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, October 26, 2026, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Intermediate School Cafeteria, 588 Link Rd, Seguin, TX 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:** Clay Scarborough

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Clay Scarborough

3. **Call to Order**: 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, Clint Scheib, Joel Frederick, Dr. Lacey Gosch, Donna Gilliam, and Becki Stephenson.

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 participation

5. **Recognitions:**

A. Tennis Team – The Fall Tennis Team finished 3rd in district. Chris Baron, Sonia Chen, Ankia Du Preez, Elijah Hernandez, Kirra Kay, Barrett Kuhlman, Cooper Lang, Audrey Long, Genaro Mendoza, Brooklyn Zupo, Zander Barnes, Bayley Burgess, Elisabeth Conley, Lillian Schmidgall, Dalton Shuler, Millie Hart, William Monge, Carter Monkerud, Conner Person, Camila Solis, Sullivan St. John, and Mckenli Whitlow were recognized.

6. **Construction and Bond 2021, 2024 & 2026 Update:** AG/CM Project Manager, Melisa Nu'u – Elementary/Intermediate Refresh – work continues on the Annex gym/multipurpose room and catering

kitchen. Painting is complete, and repairs are underway on areas of flooring. HVAC issues are being identified with completion and turnover is anticipated in November. Remaining corridor and open-space improvements at the Elementary and Intermediate campuses are planned for summer 2027. Navarro South Elementary – the project remains on target for Summer 2027 completion. Current work includes exterior windows and wall enclosure, interior framing, in-wall and above-ceiling MEP, roofing, and formation of the south-side bus loop. Public infrastructure documents have been submitted to the City of Seguin for final punch-list comments. Coordination is also ongoing with the city and TxDOT regarding East Marindale Road and the upcoming Highway 123 improvements. 2026 Bond/Junior High Expansion – O'Connell Robertson Architects presented the schematic design of the Junior High Expansion project as recommended by the 2026 Bond Oversight Committee. The design includes an addition of 15 classrooms, a cafetorium and kitchen, 2 performing/fine arts classrooms, and 1 flexible shop. The project will also include the renovation of 13 classrooms for general and special education, and specialty and flexible settings. The total classroom spaces will increase from 38 to 58, allowing student capacity to grow from 950 to 1450 students, which is projected by 2026. The team will begin contract negotiations with the CMAR and validate the preliminary phasing and schedule against constructability and design timelines.

7. **Action Items:**

A. Consider and Possible Approval of 2026/2027 Superintendent/Board Goals - The Superintendent and Board of Trustees held a special meeting on March 31, 2025 to revise the Superintendent Evaluation instrument. The Board expressed an interest in updating the instrument to reflect specific goals and timelines for obtaining goals related to the Board priorities established in the Collaborative Vision as well as the House Bill 3 goals. The Board was presented with a draft of the goals at the September 2026 regular meeting and feedback was applied to the proposed goals and provided for review and possible approval.

Joel Frederick motioned to approve the 2026/2027 Superintendent/Board Goals with suggested changes added from the September meeting. Dan Reinhard seconded the motion. Vote 7-0; motion carried. Voting FOR: Melissa Sartain, Dan Reinhard, Clint Scheib, Joel Frederick, Becki Stephenson, Dr. Lacey Gosch, and Donna Gilliam.

B. Consider and Possible Approval of Policy Update to EIC (LOCAL) Third Reading - Shannon Mesini, Executive Director of Student Support Services and Special Education presented the reading. Policy EIC (LOCAL) provides that courses that have been modified as to the required content of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) by the student's admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee shall receive a lesser weight than courses that have not been modified. The Office of Civil Rights (OCR) has determined that weighted grade systems that place special education courses alone on the bottom tier of a grading committee scale discriminate based on disability, in violation of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. The district is anticipating the TEA guidance for new Texas universal course weight/GPA calculation that would correct the area of concern. We anticipated the release of this new calculation and mandatory implementation by Texas School districts for this school year but since it has not been released yet, the administration recommends addressing this identified concern through a change to local board policy. If approved, this would become effective for the 2026/2027 7th grade cohort.

Clint Scheib motioned that the Board approve the EIC local change that would remove "Modified" from the weighted grade system. Dan Reinhard seconded the motion. Vote 7-0; motion carried. Voting FOR: Melissa Sartain, Dan Reinhard, Clint Scheib, Joel Frederick, Becki Stephenson, Dr. Lacey Gosch, and Donna Gilliam.

