconded by Magdaleno; MOTION PASSED.

8.j. **APPROVAL OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR ENGAGEMENT LETTER AND FORM 990 WITH PITTSFORD SAMUELS LLC. FOR SUNRISE LOFTS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2025**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant
Motion made by Gonzalez; Seconded by Magdaleno; MOTION PASSED.

8.k. **APPROVAL OF 2025-2026 PRINCIPAL STATE ACCOUNTABILITY RATINGS PERFORMANCE PAY**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant; Justin Fuentes, Chief Schools Officer; Juan Santos, Executive Director of Human Talent
Motion made by Gonzalez; Seconded by Magdaleno; MOTION PASSED.

8.l. **APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENTS WITH STEM DETECTIVE TO PROVIDE TARGETED COACHING, MODEL LESSONS, DATA ANALYSIS, AND CONTENT-SPECIFIC PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN BOTH TEACHER PRACTICE AND STUDENT OUTCOMES IN SCIENCE FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR AT AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $85,000.00**

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant; Justin Fuentes, Chief Schools Officer

Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by Gonzalez; MOTION PASSED.

8.m. **APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT NON-EXPANSION APPLICATION FOR NAME CHANGE FOR ALL RYSS CAMPUSES**

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Justin Fuentes, Chief Schools Officer; Graciana "Graci" Garces, Chief Strategy & External Affairs Officer; Carla Stevens, RYSS Data & Accountability

Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by Gonzalez; MOTION PASSED.

8.n. **RATIFICATION OF THE RESOLVE PROGRAM/VICTIMS OF CRIME OUTREACH AND SUPPORT PROGRAM 2026-2027 VOCAL GRANT APPLICATION BOARD RESOLUTION**

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Graciana "Graci" Garces, Chief Strategy & External Affairs Officer; Jorge Gonzalez, Director, RESOLVE Program

Motion made by Gonzalez; Seconded by Magdaleno; MOTION PASSED.

8.o. **RATIFICATION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN HOUSTON CITY COLLEGE SYSTEM AND TEJANO CENTER FOR ADULT EDUCATION SERVICES AND WORKFORCE TRAININGS AT TEJANO CENTER FACILITIES FOR THE 2025–2026 PROGRAM YEAR**

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Graciana "Graci" Garces, Chief Strategy & External Affairs Officer; Melissa Martinez, Director, GRADcafe/NOVA Academy for Adult Education

Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by Gonzalez; MOTION PASSED.

9. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

9.a. **BUSINESS OFFICE PROGRESS REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2025**

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting Chief Financial Officer Consultant

9.b. **BUSINESS OFFICE PROGRESS REPORT FOR JANUARY 2026**

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting Chief Financial Officer Consultant

9.c. **UPDATE ON REBRAND SPECIFIC TO RYSS ACADEMY AT BROWNSVILLE LOGO**

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Graciana "Graci" Garces, MPAff, Chief Strategy & External Affairs Officer

9.d. **AFFORDABLE HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM REPORT**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Gabriela "Gabby" Luna, Director of Affordable Housing and Community Redevelopment

9.e. **CHILD PLACING AGENCY PROGRAM REPORT**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Brenda Navarrette, Director, Child Placing Agency

9.f. **GRADCAFE/NOVA ACADEMY FOR ADULT EDUCATION REPORT**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Melissa Martinez, Director, GRADcafe & NOVA Academy for Adult Education

9.g. **LA TIENDITA REPORT**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Ramiro Fonseca, Director of Outreach & Engagement

9.h. **RESOLVE PROGRAM REPORT**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Jorge Gonzalez, Director, Resolve Program

9.i. **BOARD ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Ramiro Fonseca, Director of Outreach & Engagement

10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §§ 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, AND 551.082, TO ADDRESS:** 1:50pm

a. Private consultation with attorney concerning privileged issues from agenda matters and pending or threatened litigations.

b. Deliberations concerning the purchase of real property

c. Deliberations concerning the duties of the CEO and CFO regarding supervision of personnel

d. Consider complaints against directors and senior staff

e. Discussion of duties and evaluation of administrative personnel, including complaints regarding school staffing, academic and organizational changes for the 2025-2026 school year

11. **ADJOURNMENT** 2:27pm