



Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: General Function
Contracts/MOU Board of Education Meeting: 08/04/2026

Item Title: Behavioral Health Solutions of South X Action
TX Youth Prevention and Brownsville Information
ISD MOU Discussion

BACKGROUND:

The Behavioral Health Solutions of South Texas (BHSST) Youth Prevention Program and the Brownsville ISD agree to collaborate in an effort to increase the effectiveness and visibility of prevention efforts focusing on alcohol, tobacco, vaping and other drug abuse and behavioral health issues. BHSST goal is to educate the community with the expectation to reduce substance abuse among youth and adults. Students referred for youth prevention programs should have been identified as high risk for truancy. The Behavioral Health Solutions of South Texas will provide campus-based Youth Prevention (YP) Specialist at selected high schools and selected middle schools. Prevention Specialists will provide curriculum-based education, skill building activities, problem identification and referrals for secondary students.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

No cost to the District

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval to renew a Memorandum of Understanding between the Brownsville Independent School District and Behavioral Health Solutions of South Texas Youth Prevention Program for implementation of their educational programs for reducing alcohol and substance abuse among youth in secondary schools during the BISD 2026-2027 school year. No cost to the District.

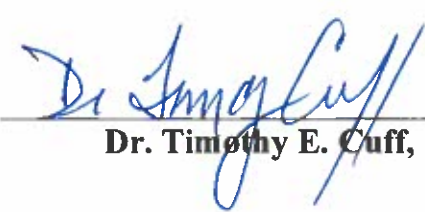
Sara M. Garza 
Submitted by: Principal/Program Director

Rose E. Longoria 
Recommended by: Assistant Superintendent

Miguel Salinas 
Reviewed by: Staff Attorney

Rose E. Longoria 
Approved by: Assistant Superintendent

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:


Dr. Timothy E. Cuff, Superintendent

Roxanne Eckstein

From: Priscilla Lozano <plozano@808West.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2026 3:57 PM
To: Roxanne Eckstein
Cc: Miguel Salinas; Minerva Almanza; Lea Ohrstrom
Subject: Re: Behavioral Health Solutions 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.

Approved as to form.

Sincerely,

Priscilla

— ODC —
O'HANLON, DEMERATH & CASTILLO
Attorneys and Counselors at Law

Priscilla A. Lozano

Partner
808 West Ave
Austin, Texas 78701
Office: 512-494-9949
Cell: 512-826-1190
Facsimile: 512-494-9919
Email: plozano@808west.com
www.808west.com

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From: Roxanne Eckstein <reckstein@bisd.us>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2026 2:51 PM
To: Kevin O'Hanlon <kohanlon@808West.com>; Lea Ohrstrom <lohrstrom@808West.com>; Oscar Trevino

<otrevino@808West.com>; Priscilla Lozano <plozano@808West.com>

Cc: Miguel Salinas <miguelsalinas@bisd.us>; Minerva Almanza <malmanza1@bisd.us>

Subject: Behavioral Health Solutions MOU

Good afternoon Ms. Lozano and Mr. Trevino,

Please see the attached MOU for your review and approval.

*Please note this is a yearly renewal MOU.

Thank you! Should you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (956) 698-6379.

Sincerely,

Roxy Eckstein



AN EARLY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BROWNSVILLE
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Roxanne Eckstein
Paralegal
Staff Attorney Office

1900 E. Price Rd. Suite 302 • Brownsville, Texas 78521

Office: (956) 698-6379 • Fax: (956) 714-6400

E-mail: reckstein@bisd.us

Roxanne Eckstein | Paralegal to Miguel Salinas | Office of the Staff Attorney | Phone: 956.698.6379 | Fax: 956.714.6400
Brownsville Independent School District | 1900 East Price Road, Suite 302 | Brownsville, TX 78521

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A non-profit center for Integrated Prevention, Intervention, Treatment, Recovery, & Research

Luis V. Rodriguez, LSW, LMSW, Ph.D, Board President • Monica H. Sanchez, LCSW-S, PSS, ACPS, Chief Executive Officer

Headquarters: 5510 N. Cage Blvd., Stes. A, C, E, N, & R • Pharr, TX 78577
P: (956) 787-7111 • F: (956) 781-2233

2301 Industrial Blvd. • Harlingen, TX 78550
P: (956) 368-5557

Memorandum of Understanding

Behavioral Health Solutions of South Texas (BHSST) and **Brownsville Independent School District** agree to collaborate in an effort to increase the effectiveness and visibility of prevention efforts focusing on alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) use and behavioral health concerns. BHSST's goal is to educate the communities with expectations to reduce substance misuse and related behavioral health conditions among youth, young adults and adults.

