



TEJANO CENTER FOR COMMUNITY CONCERNS, INC.

Raul Yzaguirre Schools for Success

Tejano Center for Community Concerns, 2950 Broadway St., Houston, TX 77017
Phone: 713-640-3700 FAX: 713-644-6232 www.tejanocenter.org

“The mission of the Tejano Center for Community Concerns is to develop education, social, health, and community institutions that empower families to transform their lives.”

PUBLIC NOTICE

Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, August 29, 2023

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of Tejano Center for Community Concerns, Inc., (Tejano Center) will hold its regular meeting on Tuesday, August 29, 2023, 5:30 PM. This meeting is open to the public, and community input is welcomed during the time designated for public comment. It is the intent of the Tejano Center to have, and the meeting will have, a quorum and presiding officer. 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.

Meeting Call-In Information

This meeting will be conducted in person; however, a Zoom link to the meeting is made available for those unable to attend, please contact Jessica.Villarreal@tejanocenter.org one day prior to the meeting.

Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 5:30 PM – Board Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER** (2 minutes)

2. **PRAYER** (3 minutes)
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/TEXAS PLEDGE** (2 minutes)
4. **ROLL CALL** (3 minutes)
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT** (7-10 minutes) Any individual wishing to address the Board of Directors of Tejano Center for Community Concerns must sign in with Jessica Villarreal, 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 Jessica.villarreal@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**
 - 6.a. **RYSS Expansion Finance Options**
Tina Lin
 - 6.b. Sunrise Lofts Update
Stephan Fairfield
7. **ACTION ITEMS**
 - 7.a. **Approval of the Minutes of the July 25, 2023 Meeting of the Tejano Center for Community Concerns/Raul Yzaguirre Schools for Success Board of Directors.**

The Board met on July 25, 2023. Minutes were recorded and are now being presented to the Board for approval.

7.b. **Approval of the RYSS Fund 420 Operating Budget and the Child Nutrition Budget for FY 23-24 and Presentation of all TCCC Annual Budgets.**

Dr. Adriana Tamez, President CEO

The budget workshops have been held to review the projected budgets for both RYSS and Community Program Services. TEA requires that the Fund 420 and Fund 240 be approved by the Education Code. All other funds are approved when submitted and accepted by the Granting Agency - (i.e., HHS, ESSA grants, and others).

7.c. **Approval of the June 2023 Monthly Financial Statements**

Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Interim CFO

June 2023 Monthly Financial Statements are presented for review and approval.

7.d. **Approval of Contract with TPG Consulting LLC for Program Analysis, School Review, TEA Reports, Teacher Data Review and Other Curriculum and Instruction Matters for FY 23-24 in the Estimated Amount of \$50,000.**

Justin Fuentes, Chief of Schools and Operations

Contractor will provide the following services:

Work with schools for school improvement, TEA reports, data conferences with teachers, and other school related program oversight.

7.e. Approval of Contract with Carla Stevens for Project Management and Data Analysis Over Accountability Matters for FY 23-24 in the Estimated Amount of \$76,800.

Justin Fuentes, Chief of Schools and Operations

Services from contractor will include the following:

- Provide on-going guidance, support, expertise, and project management to the District on the Teacher Incentive Allotment.
- Analyze and interpret 2023 and 2024 STAAR/EOC data as results are released to the district. Provide data as needed to district leadership.
- Provide guidance and expertise in data and accountability interpretation to district leadership and professional development in this area to campuses and district leadership.
- As the school year progresses and project needs occur for the client that are within the expertise and skills of the service provider, TCCC/RYS staff will contact service provider to ascertain availability of service provider to undertake the project.

7.f. Approval of Contract with Cecilia Borg Vigil (Educational Consultant) to Pay for Technical Assistance for FY 23-24 in the Estimated Amount of \$110,000.

Justin Fuentes, Chief of Schools and Operations

Cecilia Vasquez has a background in K-12 education best practices and in bilingual and ESL education. Cecilia Borg Vigil specializes in providing technical assistance to schools in the areas of professional development, data analysis, and in-class coaching to enhance student academic achievement and is willing to provide services to the Client based on this background. Schools participating include P Stem, High School, Castillo and BRYSS.

