LAREDO COLLEGE DISTRICT
Laredo, Texas

The regular monthly meeting of the Laredo College Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, July 30, 2026, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Adolfo C. and Maria de Jesus De La Garza Building Room 101, at the Fort McIntosh Campus, West End Washington Street, Laredo, Texas.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Rangel called the meeting to order.

2. ROLL CALL

Ms. Leven-Ramos called roll.

MEMBERS PRESENT	OTHERS
Esteban Rangel, President	Minita Ramírez, Ph.D.
Ernestina "Tita" Cantu Vela, Vice President	Rusty Meurer
Jackie Leven-Ramos, Secretary	Ruben Villarreal
Cindy Liendo, Parliamentarian	Marissa Guerrero, Ed.D.
Erica Benavides Garcia	Bianca Cubriel
Mercurio Martinez, Jr.	Jessica Treviño
Adriana Alexander	David V. Arreazola, Ed.D.
Lizzy Newsome *(did not return from executive session)*	Diana Y. Ortiz, Ph.D.
Karina "Kari" Elizondo	Richard Long
	Veronica G. Martinez

MEMBERS ABSENT
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3. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

No one signed up to provide public testimony.

4. RECOGNITIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS – *MR. RUBEN VILLARREAL*

4.A. RECOGNITION OF WOMEN'S CITY CLUB'S DONOR LEGACY THROUGH FIVE ENDOWMENTS AND ONGOING COMMITMENT TO LAREDO COLLEGE

The Women's City Club was recognized for its generous support of Laredo College for more than twenty-five years through financial contributions that have benefited educational programs and student scholarships.

The Women's City Club Endowments include:

- Women's City Club Continuing Education Endowment
- Women's City Club Early Childhood Education Endowment
- Women's City Club Workforce Endowment
- Women's City Club General Studies Endowment
- Women's City Club Nursing Endowment

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

5.A. BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP - CERTIFICATE IN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM STUDY ABROAD REPORT – *DR. MARISSA GUERRERO*

Dr. Marissa Guerrero, Professor and Director of the Bachelor of Applied Science in Organizational Leadership Program, and Ms. Bianca Cubriel, Global Learning and Leadership Initiatives Coordinator, provided highlights from this year's study abroad program.

5.B. STUDENT SUCCESS REPORT – *DR. DAVID V. ARREAZOLA/MS. JESSICA TREVIÑO*

Ms. Jessica Treviño, Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management, presented enrollment updates for Summer Sessions I and II, the Fall semester, and Continuing Education, and provided an overview of the summer commencement ceremonies.

5.C. NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LATINO ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS (NALEO) ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT – *MR. ESTEBAN RANGEL*

Mr. Rangel provided a report on his attendance at the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Annual Conference.

5.D. REPORT ON THE ASPEN COLLABORATIVE/COUNSELING TASKFORCE – *DR. DAVID V. ARREAZOLA/MS. JESSICA TREVIÑO*

Dr. David V. Arreazola, Vice President of Student Success and Compliance, provided an update on the Enrollment and Advising Task Force. The update included a report on a best practices site visit to the Alamo Colleges District to identify strategies that could be adapted to improve enrollment, student persistence, completion, and the overall student experience at Laredo College.

5.E. NOTIFICATION OF EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION DURING CLOSURE DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER AS PER LAREDO COLLEGE POLICY DEA(LOCAL)-COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS: COMPENSATION PLAN – *DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ*

Dr. Minita Ramírez, President, informed the Board that, in accordance with LC Policy DEA(LOCAL), employees were compensated for the delayed two-hour start on May 27, 2026, due to inclement weather.

5.F. FOREIGN TRADE ZONE DESIGNATION REQUESTS – *DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ*

Dr. Ramírez notified the Board that letters of concurrence were issued in support of requests for minor boundary modifications (ASF/usage-driven) within Foreign Trade Zone No. 94 for the following entities:

1. DSV Air & Sea Inc., located at 1302 Uniroyal Dr, Laredo, Texas, 78045
2. Super Transport International, LTD, located at 13519 Mercury Dr., Laredo, Texas, 78045

5.G. U.S. TRADEMARK REGISTRATION AND PALOMINO TRADEMARK STATUS – *DR. DIANA Y. ORTIZ*

Dr. Diana Y. Ortiz, Vice President of Institutional Advancement, notified the Board that the LC seal, LC interlock, and LC logo are registered U.S. trademarks. She further reported that the Palomino trademark registration is currently in process.

5.H. PRESENTATION OF 2026-2027 STUDENT HANDBOOKS FOR DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS – *DR. MARISELA RODRIGUEZ TIJERINA*

Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, presented a summary of the revisions made to the Academic Affairs Division student handbooks.