Our commitment to this collaboration will consist of the following:

1. BHSST will provide a campus-based Youth Prevention (YP) Specialist at selected schools.
2. The Prevention Specialist will coordinate services with the designated **Brownsville Independent School District** personnel. Services will be rendered according to the agreed upon schedule and protocol for providing **Youth Prevention Universal SFP (Strengthening Families Program)**, **Youth Prevention Universal PA (Positive Action)**, **Youth Prevention Selective L2B (Learning To Breathe)**, **Youth Prevention Selective PA (Positive Action)**, and/or **Youth Prevention Indicated CBSG (Curriculum-Based Support Group)** services.
 - a. BHSST Prevention Specialists will work with **Brownsville Independent School District** school counselor/social worker to arrange days, times, classroom, and group space for in-person prevention services and/or web-based platform for virtual prevention services.
 - b. BHSST shall ensure that all employees, subcontractors, and agents who will have direct contact with students undergo fingerprinting and background checks in compliance with Texas Education Code section 22.0834 and any applicable District policies.
 - c. For Universal Prevention Services, school personnel will provide the Prevention Specialist with access to the classrooms and rosters. For Selective Prevention Services, school personnel will provide all referrals to the Prevention Specialists. Students referred will be identified by school personnel as residing in a "colonia", at high risk of truancy, or other identified risk factors. For Indicated Prevention Services, school personnel will provide all referrals to the Prevention Specialist. Students referred will have been identified by school personnel as having experimented with ATOD or have other risk factors but do not meet criteria for a substance use disorder.
 - d. BHSST Prevention Specialists and school personnel will communicate to one another any changes in the agreed upon schedules.
 - e. In accordance with **Brownsville Independent School District** and BHSST policies and state laws, BHSST Prevention Specialists will communicate any student needs identified in curriculum and follow the guidance provided by **Brownsville Independent School District** personnel to align with policies and procedures.
 - f. At no time will the Prevention Specialists solicit students for the program.
 - g. **FERPA Confidentiality**
 - a. **Definition of Confidential Information**
Under this Agreement, "Confidential Information" refers to any and all student education records, personally identifiable information, and other data that is subject to



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the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”) and any applicable state privacy laws.

b. Obligations of BHSST

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c. Permitted Use and Disclosure

BHSST shall use Confidential Information only as necessary to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement and shall not disclose Confidential Information to any third party without the prior written consent of the District, except as permitted by FERPA or other applicable law. BHSST shall ensure that any of its employees, agents, or subcontractors who have access to Confidential Information are fully informed of the confidential nature of the information and are bound by the same obligations as BHSST under this provision.

d. Security Measures BHSST agrees to implement and maintain reasonable administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to protect the confidentiality and security of the Confidential Information. These measures shall be designed to prevent unauthorized access, use, disclosure, alteration, or destruction of Confidential Information.

e. Notification of Breach

In the event of any unauthorized access, use, or disclosure of Confidential Information, BHSST shall immediately notify the District and take all necessary steps to mitigate the impact of such breach, including but not limited to, cooperating with the District in any investigation and providing any required notifications under applicable law.

f. Return or Destruction of Confidential Information

Upon termination or expiration of this Agreement, or upon the District’s request, BHSST shall promptly return or destroy all Confidential Information in its possession, custody, or control, including any copies thereof, in accordance with the District’s instructions and applicable law.

g. Survival

The obligations of BHSST under this FERPA Confidentiality provision shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

3. **Brownsville Independent School District** will provide adequate space and security for BHSST staff to complete the curriculum sessions, alcohol/tobacco/other substance misuse related presentations and positive alternatives, and information and referral services to participants. For virtual prevention services, **Brownsville Independent school District** will facilitate access for students to utilize computer/tablet equipment and broadband services.



