

NAVARRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Subject: SB 11-Second Reading

Date: February 23, 2026

Administrator Responsible/Position: David Kauffman, Ed.D., Asst. Superintendent of Human Resources and School Leadership

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: Senate Bill 11 requires each Texas School Board to take a record vote on whether to adopt a statutory resolution designating time each school day for students and employees to pray and read the Bible or other religious texts by March 1, 2026. This is a voting item this month, following a first reading at the Board's January 2026 meeting.

Background Information:

SB 11 from the 89th Legislative Session adds Texas Education Code section 25.0823, which allows school boards to designate time each school day at every campus for students and employees to pray and read the Bible or other religious texts. The bill requires that within six months of the effective date (by March 1, 2026), each district's board must take a record vote either to establish the daily prayer time and reading of religious texts by adopting the resolution set out in the new statute or to decline to establish the daily prayer time.

A board wishing to establish a daily period for prayer and reading of religious texts must do so by adopting the statutory resolution. TASB provided a model resolution on January 7, 2026, which states:

The Navarro ISD shall adopt a policy requiring every campus of Navarro ISD to provide a period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text as provided by Education Code 25.0823.

Adopted this 23rd day of February, 2026, by the Board.

If the Board adopts the resolution, policy DGA(LOCAL) will need to be updated and a new policy FNA(LOCAL) will need to be adopted to implement the daily period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text.

E. Comments Received:

LT DEIC Other

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

F. Administrative Recommendation: That the Board vote to not adopt a resolution to establish a daily period for prayer and reading of religious texts at every school. The Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution affords students and school district employees with rights, although not unfettered, to freely exercise their religious beliefs, which may include prayer and reading of religious texts in schools. Furthermore, the policies envisioned in SB11 would create an additional administrative burden for schools.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost:

Amount:

Budget Grant/Special Other
 Bond Funds

H. Exhibits:

- Model resolution from TASB regarding SB11

I. Action:

I move that the Navarro ISD **not** adopt a statutory resolution as set out in Senate Bill 11 and therefore that Navarro ISD **not** adopt a policy requiring every campus to provide a period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text as provided by Education Code 205.0823.

OR

I move that the Navarro ISD adopt the statutory resolution as set out in Senate Bill 11, stating that “The Navarro ISD shall adopt a policy requiring every campus of Navarro ISD to provide a period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text as provided by Education Code 205.0823.”

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

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

MOTION CARRIED / DENIED / POSTPONED