7.g. Approval of the Contract with Nora Benny (Special Education Department) for an Estimated Amount of \$80,000 for Psychological Services for FY 23-24.

Justin Flores, Chief of Schools

Services from Nora Benny, a School Psychologist, will be used to identify students with disabilities through a full and individualized evaluation. Dr. Benny will also provide psychological services as determined by a student's IEP. Services from Dr. Benny will allow Raul Yzaguirre Schools for Success to identify and provide appropriate individualized services to students as mandated by state and federal law.

7.h. Approval of Special Education Contract with Esmeralda Lopez for Psychological Services for FY 23-24 in the Estimated Amount of \$50,000.

Justin Fuentes, Chief of Schools and Operations

Services from Esmeralda Lopez, School Psychologist, will be used to identify students with disabilities through a full and individualized evaluation. Services from Dr. Lopez will allow Raul Yzaguirre Schools for Success to identify and provide appropriate individualized services to students as mandated by state and federal law.

7.i. Ratification of Contract in the Amount of \$50,000 with Abilities Therapy and Consulting, LCC to Provide Special Education Services for FY 23-24.

Justin Fuentes, Chief of Schools and Operations

Abilities Therapy and Consulting currently employs speech-language pathologists, bilingual speech-language pathologists, speech-language pathology assistants, diagnosticians, dyslexia specialists, occupational therapists, licensed specialists in school psychology, orientation and mobility providers, teachers for students with auditory and visual impairments and ABA-certified providers. Abilities Therapy and Consulting, LLC is a Houston-based company providing special education services to school districts. Our company employs 67 team members servicing 56 schools in Houston and surrounding areas.

7.j. Ratification of Contract with Children at Risk in the Amount of \$86,248 to Provide Texas A+ Challenge by Creating Smarter and Stronger Education to Strengthen and Connect Communities.

Justin Fuentes, Chief of Schools and Operations

Texas A+ Challenge works with schools to strengthen instruction and leadership through consulting, on-campus coaching, leadership academies, professional development workshops, and more. Attached are the services contract for the services to be provided.

7.k. Resolution to Declare a Good Cause Exception for House Bill 3 Armed Security Officer Requirement

Dr. Adriana Tamez, Justin Fuentes, Dr. Angie Miranda

WHEREAS, Section 37.0814(c) of the Texas Education Code provides that if the board of trustees of a school district is unable to comply with this section, the board may claim a good cause exception if the district's noncompliance is due to the availability of funding or qualified personnel;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Raul Yzaguirre Schools for Success District hereby determines that the School District is unable to ensure that at least one armed security officer, as defined by law, is present during regular school hours at each district campus;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees determines that:

The District is unable to fully comply with the law due to lack of available funding and qualified personnel;

The District lacks funding and qualified personnel for a full-time armed security guard at the Castillo campus and will explore part-time options;

The District will continue to contract with local Constables at both the Broadway and Brownsville locations;

The District will also contract with an HB3 qualified security agency to provide an armed security guard at both the Pasadena and North East STEM campus.

It is hereby resolved that the Board of Trustees, having claimed a good cause exception, will develop and document an alternative standard with which the district is able to comply, in accordance with Sections 37.0814(d) and (e) of the Texas Education Code.

7.l. Approval of the FY 23-24 Uniformed Security Officer Contract in the Amount of \$78,800 with HI-TEC Security Service

As per client's request, HI-TEC security service will provide one armed officer whose duties will be to conduct foot patrols of the parking lot in an attempt to deter theft or vandalism. The security officer will also conduct foot patrols of the interior and exterior of the school to ensure the points of entrance are secure.