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4. **Brownsville Independent School District** understands this agreement to be inclusive of the following YP program services:
 - All evidence-based program curriculum services are implemented once per week for a minimum of 90 minutes per session with a group size of 12-28 students, contingent on program requirements.
 - Dissemination of information related to alcohol, tobacco, and other substance misuse prevention, trends and resources affecting individuals, families and communities.
 - Presentations, positive alternatives activities and participation in health fairs and/or any school event providing opportunities for ATOD prevention efforts with youth, young adults and adults. **Brownsville Independent School District** understands all prevention efforts provided by BHSST Prevention Specialists are a minimum of 30 minutes in duration.
5. BHSST and **Brownsville Independent School District** will cooperate fully to ensure non-duplication of services. Cooperative efforts include:
 - **Brownsville Independent School District** agrees to collaborate only with BHSST for the implementation of any curriculum services indicated in section #2.
 - **Brownsville Independent School District** and BHSST personnel will collaborate to coordinate specific topics/focus of ATOD related education activities to be rendered by a BHSST Prevention Specialist that do not duplicate education efforts being implemented by school personnel.
6. BHSST staff will follow BHSST policies and adhere to **Brownsville Independent School District** policies and procedures when conducting services at **Brownsville Independent School District**
7. **Brownsville Independent School District** agrees to share emergency response procedures with prevention specialist to ensure BHSST personnel are informed and follow the school's protocols should an emergency arise.
8. All BHSST staff will maintain confidentiality requirements in accordance to Federal Confidentiality rules (42CFR 2).
9. Funding for these services is provided by a grant from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission and no fees or cost will be incurred by **Brownsville Independent School District** in association with Youth Prevention program services.
10. This collaborative agreement will be in effect on September 01, 2026 through August 31, 2027. Either party may terminate without cause by giving the other party written notice of termination.

Dr. Timothy E. Cuff
Superintendent
Brownsville Independent School District

Monica H. Sanchez, LCSW-S, ACPS, PSS
Chief Executive Officer

Date

6/17/2026

Date



2025-2026

Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: General Function
Contracts/MOU Board of Education Meeting: 08/05/2025

Item Title: Behavioral Health Solutions of South
TX Youth Prevention and Brownsville
ISD MOU

X Action
Information
Discussion

BACKGROUND:

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FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

No cost to the District

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval to renew a Memorandum of Understanding between the Brownsville Independent School District and Behavioral Health Solutions of South Texas Youth Prevention Program for implementation of their educational programs for reducing alcohol and substance abuse among youth in secondary schools during the BISD 2025-2026 school year. No cost to the District.

Sara M. Garza

Submitted by: Principal/Program Director

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:

Recommended by: Asst. Supt./Exec. Dir.

Miguel Salinas

Reviewed by: Staff Attorney

Ms. Beatriz Hernandez

Approved by: Chief Officer

Dr. Jesus H. Chavez, Superintendent

When Necessary, Additional Background May Follow This.



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Dr. Jesus H. Chavez
Superintendent
Brownsville Independent School District


Monica H. Sanchez, LCSW-S, ACPS, PSS
Chief Executive Officer
Behavioral Health Solutions of South Texas

Date

5/16/2025

Date

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Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: General Function
Contracts/MOU Board of Education Meeting: 09/03/2024

Item Title: Behavioral Health Solutions of South X Action
TX Youth Prevention and Brownsville Information
ISD MOU Discussion

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FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

No cost to the District

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval to renew a Memorandum of Understanding between the Brownsville Independent School District and Behavioral Health Solutions of South Texas Youth Prevention Program for implementation of their educational programs for reducing alcohol and substance abuse among youth during the BISD 2024-2025 school year. No cost to the District.