5.I. S&P GLOBAL RATINGS UPGRADE OF LAREDO COLLEGE CREDIT RATING – *MR. CESAR VELA*

Mr. Cesar Vela, Vice President of Finance & Administration, announced that Laredo College's credit rating was upgraded from AA to AA+.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

6.A. APPROVAL OF ENDOWMENT MATCHING FUNDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DONOR REQUEST OF THE WOMEN'S CITY CLUB – *DR. DIANA ORTIZ*

No action was required, as this item was previously approved at the February 25, 2025, Board meeting.

6.B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY

Ms. Liendo motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Monthly Board meeting held on May 28, 2026, and the Board Budget Workshop

BOARD MEETING OF MAY 28, 2026 AND JUNE 25, 2026 BOARD BUDGET WORKSHOP AND RETREAT

and Retreat held on June 25, 2026. Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion passed.

6.C. JUNE 2026 FINANCIAL REPORT – *MR. CESAR VELA*

Ms. Liendo motioned to approve the financial report. Ms. Vela seconded the motion; motion passed.

6.D. MAY 2026 QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT – *MR. CESAR VELA*

Mr. Richard Long from Valley View Consulting presented the May 2026 Quarterly Investment Report. Ms. Liendo motioned to approve the report. Ms. Vela seconded the motion; motion passed.

6.E. ACT ON BOARD POLICY CAK(LOCAL)– APPROPRIATIONS AND REVENUE SOURCES: INVESTMENTS – *MR. CESAR VELA*

Mr. Vela presented modifications to Board Policy CAK(LOCAL) and corrected the following section titles.

Section 3.1 – Current Funds
Section 3.2 – Unexpended Plant Fund
Section 3.3. – Debt Service Funds
Section 3.6. – Agency Funds
Section 6.1. – Open Meeting
Section 6.2 – Effective Date

Ms. Vela motioned to approve the modifications. Mr. Martinez and Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion. Ms. Leven-Ramos read the resolution.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD REGARDING REVIEW OF THE INVESTMENT POLICY

WHEREAS, Section 2256.005(e) of the Public Funds Investment Act (Texas Government Code Chapter 2256) requires the Board of Trustees of Laredo College District to (a) review the District's investment policy and investment strategies [set forth in CAK (LOCAL)] not less than annually and (b) adopt this resolution reflecting the Board's review and recording any changes made to the investment policy or strategies;

WHEREAS, the District's investment policy for fiscal year 2026-2027 has been presented to the Board for its consideration and approval, as required by the Act; and

WHEREAS, the District's investment policy for fiscal year 2026-2027 includes the following changes:

Modification to section 3.1 – Current Funds
Modification to section 3.2 – Unexpended Plant Fund
Modification to section 3.3 – Debt Service Funds
Modification to section 3.6 - Agency Funds
Modification to section 6.1 – Open Meeting
Modification to section 6.2 – Effective Date

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Trustees of Laredo College District has reviewed the District's investment policy, and hereby adopts the policy for fiscal year 2026-2027 in compliance with the Public Funds Investment Act.

Adopted this 30th day of July 2026 by the Board of Trustees.

Motion passed.

Ms. Leven-Ramos motioned to bring back Agenda Item 5.A - *S&P Global Ratings Upgrade of Laredo College Credit Rating* for discussion. Ms. Liendo seconded the motion; motion passed.

5.A - S&P GLOBAL RATINGS UPGRADE OF LAREDO COLLEGE CREDIT RATING

Mr. Martinez provided comments regarding Laredo College's credit rating.

6.F. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT FOR THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM *– MR. CESAR VELA*

Ms. Liendo motioned to approve Agenda Item 6.F. - *Consideration and Approval of the Purchase of Computer Equipment for the Associate Degree Nursing Program*, Agenda Item 6.G. - *Consideration and Approval of the Rental of a Temporary Chiller for the South Campus*, and Agenda Item 6.H. - *Consideration and Approval of a Contract for the Fabrication and Installation of a Metal Perimeter Fence at the South Campus*. Ms. Elizondo seconded the motion; motion passed.

6.G. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE RENTAL OF A TEMPORARY CHILLER FOR THE SOUTH CAMPUS *– MR. CESAR VELA*

Action was taken with Agenda Item 6.F.

6.H. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT FOR THE FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION OF A METAL PERIMETER FENCE AT THE SOUTH CAMPUS *– MR. CESAR VELA/MR. WICHO TIJERINA*

Action was taken with Agenda Item 6.F.

6.I. APPROVAL TO ATTEND THE LAREDO CHAMBER FOUNDATION STRENGTHENING NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE TRAINING *– MS. JACKIE LEVEN-RAMOS*

Ms. Leven-Ramos presented the Laredo Chamber Foundation's upcoming training opportunity for consideration for Board members interested in attending. She motioned to approve the training. Ms. Alexander and Ms. Benavides Garcia seconded the motion; motion carried. Ms. Newsome was not present for the vote.

