



IDEA Public Schools
2115 W. Pike Blvd.
Weslaco, Texas 78596

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2026

Board Members Present: Ed Rivera, David Dunn, Lilya Matos, Connie Miner, Najuma Atkinson, Dr. Nanette Cocero, Ryan Green, Stacy Eng, Theresa Barrera-Shaw, Erich Holmsten

Erich Holmsten left the meeting at 6:00 PM CST.

Lilya Matos left the meeting at 7:25 PM CST.

Board Members Not Present: Collin Sewell and Gary Lindgren

Legal Counsel, Staff, and Consultants Present: Dr. Jeffrey Cottrill, Dolores Gonzalez, Jessica Hess, Bethany Solis, Layne Fisher, Ryan Bennett, Tony Kingman, Dr. Colleen Stearns, Mike Higgins, April Seidensticker, Alejandra Loya, Genevieve Cheng, Kaitlin McDermott, Abe Barela, Dr. David Lee, Erin Scire, Joe Hoffer, Macy Torres, Linda Parga, Myrna Rodriguez, Raquel Sanchez, Fidel Ozuna III, Elizabeth Valades

Audience Present: Christina Gonzalez, Daylanie Alanis, Jairuz Perez, Braelyn Mata, Alessandra Marroquin, Roger Gomez, Roxanne Rivera, Karmen Alaniz, Crystal Castellano, Lesly Moreno, Carlos Rodriguez-Alaffa, Emir Montelongo, Krystal Gonzalez, Jehely Barrera

The meeting was called to order by Presiding Officer Ed Rivera at 5:02 PM CST.

Welcome and Call to Order

Presiding Officer Ed Rivera welcomed the Board Members to the May 19, 2026, Board of Directors meeting and confirmed quorum was present for the meeting in addition to members of the management team. Presiding Officer Rivera conducted the meeting as duly posted. He further indicated some members joined via videoconference and a phone line was available for members of the public to join in the meeting if they wish to do so.

General Comment

April Seidensticker, Director of Board Services, stated that was a prior request from Christina Gonzalez, who then presented her public comments.

Agenda Item Comment

Presiding Officer Rivera stated that the public, employees, and staff have three (3) minutes each to comment on items that are on the agenda for this meeting if they wish to do so. No prior requests to comment on a specific agenda item were made.

Organizational Updates

Before the first agenda item, the Board received a presentation from the Youth in Philanthropy organization. Students from IDEA Rio Grande City College Prep and IDEA La Joya College Prep presented their philanthropic projects in the community. The Board thanked the students and presented them with certificates of recognition.

Dr. Jeffrey Cottrill, Superintendent and CEO, and Erin Scire, VP of Growth, shared a presentation on the 2035 Plan. This presentation included updates on strategic planning and feedback from the subcommittee. No action was taken on this item.

26-27 Annual Budget

Tony Kingman, Chief Financial Officer, presented on the 26-27 Annual Operating and Capital Expenditures Budget. This presentation included budget priorities for 26-27, a compliance and sustainability view, operating income target proposal, and an update on capital expenditure budget. The Board passed a motion to approve the 26-27 Annual Operating and Capital Expenditures Budget as presented.

Motion by: David Dunn
Second by: Ryan Green
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

The board passed a motion to approve the Consent Agenda in one board action.

Motion by: Connie Miner
Second by: Dr. Nanette Cocero
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

Considering the nature of the rest of the safety information, Presiding Officer Rivera called for a motion to move into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Govt. Code 551.074 Personnel Matters, Texas Govt. Code 551.071 Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding pending legal matters, and Texas Govt. Code 551.074 Superintendent Performance Review.

Executive Session

The Board passed a motion to move to Executive Session pursuant to Texas Govt. Code 551.074, Texas Govt. 551.071, and Texas Govt. Code 551.074.

Motion by: Dr. Nanette Cocero
Second by: Connie Miner
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 6:07 PM CST.

Open Session

The Board passed a motion to reconvene in Open Session.

Motion by: Dr. Nanette Cocero
Second by: Theresa Barrera-Shaw
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 8:32 PM CST. No action was taken during Executive Session.

Votes on Executive Session Items

The Board passed a motion to approve next steps related to 25-26 Superintendent Evaluation as discussed in Executive Session.

Motion by: David Dunn
Second by: Stacy Eng
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously

The Board passed a motion to approve the next steps related to adjustments of the 25-26 Organizational Goals as discussed in Executive Session.

Motion by: Naj Atkinson
Second by: Ryan Green
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously

The Board passed a motion to approve delegation to the CEO/Superintendent on matters related to contracting, procurement, personnel and other needs related to MISD termination and closure of IDEA Travis and winddown and supporting IDEA Henry launch impact as discussed in Executive Session.

Motion by: Dr. Nanette Cocero
Second by: Theresa Barrera-Shaw
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously

The Board passed a motion to approve a resolution for non-expansion amendments related to opening and operating of IDEA Greater Houston Academy 4 and IDEA Greater Houston College Preparatory 4 for the 26-27 school year as discussed in Executive Session.

Motion by: David Dunn
Second by: Stacy Eng
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board passed a motion to approve a resolution related to grade level non-expansion amendment for IDEA Hardy College Preparatory as discussed in Executive Session.

Motion by: Naj Atkinson
Second by: Stacy Eng
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn

The Board passed a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 PM CST.

I certify that the foregoing are the true and correct minutes of the special meeting of the Board Meeting of IDEA Public Schools held on May 19, 2026.

Signed by:

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Ed Rivera, Board Secretary

6/17/2026
Date