

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Navarro Independent School District

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Navarro Independent School District was held Monday, July 21, 2025, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Navarro Junior High Cafeteria, 6450 N State Hwy 123, Seguin, Texas 78155.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on this meeting notice. Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

1. **Invocation:** Laurel Wilson

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Laurel Wilson

3. **Call to Order:** Board President, Melissa Sartain, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and established a quorum. Present, in addition to Melissa Sartain, were Dan Reinhard, Joel Frederick, and Becki Stephenson. Lacey Gosch joined the meeting at 6:08 PM and Clint Scheib arrived at 6:12 PM. Donna Gilliam was absent.

A. Announcement that this meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Section 551.043 of the Texas Government Code.

4. **Public Participation:**

Individuals wishing to participate in this portion of the meeting shall sign up before the meeting is called to order and shall indicate the topic about which they wish to speak.[Ref. Board Policy BED(LOCAL)]

A. Public Comments on Posted Agenda Items

Public comments regarding a specific agenda item or items listed on the posted notice for this meeting.

B. Public Comments on General Topics

Public comments regarding subjects not listed as an agenda item for this meeting

There was no Public Comment.

5. **High School Construction and Bond 2021 & 2024 Update:** AG/CM Project Manager, Ryan Zwicke – General, High School, Athletics and Jr., High Refresh - AGCM will have standing monthly meetings with the City addressing immediate construction concerns, and future growth needs. As issues are discussed, the Assistant City Manager, City Engineer and City Planner will include additional, specific departments as needed. The new high school continues progressing. Interior details, doors, display cases, lighting, flooring throughout classrooms, office spaces, kitchen are going in. The fine arts spaces are taking shape including wall paint, ceilings, casework. The athletics spaces are receiving seating, equipment, paint and electrical work. Testing of the HVAC is ongoing. The AG barn has new flatwork poured this past week. The work at Timmerman road in preparation for the road expansion is

underway. At Athletics we have received permits. Excavation continues at complex footprint currently Stadium, Visitor Amenity, Tennis areas are in progress. The Baseball/Softball fields are close to grade. Drainage work began, and box culvert installation is happening right now at the east side of the property. The Junior High refresh project plans have been approved by the board, and an RFP will be released this week. This work is scheduled to begin in January. Drives, Parking & Playgrounds (Intermediate & Elementary Campuses) - The Elementary Secure Entry Vestibule foundation was poured last week, with the structural steel to be erected this week. Full dry-in to be completed by 7/25. The Intermediate Drop-off canopy footings were also completed last week, and steel erection will also be going vertically soon. Of course, the priority work right now is the front parking lots and drives, which are currently scheduled to be completed by 8/8. The playgrounds equipment is scheduled to be installed by 8/25. Navarro South Elementary School - The 50% Construction Documents are scheduled to be issued on August 8th, and then the preconstruction report and estimate update is scheduled for September 8th. Finishes and color selections are being reviewed with the District as the design details increase. The Public Infrastructure phase of permitting is currently scheduled to be completed by the end of August, with Platting expected to be completed by the end of October. Existing High School Chiller Replacement - Currently working on procurement of all materials and equipment in preparation for construction to begin upon move-out of current high school (January 2026). The long lead-time new chillers and pumps ETA is currently scheduled for the end of December 2025.

6. Action Items:

A. Consider and Take Possible Action to Approve the 100% Construction Documents for the Junior High School Refresh, Remodel and Expansion and Authorize the Procurement of Construction Services - O'Connell Robertson architects presented 100% Construction Documents to the Board for approval and authorization of procurement of construction services. Following authorizations, the plan is to release for bid on 7/22/25. The Board approved Competitive Sealed Proposal (CSP) as the delivery method for the procurement of construction services.

Joel Frederick motioned that the Board approve the 100% construction documents for the Junior High School Refresh, Remodel and Expansion as presented by O'Connell Robertson Architects, and further authorize the Superintendent to commence the procurement of construction services for this Project. Dan Reinhard seconded the motion. Vote 6-0; motion carried.

B. SB 401: Homeschool Participation in UIL Activities - Under this new law, schools must provide opportunities for homeschool students to participate in UIL activities unless the school district board of trustees adopts a policy declining to grant non-enrolled students this opportunity. School districts must adopt such a policy by September 1, 2025 to opt out. Administration recommends the school district board of trustees adopts policy declining to grant non-enrolled students/ homeschool students the opportunity to participate in UIL activities.

