

**Opportunity for
prayer and reading
of religious text**

Every campus shall provide students and employees with an opportunity to participate in a period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text on each school day, in accordance with administrative regulations.

A prayer or reading of the Bible or other religious text is prohibited from being provided in the physical presence of, within the hearing of, or in another manner which would constitute an injury in fact within the meaning of the United States or Texas Constitution on a person for whom a signed consent form has not been submitted or for whom consent has been revoked as referenced in TEC §§ 25.0823(b)(1) and 25.0823(c) and recited herein. The provision of a prayer or reading of the Bible or other religious text over a public address system is prohibited.

A period of prayer or reading of the Bible or other religious text may not be a substitute for instructional time. The period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text shall be provided:

1. Before normal school hours;
2. Only in classrooms or other areas in which a consent form (as referenced in TEC § 25.0823(b)(1) and recited herein), has been submitted for every employee and student, which may include an entire campus or the entire school district if a consent form has been submitted for each employee and student at the campus; or
3. By any other method recommended by the attorney general or legal counsel for the district.

This policy does not prohibit a student or employee of the district from participating in prayer or reading of the Bible or other religious text during a period of the school day that is not designated as a period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text.

Consent

Students and employees are prohibited from participating in the period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text under this policy unless the parent or guardian of the student or the employee, as applicable, submits to the district a signed consent form that includes:

1. An acknowledgement that the student or employee has a choice as to whether to participate in the period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text;
2. A statement that the person has no objection to the student's or employee's participation in or hearing of the prayers or readings offered during the period; and
3. An express waiver of the person's right to bring a claim under state or federal law arising out of the adoption of a policy under TEC § 25.0823, including a claim under the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or a related state or federal law, releasing the district and district employees from liability for those claims brought in state or federal court.

*Revocation of
Consent*

An employee or parent or guardian of a student may revoke the person's consent by notifying the campus principal in writing. An employee or student for whom consent has been revoked:

1. May not participate in the period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text until the employee or parent or guardian of the student submits to the district a new consent form (as referenced in TEC § 25.0823(b)(1) and recited herein); and
2. Remains bound by the waiver of right to bring a claim (as referenced in TEC § 25.0823(b)(1)(C) and recited under subsection 3 of Consent.