TEJANO CENTER

RYSS TEXAS 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 develop education, social, health, and community institutions that empower families to transform their lives."

PUBLIC NOTICE

Meeting Agenda for Wednesday April 8, 2026

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of Tejano Center will hold its regular meeting on April 8, 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 2950 Broadway Street, Houston, TX 77017. 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.

April 8, 2026 at 5:30 PM - Board Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER** (2 minutes) 5:39PM
2. **PRAYER** (3 minutes)
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/TEXAS PLEDGE** (2 minutes)
4. **ROLL CALL** (3 minutes)

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived	Departed
David Corpus	Board Chair	Present – In Person	5:30 PM	
Anthony Magdaleno	Board Vice Chair	Present – In Person	5:30 PM	
Margaret Dunlap	Board Secretary	Absent		
Maria Gonzalez	Board Member	Absent		
Marco Martinez	Board Member	Present – In Person	5:30 PM	
Gina De Leon	Board Member	Present – In Person	5:30 PM	

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT** (7-10 minutes) Any individual wishing to address the Board of Directors of Tejano Center must sign in with Maribel Guerra, Board Services, 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. PRESIDENT'S PRESENTATIONS & UPDATES

Dr. Tamez introduced Diego Calderon as the newly hired Assistant Chief Schools Officer; Mr. Calderon offered brief comments.

6.a. RYSS TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS (OFFICIALLY OPERATING AS RAUL YZAGUIRRE SCHOOLS FOR SUCCESS) GOAL 1 & 3 PROGRESS MEASURE PRESENTATION

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

Magdaleno inquired about instructors – virtual or in person; Fuentes clarified.

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

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

Rob Tate offers comments of gratitude for Justin playing a crucial role in BRYSS expansion. Hates to see Justin leave.

Tamez asks if gym floor came with floor covering which is approximately $25k-$30k. Will discuss separately.

Will be adding additional canopies outside and fencing with savings from expansion.

Will close out the EFF loan. Tamez will discuss further. Corpus inquired about money being placed in a restricted account.

7. ACTION ITEMS

Item 7t taken out of order. Item PASSED with record of vote included with item (below).

7.a. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 26, 2026, MEETING OF TEJANO CENTER (OFFICIALLY OPERATING AS TEJANO CENTER FOR COMMUNITY CONCERNS)/RYSS TEAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools

Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; De Leon Abstained; MOTION PASSED.

7.b. **APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2026 UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR RYSS TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND TEJANO CENTER – NON-SCHOOL**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant

Corpus brought Gina up to date with Marco leading the finance committee

Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; De Leon Abstained; MOTION PASSED.

7.c. **APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #15 IN THE AMOUNT OF $165,266.61 TO ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant; Justin Fuentes, Chief Schools Officer

Corpus asked if there was an assessment at time of Pasadena building negotiations. Tamez advised that the owner disclosed the HVAC system was old. Tamez seeking funding to help with replacement.

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

7.d. **APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #16 IN THE AMOUNT OF $113,277 TO ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS**
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 De Leon; MOTION PASSED.

7.e. **APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #17 IN THE AMOUNT OF $56,000 TO ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS - PASADENA**
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 De Leon; MOTION PASSED.

7.f. **APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #18 IN THE AMOUNT OF $285,478 TO ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR THE SUMMER FROM TITLE ONE AND ADSY SUMMER FUNDING**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant; Justin Fuentes, Chief Schools Officer
Amezcua requested amendment to agenda item to add $61,860 for additional costs identified.

Motion to amend by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED.

Motion to approve as amended by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED (as amended) –
APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #18 IN THE AMOUNT OF $347,338 TO ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR THE SUMMER FROM TITLE ONE AND ADSY SUMMER FUNDING

7.g. **APPROVAL OF SIGNATURE CARD FOR THE NEW INTEREST EARNING BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE PROCEEDS FROM FHLB GRANT AT STELLAR BANK.**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant
Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by De Leon; MOTION PASSED.

7.h. **RATIFICATION OF MONTHLY DISBURSEMENT REPORT/VENDOR CUMULATIVE PAYMENTS FOR FEBURARY 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 Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED.

7.i. **RATIFICATION OF (1) EXTENSION OF PEPSICO FOUNDATION INC. IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF $756,000 ANNUALLY FOR FY 26 AND FY 27 AS APPROVED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE GUIDEINES**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant; Claudia Rodriguez, Director of Food Services

Tamez requested that FY27 be removed as contact at Pepsico Foundation has been nonresponsive.

Motion to amend by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED.

Motion to approve as amended by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED (as amended) –
RATIFICATION OF (1) EXTENSION OF PEPSICO FOUNDATION INC. IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF $756,000 ANNUALLY FOR FY 26 AS APPROVED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE GUIDEINES

7.j. **APPROVAL OF RFP #25/26-3CR FOR RYSS BROWNSVILLE FOR FY 26-27**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant; Claudia Rodriguez, Director of Food Services
Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED.

7.k. **APPROVAL OF CHOICE PARTNER COOPERATIVE VENDOR GC COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION IN THE AMOUNT OF $293,790 FOR CHILLER REPLACEMENTS AT RYSS PASADENA (OFFICIALLY OPERATING AS RYSS STEM ACADEMY AT FIRST FRIENDS PASADENA)**

Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Ricardo Rodriguez, Director of Facilities and Property Development; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant
Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by De Leon; MOTION PASSED.