Lacey Gosch motioned to approve the changes to policy FM (Local) and FD (Local) declining to grant non-enrolled students the opportunity to participate in University Interscholastic League activities. Joel Frederick seconded the motion. Vote 6-0; motion carried.

C. Policy Update FM(LOCAL) Student Activities and Extracurricular Absences - At Navarro ISD, students are afforded the opportunity to engage in a broad array of extracurricular activities. Participation in these programs often necessitates excused absences from school, particularly when students travel far beyond district boundaries for competitions or advance to post-district events. Pursuant to Policy FM (Local), the number of school-related excused absences is currently limited to 18 per semester or 26 per academic year. Over the past five years, the Board of Trustees has reviewed this policy to evaluate the number of excused absences students should be allowed when

absent for school related activities. Because we have students who are actively involved in multiple extracurricular activities, there are some who have exceeded the number of allowed absences as outlined in policy FM (Local).

Lacey Gosch motioned the proposed changes to policy FM (Local) to include the new language that the District shall not limit the number of absences for post-district, state, or other competition. Clint Scheib seconded the motion. Vote 6-0; motion carried.

D. HB 1481: Personal Communication Devices at School - This new law requires school districts to prohibit student use of personal communication devices at school during the school day. Administration recommends approving the policy as presented for FNCE (LOCAL) to comply with the law. Navarro ISD will establish processes for storage of such devices during the school day. Phones may be confiscated. A disciplinary consequence will be established for violation. Monetary consequences are no longer supported for violation and disciplinary consequences will be noted in the Code of Conduct.

Clint Scheib motioned that the Board approve the policy changes to FNCE (LOCAL), to address HB1481, as presented. Dan Reinhard seconded the motion. Vote 6-0; motion carried.

E. HB 6: Parental Involvement in Disciplinary Placement - In preparing the 2025-2026 Code of Conduct for Board approval, administration considered the changes to law and discipline code. Revisions to Chapter 37 of the Education code include Sec. 37.0014 that states the board of trustees of a school district may adopt a policy for parental involvement in school disciplinary placements. Administration does not recommend that the board of trustees adopt a policy for parental involvement in school disciplinary placements as the district currently involves parents through the intake meeting for students entering DAEP and reviews expectations with parents or guardians and the student for their time in DAEP. Student behavior and meeting expectations is already considered as part of the process of reviewing the placement and the opportunity for reduction of time of the placement. The proposed Code of Conduct for 2025-2026 does not include policy language for the parent to request a behavior agreement that specifies the responsibilities of the parent and student to be developed and that if they comply with the terms of the agreement, they could have a reduction in the period of the disciplinary placement imposed on the student because our current practices already allow for a reduction of disciplinary placement if the student complies with the terms of the DAEP placement. TEA will provide guidance sometime after October. After much discussion, the Board would like to revisit this item after TEA has provided guidance.

Lacey Gosch motioned to postpone the recommendation of administration to not adopt a policy for parental involvement in school disciplinary placement as outlined in SECTION 7. Subchapter A, Chapter 37, Education Code Sec. 37.0014, at this time. Becki Stephenson seconded the motion. Vote 6-0; motion carried.

F. Board Nominations of SHAC Committee Members - The School Health Advisory Council is an advisory group of individuals who represent different segments of the community. In Texas, a district school board must appoint at least five members to the SHAC (TEC Section 28.004). These individuals will represent the school board and make recommendations on school health programs. The law also requires that a parent member be selected to serve as the chair or co-chair of this council.

Melissa Sartain motioned to nominate Chris Castro, Janet Moreno, Christine McNeal, Carlette Drabek, and Jessica Warren as active member for the School Health Advisory Committee. Joel Frederick seconded the motion. Vote 6-0; motion carried.

G. Consider and Possible Approval of Stipend Recommendations for 2025/2026 School Year - The District contracted with the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) to perform a stipend review. These recommendations for stipends are based on this TASB review. The total stipend compensation increase recommended is \$50,000.

Clint Scheib motioned that the Board approve the stipend compensation plan as presented. Dan Reinhard seconded the motion. Vote 6-0; motion carried.

H. Endorsement of Region 20 Candidate for TASB Board of Directors - The endorsement process for TASB Director candidates is now underway. There are 16 open positions on the TASB Board. Region 20 candidates are Louie Luna from Harlandale ISD and Rich Sena from Boerne ISD. The endorsement form is due to TASB by Aug. 1 and requires board action to be submitted.