7.m. **Approval of Untapped Genius Contract for the PSTEM Academy for the Amount not to Exceed \$160,000 to Provide Teacher/Administrator Professional Development, Coaching, and Planning Services.**

Justin Fuentes, Chief of Schools and Operations

Untapped Genius offers essential services that have greatly benefited ELAR/SLA teachers in their instruction of English/Spanish Language Arts, Early Childhood, and Math. Their comprehensive support includes pedagogy, strategies, planning, and data disaggregation. By addressing the learning gaps exacerbated by the COVID pandemic, teachers have learned and implemented best practices, utilized data trackers to guide their instruction, and developed effective lesson plans that have cultivated authentic and engaging classroom learning experiences. Through the analysis of STAAR data, teacher observations, and student campus assessments, PSTEM Academy has achieved significant improvements in both student achievement and teacher capacity. To further enhance the professional development of PSTEM Academy teachers, Untapped Genius will continue to provide increased coaching support throughout the 2023-2024 school year (September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024).

Untapped Genius will also extend the scope of services to support the district as content experts and key stakeholders in the development and build out of the district's literacy and numeracy frameworks. The frameworks will ground all initiatives and decisions within the scope of these two core content areas.

7.n. APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO THE 2019-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

8. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

8.a. Revised 2019-2025 Strategic Plan.

Tejano Center for Community Concerns created its 5-year Strategic Plan in 2019 as COVID-19 was developing. The impacts of the pandemic delayed some intended timelines, but the organization has made strides, nonetheless. It continues to expand the impact it has on communities across the Greater Houston area and Brownsville. The leadership maintains a close pulse on the progress of strategies, and the Chief Strategy and External Affairs Officer works closely with internal and external partners to upkeep the Strategic Plan based on current trends and opportunities for the organization.

In Fiscal Year 2023-2024, the organization will establish and maintain a cadence for monthly check points and board updates, on the proposed revision of the 2019-2025 Strategic Plan.

8.b. **GRADCAFE BY PROJECT GRAD REPORT**

The following events and activities are the focus of our work at Project GRAD:

Relationship & Community Building GRADcafé continues to build brand presence in the community. GRADcafé will be participating in numerous Back to School outreach events next month in Baytown, the Houston area, and Channelview.

College & Career Services Virtual and In-Person the GRADcafé by Project GRAD Service Report - July 2023 which includes service numbers, event numbers, service topics, and target populations served is attached. Page one of the report covers July 2023.

GRADcafé Park Place kicked off Unidos US Latinos in Automotive program. In this four-week program, students and adult learners had the opportunity to learn about job readiness training, career coaching and customer service skill while preparing to enroll in the Toyota Technician Training and Education automotive program at San Jacinto College.

8.c. **HOME BUYER & HOMEOWNER SERVICES REPORT**

Housing department provides homebuyer education, one-on-one individual counseling to both, homeowners and homebuyers, and home repairs to eligible homeowners.

Homebuyer Education Workshops: Eight-Hour Homebuyer Education classes held

twice per month in English & Spanish.

Homebuyer Counseling: Individual Housing Counseling to assess mortgage readiness and/or obstacles/barriers in order to apply & qualify for a mortgage loan, identify program eligibility and close on a home.

Homeowner Counseling: Individual Housing Counseling for existing homeowners. Services can assist with applying for property tax discounts, understanding escrow analysis, and weatherization program, to name a few. This is also the entry point for homeowners requesting home repairs to their primary home.

8.d. LA TIENDITA PROGRAM REPORT

La Tiendita is a holistic food access program that incorporates case management, resource navigation, and nutrition and health education classes. The aim of La Tiendita is to empower individuals to improve their health and move towards more secure lives.

In order to keep the board informed about La Tiendita's initiatives, events, and activities, the La Tiendita July 2023 Report is attached.

The report covers the following topics:

- Families, individuals, and children served
- Pounds of food distributed to our community
- Referrals Completed (Internal Programs & External Organizations)
- Activities

8.e. RESOLVE PROGRAM REPORT

In order to keep the board informed about Tejano Center's Resolve Program, the attached Resolve Program Monthly Status Report is provided. The report reflects the status update of the Resolve program and updated data since the July 25, 2023, board meeting.

8.f. GRADCAFE BY PROJECT GRAD PROGRAM REPORT

8.g. LA TIENDITA PROGRAM REPORT

8.h. RESOLVE PROGRAM REPORT

8.i. CHILD PLACING AGENCY PROGRAM REPORT

8.j. HOUSING PROGRAM REPORT

8.k. NUEVA VIDA PROGRAM REPORT

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

10. 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 2022-2023 school year