7.l. **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTING MANUAL FOR TEJANO CENTER**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant
Tamez and Jesus discuss rephrasing item to reflect accurate description.

Motion to amend by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED.

Motion to approve as amended by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED (as amended) –
APPROVAL OF UPDATE TO THE ACCOUNTING MANUAL FOR TEJANO CENTER

7.m. **APPROVAL OF RENEWAL AND EXTENSION OF LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN RYSS AND TEJANO CENTER FOR 2025-2026**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant
Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by De Leon; MOTION PASSED.

7.n. **APPROVAL OF REQUEST BY THE RYSS SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT WITH SPECIALIZED ASSESSMENT TO PROVIDE ASSESSMENT, COUNSELING AND SPEECH, AND LANGUAGE SERVICES FOR THE RYSS BROWNSVILLE CAMPUS FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF $20,000**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Justin Fuentes, Chief Schools Officer, Susan Pansmith, Director of Special Education
Motion to amend by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED.

Motion to approve as amended by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED (as amended) –
APPROVAL OF REQUEST BY THE RYSS SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT WITH SPECIALIZED ASSESSMENT TO PROVIDE ASSESSMENT, COUNSELING AND SPEECH, AND LANGUAGE SERVICES FOR THE RYSS BROWNSVILLE CAMPUS FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF AN ADDITIONAL $20,000

7.o. **APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH ABILITIES, INC. TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SPEECH AND LANGUAGE SERVICES AND ASSESSMENT FOR 2025-2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF $30,000**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Justin Fuentes, Chief of Schools, Susan Pansmith, Director of Special Education
Motion to amend by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED.

Motion to approve as amended by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION

PASSED (as amended) –
APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH ABILITIES, INC. TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SPEECH AND LANGUAGE SERVICES AND ASSESSMENT FOR 2025-2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF AN ADDITIONAL $30,000

7.p. **APPROVAL OF 2026-2027 CERTIFICATION OF PROVISION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Justin Fuentes, Chief of Schools; Denise Martinez, Executive Director of Elementary Education
Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by De Leon; MOTION PASSED.

7.q. **RATIFICATION OF RYSS HOLIDAY (OF MARCH 30, 2026) NAME CHANGE FROM CHAVEZ/HUERTA DAY TO DOLORES HUERTA DAY OF LABOR & FARMWORKER RIGHTS**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Graciana "Graci" Garces, Chief Strategy & External Affairs Officer; Juan Santos, Chief Operations & Talent Officer
De Leon asked for clarification of actual date.
Corpus offered remarks related to honoring Huerta.
Motion to amend by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED.

Motion to approve as amended by Magdaleno; Seconded by De Leon; MOTION PASSED (as amended) –
RATIFICATION OF RYSS HOLIDAY (OF MARCH 30, 2026) NAME CHANGE FROM CHAVEZ/HUERTA DAY TO LABOR & FARMWORKER RIGHTS DAY

7.r. **RATIFICATION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS GRANT OF $343,304.00 TO PROVIDE HOME REPAIR ASSISTANCE TO HOUSEHOLDS IMPACTED BY HURRICANE BERYL**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Graciana "Graci" Garces, Chief Strategy & External Affairs Officer; Gabriela "Gabby" Luna, Director of Housing & Community Redevelopment
Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED.

7.s. **RATIFICATION OF GRANT FROM THE GREATER HOUSTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ON BEHALF OF THE COMPLETE COMMUNITIES IMPROVEMENT FUND (CCIF) IN THE AMOUNT OF $170,000 FOR FINAL PHASE OF HOME REPAIRS**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Graciana "Graci" Garces, Chief Strategy & External Affairs Officer; Gabriela "Gabby" Luna, Director of Housing & Community Redevelopment
Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by De Leon; MOTION PASSED.

7.t. **APPROVAL OF REAPPOINTMENT OF GINA DE LEON TO THE TEJANO CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOLLOWING PRIOR SERVICE**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Graciana "Graci" Garces, Chief Strategy & External Affairs Officer
Motion made by Magdaleno; Seconded by Martinez; MOTION PASSED.

8. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

8.a. **BUSINESS OFFICE PROGRESS REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2026**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Acting CFO Consultant

8.b. **SAFETY AUDIT UPDATE: INTRUDER DETECTION AUDIT (IDA) RESULTS AT RYSS STEM ACADEMY**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Justin Fuentes, Chief of Schools; Juan Santos, Chief of Operations and Talent Officer; Christi Van Wassenhove, Director of Safety & Compliance; George Farhat, Technology, Operations, & Emergency Management

8.c. **SAFETY AUDIT UPDATE: DISTRICT VULNERABILITY AUDIT (DVA) UPDATE**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Justin Fuentes, Chief of Schools; Juan Santos, Chief of Operations and Talent Officer; Christi Van Wassenhove, Director of Safety & Compliance; George Farhat, Technology, Operations, & Emergency Management

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

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

8.f. **GRADCAFE PROGRAM REPORT**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Melissa Martinez, Director, GRADcafe & NOVA Academy

8.g. **HEALTH EQUITY/LA TIENDITA REPORT**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Graciana “Graci” Garces, MPAff, Chief Strategy & External Affairs

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

8.i. **BOARD ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**
Speaker(s): Dr. Adriana Tamez, President/CEO & Superintendent of Schools; Graciana “Graci” Garces, MPAff, Chief Strategy & External Affairs

9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §§ 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, AND 551.082, TO ADDRESS:**

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

10. **ADJOURNMENT 6:50pm**