## RESOLUTION

## NORTH EAST INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

August 7, 2025

WHEREAS, the North East Independent School District Board of Trustees has always been and will remain committed to the safety of students, staff, and its community at all campuses and facilities within its jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, the Board recognized the passage of House Bill 3 by the Texas Legislature during the 88<sup>th</sup> regular session addressing school safety, which included the addition of Section 37.0814 to the Texas Education Code;

WHEREAS, the Board acknowledged that Section 37.0814(a) of the Texas Education Code requires the Board to ensure that at least one armed security officer is present during regular school hours at each District campus, and that Section 37.0814(b) of the Texas Education Code defines a security officer as either (1) a school district peace officer, (2) a school resource officer, or (3) a commissioned peace officer employed as security personnel;

WHEREAS, the Board further acknowledged that Section 37.0814(c) of the Texas Education Code provided, and continues to provide, that the Board may claim a good cause exception to its requirements related to security officers as set forth in Section 37.0814(a) & (b) if the District is unable to comply due to the availability of personnel who qualify as a security officer as defined in Subsections (a) and (b);

WHEREAS, the Board adopted a resolution to claim the good faith exception on August 7, 2023, because the District did not have sufficient qualified licensed peace officers in its internal Police Department to comply with the requirements of Section 37.0814, and that despite ongoing efforts over the prior school year to recruit and hire qualified licensed peace officers for the District Police Department, such efforts had not resulted in the filling of all vacancies due to insufficient applicants;

WHEREAS, in its August 7, 2023 resolution, the Board further recognized that Section 37.0814(d) granted the Board authority to develop an alternative standard with which the District is able to comply to ensure overall compliance with the requirement to have an armed security officer at each campus,

WHEREAS, the Board worked with the District's administration to create and implement an alternative standard in the form of its trained safety specialist program which

complies with the purpose of Section 37.0814 of the Texas Education Code, and which has proven to be successful in its implementation and operation;

WHEREAS, the Board acknowledges recognized the passage of House Bill 121 by the Texas Legislature during the 89<sup>th</sup> regular session, which included the addition of Section 37.0814(d-1) to the Texas Education Code requiring that a board who previously claimed the good cause exception must now re-evaluate on an annual basis whether to renew it as well as the alternative standard implemented to comply with the overall requirement of Section 37.0814; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board, in light of the successful implementation and operation of its safety specialist program, and for the reasons cited above, renews the claim of the good cause exception and the alternative standard for compliance with the requirements of Section 37.0814 of the Education Code.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees hereby renews the good cause exception and the alternative standard for compliance in the form of its safety specialist program as permitted in Section 37.0814 for the reasons explained above, which accomplishes the purpose of ensuring at least one armed security officer is present at each campus.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NORTH EAST INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, this 7th day of August, 2025.

## **CERTIFICATE FOR RESOLUTION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was presented to the Board of Trustees of the North East Independent School District during a properly noticed and scheduled meeting held on August 7, 2025. A quorum of the Board of Trustees being then present, it was duly moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted, and such resolution was then adopted according to the following vote:

Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
Abstentions: 0

To certify which, witness my hand and the official seal of the District this  $7^{th}$  day of August, 2025.

## President, Board of Trustees

NORTH EA	ST INDEPI	ENDENT	SCHOOL

DISTRICT

By:

David Beyer, President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

By:

Lisa Thompson, Secretary, Board of Trustees