



Hidalgo County Head Start Program
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Date: September 29, 2026
To: Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court (Head Start Governing Body)
From: Irma Peña, Head Start Executive Director *Irma Peña*
CC: Ric Gonzalez, Head Start Program Attorney
Subject: 2026-2027 Policy Council Community Representative Appointments

In accordance with Head Start Performance Standards and the current Hidalgo County Head Start Program Policy Council Bylaws, the Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court is required to nominate five (5) Community Representatives, one by each member, to serve on the Hidalgo County Head Start Program Policy Council for a one-year term. The Performance Standards and the Head Start Act indicate that "No Policy Council member shall serve on the Policy Council for more than five (5) one-year terms." [45CFR (1301.3(d) (3)]

According to the Policy Council Bylaws current members may remain on the Policy Council until a new member is appointed. New officers for the 2026-2027 Policy Council will be sworn in at the Tuesday, October 13, 2026, Policy Council meeting.

The current members on the Policy Council serving as Community Representatives nominated by the Grantee Board (Commissioners' Court) are as follows:

Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court (HS Governing Body)	2025-2026 Community Representatives	Years of Services
Richard Cortez County Judge	Ana Gallardo	1.5
David Fuentes Pct. 1 Commissioner	Rosa Perez	5
Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu Pct. 2 Commissioner	Marienma Valencia-Martinez	3
Everardo "Ever" Villarreal Pct. 3 Commissioner	Rita Uresti	2
Ellie Torres Pct. 4 Commissioner	Rene Torres	2.5