# NAVARRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Subject:** **Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO Cycle 5) - Grant Application Opportunities and Navarro ISD's Intent to Apply**

**Date:** **October 26, 2026**

**Administrator Responsible/Position:** **Wendy McMullen, Chief Academic Officer**

**A. Purpose of Agenda Item:**

☐ Information Only ☑ Action Needed ☐ Receive Input

**B. Authority for This Action:**

☐ Local Policy ☑ Law or Rule ☐ N/A

**C. Priority, Goal, or Need Addressed:**

☑ Strategic Plan ☑ District/Campus Improvement Plan ☑ Other

**Priorities**

☑ **Priority 1:** Recruiting, Hiring, Coaching, and Retaining High Quality Teachers and Staff to Support Student Outcomes.

☑ **Priority 2:** Maximizing Academic Performance.

☐ **Priority 3:** Maximizing Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Opportunities, Performance, and Engagement.

☐ **Priority 4:** Planning, Preparing, and Maintaining Facilities and Environments for Learning.

☑ **Priority 5:** Obtaining and Maintaining Top Rated District Recognition

**Board Goals for 2023-2028**

☑ **Goal 1*:** The percent of 3rd grade students that score meets grade level or above on STAAR Reading will increase from 49% to 60% by June 2024, 65% for 2024-2025, 70% for 2025-2026, 75% for 2026-2027, 80% for 2027-2028. **(HB3 Required Goal)**

☑ **Goal 2*:** Increased overall student performance in mathematics to 85% Meets Standard by 2028. The percent of 3rd grade students that score meets grade level or above on STAAR Math will increase from 53% to 65% by June 2024, 70% for 2024-2025, 75% for 2025-2026, 80% for 2026-2027, 85% for 2027-2028. **(HB3 Required Goal)**

☑ **Goal 3*:**The percentage of graduates that meet the criteria for CCMR will increase from 72% to 88% by August 2024 and increase to 95% by 2028. **(HB3 Required Goal)**

**D.**

**Summary:** Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO) is a single, consolidated application that combines grants, allotments, and in-kind supports, bundled around a few key strategies to accelerate academic gains. LASO Cycle 5 will offer 21 opportunities anchored in five learning acceleration strategies: Strategic Planning, Curriculum and Instruction, Strategic Talent Systems, More Time, and Innovative School Models.

In total, this cycle has 400 million in funds available across various initiatives and many of the LASO grants in this cycle are multi-year with continuation grant opportunities. The application is due on December 1, 2026, at 5:00pm.

**Background Information:**

This is the fifth cycle of the Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO) grant. NISD has received grant funds for LASO Cycle 1, 2, 3 and 4. These funds have allowed us to fully implement high-quality instructional materials for RLA and Mathematics. They have also provided us with funds to sustain a full-time instructional coach for RLA. The Cycle 5 grant opportunity will provide us with the following opportunities if we apply:

(1) Local Accountability System (LAS) Planning Grant - Funding to support the development and implementation of local accountability plans including resources for planning, data management, professional development, stakeholder engagement, and data collection tools.

(2) Leadership & Instructional Foundations for Texas (LIFT) - 3 year program to build instructional capacity around the state Bluebonnet curriculum including training and skill building, coaching cycles and supports from an approved service provider.

(3) School Improvement Curriculum & Instruction Grant (SI CISG) - supports campuses identified for School Improvement that are strengthening curriculum and instruction through implementation of non-Bluebonnet high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) in mathematics or RLA. The grant provides funding and implementation support to expand access to rigorous TEKS-aligned materials, strengthen instructional leadership, and accelerate student learning.

(4) Blended Learning Grant (BLG) - 3 year program - This award will provide us with software licenses for IXL and Amira. The funds can be used to off-set the district expenses (currently more than $40,000 and provide professional development training for instructional staff).

(5) Early Literacy Intervention Tool (ELIT) - ELIT is intended to help improve student literacy outcomes by providing eligible school systems with high-quality, TEKS-aligned early literacy intervention tools, implementation support, and data-driven progress monitoring to complement Tier 1 instruction.

(6) Math Supplemental Curriculum for School Improvement (MSC for SI) - MSC for SI is intended to help accelerate student learning and improve mathematics outcomes by providing eligible school systems with Title I school improvement campuses with high-quality TEKS-aligned online supplemental mathematics curriculum licenses, implementation support, and data-driven progress monitoring to complement Tier 1 instruction.

(7) Additional Days School Year Planning and Execution Program (ADSY PEP) - This is a three-year grant initiative that supports school systems in designing, implementing, and sustaining high-quality ADSY programs. Navarro ISD would select the ADSY Summer Model to support our current Summer School program.

(8) PREP Allotment: Traditional Preservice Program. This new allotment provides funding for semester-long paid student teaching experiences for candidates in traditional teacher preparation programs.

(9) PREP Allotment: Alternative Preservice Program. This new allotment provides funding for pre-internship clinical experiences for alternative teacher preparation candidates prior to becoming the teacher of record.

(10) Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership (R-PEP) - The Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership (R-PEP) program is designed to expand rural students' access to high-quality college and career pathways through structured, multidistrict partnerships. The program supports regional collaboration among eligible school systems, coordinating entities, and postsecondary or workforce partners to design, implement, and sustain aligned pathways that respond to regional needs and support successful student transitions beyond high school.

**E. Comments Received:**

☑ LT ☑ DEIC ☑ Other

All agenda items are reviewed by the Superintendent's Leadership Team.

**F.** **Administrative Recommendation:** To approve that the Superintendent or designee may apply for the LASO Cycle 5 grant and allotment program on behalf of Navarro ISD.

**G. Fiscal Impact and Cost:** **Amount:** N/A

☑ Budget ☑ Grant/Special Funds ☐ Other

☐ Bond

**H.** **Exhibits:** Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO Cycle 5) grant program overview information guide

"I move to approve/disapprove/postpone"

**I. Action:** I move to approve that the Superintendent or designee may apply for the Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO Cycle 5) grant and allotments on behalf of Navarro ISD.

Motion by:_____ Second by:_____

FOR: J. Frederick, D. Gilliam, L. Gosch, D. Reinhard, M. Sartain, C. Scheib, B. Stephenson
AGAINST: J. Frederick, D. Gilliam, L. Gosch, D. Reinhard, M. Sartain, C. Scheib, B. Stephenson
ABSTAIN: J. Frederick, D. Gilliam, L. Gosch, D. Reinhard, M. Sartain, C. Scheib, B. Stephenson

MOTION CARRIED/DENIED/POSTPONED