C. Consider and Possible Approval of LASO 5 Grant Application – Wendy McMullen, Chief Academic Officer, and Dr. David Kauffman, Assistant Superintendent of HR & School Leadership, lead the presentation. 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

Dan Reinhard motioned that the Board approve that the Superintendent or designee may apply for the Learning Acceleration Support Opportunities (LASO 5) grant and allotments on behalf of Navarro ISD. Dr. Lacey Gosch seconded the motion. Vote 7-0; motion carried. Voting FOR: Melissa Sartain, Dan Reinhard, Clint Scheib, Joel Frederick, Becki Stephenson, Dr. Lacey Gosch, and Donna Gilliam.

8. **Reports:**

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Epley shared highlights from the Thompson Executive Leadership Institute's field experience trip to Puerto Rico last week. This Superintendent Academy is a nationally known advanced leadership development program for exemplary superintendents in Texas and surrounding states. Superintendents accepted into the program receive a comprehensive scholarship that covers all education-related costs, providing this opportunity at no expense to their school districts. The objective for the Puerto Rico trip is to examine how economically challenged schools have responded to the devastating damage suffered from two natural disasters and still managed to educate their children. This trip also provides a unique opportunity to compare the education system in the United States to the organization and funding system in Puerto Rico.

1. *Enrollment* – As of October 22, 2026 enrollment is: Elementary 890 (16 over peak projection); Intermediate 810 (26 under peak projection); Jr. High 771 (1 over peak projection; High School 874 (25 over peak projection). Total enrollment is 3345.

B. District Financial Reports – There were no questions about the district financial reports.

C. Board Member Annual Training Hours - BBD(LOCAL) Policy requires that the Board President shall announce the status of each Board member's continuing education credit. The announcement shall be made annually at the last regular Board meeting before the District's uniform election date, whether an election is held. The announcement shall be reflected in the meeting minutes and, when necessary, posted on the District's website in accordion with the law. President Melissa Sartain announced the Board Member's annual training hours. Mandy Epley - 28 hours; Melissa Sartain - 18 hours; Donna Gilliam - 22 hours; Lacey Gosch - 17 hours (missing parental rights); Clint Scheib - 21 hours (missing parental rights); Dan Reinhard - 16 hours; Joel Frederick - 12 hours (missing cybersecurity/AI); and Becki Stephenson - 21 hours.

9. **Consent Agenda:**

A. Review and Possible Approval of the Minutes from the September 21, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

B. Review and Possible Approval of Budget Amendment

C. Consider and Take Possible Action to Approve the Ranking of Construction Managers at Risk (CMARs) for the 2026 Bond Junior High Expansion Project, including the Possible Delegation of Authority to Superintendent/Designee to Negotiate and Execute a Contract

D. Consideration and Possible Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Execution and Conveyance of a 0.009-acre Permanent Utility Easement to the City of Seguin, Texas

E. Consider and Possible Adoption of Elementary, Intermediate, Jr. High, and High School Library Materials Purchase

F. Consider and Possible Approval of Bus Auction of Navarro ISD Fleet

G. Approval of continued use of Central Texas Purchasing Alliance (CTPA) contract with Comal ISD for Supplemental Education Instructional & Related Services under solicitation 25-01 with Trinity Educational Services.

H. Consider and Possible Approval of Purchase of Four General Education School Buses

I. Review and Possible Approval of Bilingual Program Exception and ESL Program TEA Waivers

J. Consider and Possible Approval of Furniture Fixtures & Equipment Purchase for Navarro South Elementary

K. Consider and take possible action to approve the Schematic Design for the Junior High School Expansion Project

L. Review and Possible Approval of Cooperative Program Management Fees Report

Dr. Lacey Gosch motioned that the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Donna Gilliam seconded the motion. Vote 7-0; motion carried. Voting FOR: Melissa Sartain, Dan Reinhard, Clint Scheib, Joel Frederick, Becki Stephenson, Dr. Lacey Gosch, and Donna Gilliam.

10. **Closed Session:** The Board went into closed session at 7:35 PM.

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

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

Any related action will be taken in open session.

11. **Reconvene:** The Board reconvene in Open Session at 8:33 PM to consider possible action related to closed session discussion.

Clint Schieb motioned that the Board approve the roadway easement as discussed in closed session. Dan Reinhard seconded the motion. Vote 6-1; motion carried. Voting FOR: Melissa Sartain, Dan Reinhard, Clint Scheib, Becki Stephenson, Dr. Lacey Gosch, and Donna Gilliam. Voting AGAINST: Joel Frederick.

12. **Adjourn:** The Board adjourned at 8:34 PM

Melissa Sartain, President
NISD Board of Trustees

Donna Gilliam, Secretary
NISD Board of Trustees