Lacey Gosch motioned that the Board approve the endorsement of Rich Sena to fill the Region 20 position on the TASB Board of Directors. Dan Reinhard seconded the motion. Vote 6-0; motion carried.

I. Review and Possible Approval of Student Code of Conduct for 2025/2026 School Year - Walsh Gallegos provided an updated Student Code of Conduct which includes the many new laws from the 89th Texas Legislative Session. District personnel review the updates and make changes as required. State law requires the School Board to adopt and publicize the Student Code of Conduct each year.

Joel Frederick motioned that the Board approve and adopt the updated 2025-2026 Navarro ISD Student Code of Conduct as presented and recommend that the updated Student Code of Conduct be publicized on the district's website. Clint Scheib seconded the motion. Vote 6-0; motion carried.

7. Discussion/Information:

A. SB 13: Local School Library Advisory Council - This new law, established in the 89th legislative session changes how library materials are acquired and challenged. TEA is charged with developing a model policy compliant with SB 13. TEA has indicated that the model policy will not be available before the start of the school year. TASB has provided appropriate language to consider in EFB(LOCAL) that our district would not establish a school library advisory council (SLAC) unless, by the statute, the parents of at least 10 percent of the students enrolled in the district or 50 or more parents of students enrolled in the district, whichever is fewer, present to the board a petition to establish a local school library advisory council. A council established under this subsection may not be abolished until the third anniversary of the date on which the council was established. TASB has also provided policy if the school board wished to establish a school library advisory council. The law becomes effective on Sept. 1, 2025. Compliant policy language is required for the 2025-26 school year. Action will be taken during the August Board Meeting.

B. Budget Update with Compensation – The Business Office has developed budget scenarios from two different sources that project revenue for the 2025-26 school year and beyond. One developed by MoakCasey (newly developed this year) and the other from Region 13 (used in all past years and by many districts in the state). Both show that the district will be able to sustain the approved salary schedules. Additionally, they project an increase to the fund balance for the 2025-26 school year.

All projections are based on growth in student population with varying levels of growth in special populations such as special education, bilingual, CTE, and compensatory education. Property values have also been projected to increase as housing developments continue to grow. At this time the projected property tax collections will be the most difficult aspect to project, as we will see continued losses in frozen tax collections due to the increased homestead and over 65 exemptions passed in the recent legislative session. Certified property values are expected by July 25th.

8. Reports:

- A. Superintendent's Report
 - 1. Calendar of Events
<https://www.navarroisd.us>
- B. District Financial Reports

There were no questions about Reports.

9. Consent Agenda:

- A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on June 16, 2025
- B. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting on June 30, 2025
- C. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting on June 24, 2025
- D. TASB Board Policy Update 125
- E. Resolutions Regarding Extracurricular Status of the Guadalupe County 4-H Organization and Designation of AgriLIFE Extension Agents as Adjunct Faculty Members
- F. MOU for Juvenile Board
- G. Child Nutrition Meal Prices for 2025/2026 School Year
- H. Budget Amendment
- I. New CTE Lab Computer Purchase
- J. Consider Annual Legal Services Retainer Agreement with Walsh, Gallegos, Kyle, Robinson & Roalson P.C. for the 2025-2026 School Year
- K. Consider the Renewal of an Interlocal Agreement with Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) for Property & Casualty Insurance
- L. Consider RFP #24-013 Transportation-Maintenance, Repair, and Services for 2025-2026 School year
- M. Self Insured Workers' Compensation Fund Renewal
- N. Consider Vendor List For Cumulative Purchases In Excess of \$50,000 - 2025-2026
- O. Approval for the Purchase of Welding Machines and Equipment for the New High School CTE Welding Program
- P. ESC Commitments for 2025-2026 School Year
- Q. Authorize an MOU with Seguin ISD to establish assistance with NISD district wide evacuation if ever needed
- R. Donations

Lacey Gosch motioned that the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Clint Scheib seconded the motion. Vote 6-0; motion carried.

10. Closed Session: The Board went into closed session at 7:54 PM.

A. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property

B. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to discuss the Employment and Resignations of Professional Personnel to include Teachers and other Professionals

Any related action will be taken in open session.

11. **Reconvene:** The Board reconvened in Open Session at 8:16 PM to consider possible action related to closed session discussion.

There was no action taken.

12. **Adjourn:** Melissa Sartain adjourned the meeting at 8:16 PM.

Melissa Sartain, President
NISD Board of Trustees

Donna Gilliam, Secretary
NISD Board of Trustees