Sara M. Garza

Submitted by: Principal/Program Director

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:

Recommended by: Asst. Supt./CFO

Miguel Salinas

Reviewed by: Staff Attorney

Dr. Jesus H. Chavez, Superintendent

Ms. Beatriz Hernandez

Approved by: Deputy Supt./Chief Officer

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BHSST shall use Confidential Information only as necessary to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement and shall not disclose Confidential Information to any third party without the prior written consent of the District, except as permitted by FERPA or other applicable law. BHSST shall ensure that any of its employees, agents, or subcontractors who have access to Confidential Information are fully informed of the confidential nature of the information and are bound by the same obligations as BHSST under this provision.

d. **Security Measures**

BHSST agrees to implement and maintain reasonable administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to protect the confidentiality and security of the Confidential Information. These measures shall be designed to prevent unauthorized access, use, disclosure, alteration, or destruction of the Confidential Information.

e. **Notification of Breach**

In the event of any unauthorized access, use, or disclosure of Confidential Information, BHSST shall immediately notify the District and take all necessary steps to mitigate the impact of such breach, including but not limited to, cooperating with the District in any investigation and providing any required notifications under applicable law.

f. **Return or Destruction of Confidential Information**

Upon termination or expiration of this Agreement, or upon the District's request, BHSST shall promptly return or destroy all Confidential Information in its possession, custody, or control, including any copies thereof, in accordance with the District's instructions and applicable law.

g. **Survival**

The obligations of BHSST under this FERPA Confidentiality Provision shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

3. **Brownsville Independent School District** will provide adequate space and security for BHSST staff to complete the curriculum sessions, alcohol/tobacco/other drug related presentations and positive alternatives, and information and referral services to participants. For virtual prevention services, **Brownsville Independent School District** will facilitate access for students to utilize computer/tablet equipment and broadband services.

Office Locations:

Brownsville • Harlingen • Hebbronville • Falfurrias • Kingsville • Pharr • Raymondville
Rio Grande City • Weslaco

For additional information, visit www.bhsst.org or call (800) 748-3577



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SOLUTIONS

A non-profit center for Integrated Prevention, Intervention, Treatment, Recovery, & Research

Ricardo D. Torres, O.T., Board President • Monica H. Sanchez, LCSW-S, PSS, ACPS, Chief Executive Officer

Headquarters: 5510 N. Cage Blvd., Stes. A, C, E, N, & R • Pharr, TX 78577
P: (956) 787-7111 • F: (956) 781-2233

2301 Industrial Blvd. • Harlingen, TX 78550
P: (956) 368-5557

4. **Brownsville Independent School District** understands this agreement to be inclusive of the following YP program services:
 - All evidence-based program curriculum services are implemented twice per week for a minimum of 30 minutes per session with a group size of 12-28 students, contingent on program requirements.
 - Dissemination of information related to alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use prevention, trends and resources affecting individuals, families and communities.
 - Presentations, positive alternatives activities and participation in health fairs and/or any school event providing opportunities for ATOD prevention efforts with youth, young adults and adults. **Brownsville Independent School District** understands all prevention efforts provided by BHSST Prevention Specialists are a minimum of 30 minutes in duration.
5. BHSST and **Brownsville Independent School District** will cooperate fully to ensure non-duplication of services. Cooperative efforts include:
 - **Brownsville Independent School District** agrees to collaborate only with BHSST for the implementation of any curriculum services indicated in section #2.
 - **Brownsville Independent School District** and BHSST personnel will collaborate to coordinate specific topics/focus of ATOD related education activities to be rendered by a BHSST Prevention Specialist that do not duplicate education efforts being implemented by school personnel.
6. BHSST staff will follow BHSST policies and adhere to **Brownsville Independent School District** policies and procedures when conducting services at **Brownsville Independent School District**.
7. **Brownsville Independent School District** agrees to share emergency response procedures with prevention specialist to ensure BHSST personnel are informed and follow the school's protocols should an emergency arise.
8. All BHSST staff will maintain confidentiality requirements in accordance to Federal Confidentiality rules (42CFR 2).
9. Funding for these services is provided by a grant from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission and no fees or cost will be incurred by **Brownsville Independent School District** in association with Youth Prevention program services.
10. This collaborative agreement will be in effect on September 03, 2024 through August 31, 2025. Either party may terminate without cause by giving the other party written notice of termination.

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Dr. Jesus H. Chavez
Superintendent
Brownsville Independent School District

9.3.24
Date



Monica H. Sanchez, LCSW-S, ACPS, PSS
Chief Executive Officer
Behavioral Health Solutions of South Texas

8/20/2024
Date

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