6.J. APPROVE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD POLICY BBH(LOCAL) BOARD MEMBERS: CONVENTIONS, CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS TO ADD THE ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNING BOARDS (AGB) NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRUSTEESHIP TO THE LIST OF CONFERENCES BOARD MEMBERS ARE AUTHORIZED TO ATTEND *– MS. JACKIE LEVEN-RAMOS*

Ms. Leven-Ramos motioned to approve the proposed amendment to LC Board Policy BBH(LOCAL) to add the Association of Governing Boards National Conference. Ms. Liendo seconded the motion; motion passed. Ms. Newsome was not present for the vote.

6.K. APPROVE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD POLICY BBD(LOCAL)BOARD MEMBERS: ORIENTATION AND TRAINING TO ADD THE ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNING BOARDS (AGB) BOARD MEMBER TRAINING MODULES AND LESSONS TO THE LIST OF AUTHORIZED ORIENTATION AND TRAINING CONTENT TOPICS *– MS. JACKIE LEVEN-RAMOS*

Ms. Leven-Ramos informed the Board of the training opportunities available through the Association of Governing Boards (AGB) as part of the Board's membership. Discussion followed.

Ms. Elizondo motioned to refer Agenda Item 6.K. - *Approve Proposed Amendment to Laredo College Board Policy BBD (LOCAL)-Board Members: Orientation and Training to Add the Association of Governing Boards (AGB) Board Member Training Modules and Lessons to the List of Authorized Orientation and Training Content Topics*; Agenda Item 6.L. - *Approve Proposed Amendment to the Laredo College Board Procedures Manual to Add the Amendments to Laredo College Board Policies BBH(LOCAL)-Board Members: Conventions, Conferences and Workshops, and BBD(LOCAL)-Board Members: Orientation and Training*;

and Agenda Item 6.N. - *TASB Board Policy Update 51: Review Updated Legal Policies and Act on Local Policies*, to the Program/Policy Committee for further review. Ms. Benavides Garcia seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

6.L. APPROVE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD PROCEDURES MANUAL TO ADD THE AMENDMENTS TO LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD POLICIES BBH(LOCAL) BOARD MEMBERS: CONVENTIONS, CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOP AND BBD(LOCAL)BOARD MEMBERS: ORIENTATION AND TRAINING – *MS. JACKIE LEVEN-RAMOS*

Ms. Leven-Ramos motioned to approve an amendment to this item, to be consistent with the action taken on Agenda Item 6.J. - *Approve Proposed Amendment to Laredo College Board Policy BBH(LOCAL) Board Members: Conventions, Conferences and Workshops* which added the Association of Governing Boards (AGB) National Conference on Trusteeship to the list of Conferences Board Members are authorized to attend. Ms. Elizondo seconded the motion; motion passed.

6.M. APPROVAL OF DESIGNATED NONBUSINESS DAYS FOR PURPOSES OF THE TEXAS PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT – *DR. DAVID V. ARREAZOLA*

Ms. Elizondo motioned to approve the item as presented. Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion passed.

6.N. TASB BOARD POLICY UPDATE 51: REVIEW UPDATED LEGAL POLICIES AND ACT ON LOCAL POLICIES (SEE LIST BELOW) – *DR. DAVID V. ARREAZOLA*

Action taken with Agenda Item 6.K.

6.O. ORDER CALLING FOR THE ELECTION FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES POSITIONS 7, 8, AND 9 AS PER BOARD POLICY BBB(LEGAL): BOARD MEMBERS-ELECTIONS, THE TEXAS ELECTION CODE, AND THE TEXAS EDUCATION CODE AND AUTHORIZING THE COLLEGE PRESIDENT TO ENTER IN TO A JOINT ELECTION SERVICES CONTRACT WITH THE WEBB COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR TO CONDUCT AND SUPERVISE THE JOINT ELECTIONS OF NOVEMBER 3, 2026 – *DR. VERONICA G. MARTINEZ*

Ms. Liendo motioned to approve the item. Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion. Dr. Veronica G. Martinez, Associate Vice President of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness and Elections Officer, presented information regarding the Board election for Positions 7, 8, and 9. Ms. Leven-Ramos read the resolution.

LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESOLUTION CALLING NOVEMBER 3, 2026 ELECTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

WHEREAS, the Laredo College Board of Trustees conducted its regular monthly Board meeting on July 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, during this regular meeting, the Laredo College Board of Trustees considered an item to order an election to elect three (3) members for the Board of Trustees, Positions 7, 8, and 9, pursuant to requirements of the relevant provisions of the Texas Election Code and Texas Education Code;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Laredo College Board of Trustees hereby ORDERS an election to be held on November 3, 2026, for the purpose of electing three (3) members of the Laredo College Board of Trustees for Positions 7, 8, and 9.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that applications for a place on the ballot shall be filed by August 17, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at the dates, locations and times set forth on Exhibit F to the Election Contract and Cost Estimate for the Laredo College Joint General/Special Election entered into by and between Laredo College and the

Elections Administrator for Webb County, Texas. A true and complete copy of Exhibit F is attached to this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that voting by personal appearance on November 3, 2026, will be conducted at the election day sites set forth on Exhibit G to the Election Contract and Cost Estimate for the Laredo College Joint General/Special Election entered into by and between Laredo College and the Elections Administrator for Webb County, Texas. A true and complete copy of Exhibit G is attached to this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to Jose Luis Castillo, Webb County Elections Administrator, P.O. Box 233, Laredo, Texas 78042.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on October 23, 2026.

ISSUED THIS 30th day of July, 2026.

Ms. Elizondo motioned to approve. Ms. Vela seconded the motion; motion passed.

6.P. APPROVE MODIFICATIONS TO LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD POLICY DMB(LOCAL)-TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT: TENURE – *DR. MARISELA RODRIGUEZ TIJERINA*

Ms. Elizondo motioned to refer Agenda Item 6.P - *Approve Modifications to Laredo College Board Policy DMB(LOCAL)-Termination of Employment: Tenure* and Agenda Item 6.Q. - *Approve Modifications to Laredo College Board Policy DCB(LOCAL)-Employment Practices: Tenure* to the Program/Policy Committee for further review. Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion passed.

6.Q. APPROVE MODIFICATIONS TO LAREDO COLLEGE BOARD POLICY DCB(LOCAL)-EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES: TENURE – *DR. MARISELA RODRIGUEZ TIJERINA*

Action taken with Agenda Item 6.P.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:02 p.m., Ms. Leven-Ramos motioned to convene into executive session to discuss following items:

- Agenda Item 7.A. – Consultation with the College District Attorney Concerning the Grievance Process in a Pending Personnel Matter, Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074
- Agenda Item 7.B. – Discussion Concerning the Board of Trustees' Executive Session Meeting Held on November 19, 2025, Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 and 551.074
- Agenda Item 7.C. – Consultation With Legal Counsel Regarding External Law Firm Report on Board Governance Matters and Issues Related Thereto, Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071

Ms. Liendo seconded the motion; motion passed.

Mr. Rangel noted for the record that Mr. Rusty Meurer, College Attorney, would be present during discussions for Agenda Items 7.A. and 7.B. He would not be present for 7.C. unless requested to address questions.

The Board reconvened in open session at 10:25 p.m. Mr. Rangel announced that no action was taken during executive session.

8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

8.A. GRIEVANCE PROCESS BEING USED IN

Ms. Leven-Ramos motioned to appoint Ms. Celina Vinson, Attorney, to investigate the grievance discussed in executive session and to

PENDING PERSONNEL MATTER	authorize the investigation to be conducted in accordance with the LC Board policy identified during executive session. Ms. Benavides Garcia seconded the motion; motion passed.
8.B. BOARD OF TRUSTEES' EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 19, 2025	No action was required.
8.C. ACTION REGARDING EXTERNAL LAW FIRM REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS ON BOARD GOVERNANCE MATTERS AND RELATED ISSUES	No action was taken.

9. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS AND REPORTS

9.A. CAMPUS POLICE, PERSONNEL, AND TRAVEL REPORTS – *DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ*	Reports were provided to the Board as part of the meeting materials.
9.B. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS ON RECENT HAPPENINGS IN THE COMMUNITY – *DR. MINITA RAMÍREZ*	Dr. Ramírez provided remarks on the following items: • Rededication of the Arechiga Hall • Flamenco workshops and tablao • Texas Association of Community College summer meeting and the selection of Dr. David V. Arreazola as the recipient of the 2026 Carl M. "Cheesie" Nelson Administrative Leadership Award
10. UPCOMING EVENTS:	Saturday, August 1, 2026, 7:00 p.m. – Flamenco Fest Tablao: Sobre Las Tablas at the Kazen Student Center Monday, August 17, 2026, 8:30 a.m. – Laredo College Employee Convocation at the Martinez Fine Arts Center Monday, August 17, 2026, 10:30 a.m. – Laredo College Employee Recognition Ceremony at the Martinez Fine Arts Center
11. NEXT MEETING DATES:	Thursday, August 6, 2026, 6:00 p.m. – Special Called Board Meeting Thursday, August 20, 2026, 6:00 p.m. – Regular Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting
12. ADJOURNMENT	At 10:31 p.m., Ms. Elizondo moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Leven-Ramos seconded the motion; motion passed.

Mr. Esteban Rangel President	Ms. Jackie Leven-Ramos Secretary