

Resolution of the Board of Trustees

Snyder Independent School District

Regarding a Daily Period of Prayer and Reading of Religious Texts

Pursuant to Texas Education Code § 25.0823

Adopting

Whereas the 89th Texas Legislature enacted Senate Bill 11 (SB 11), codified as Section 25.0823 of the Texas Education Code, which authorizes a school district to adopt a policy requiring the provision of a daily period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious texts; and

Whereas Section 25.0823 does not require a school district to adopt such a policy, but does require each board of trustees to take a record vote on whether to adopt the statutory resolution described therein; and

Whereas the Board of Trustees of Snyder Independent School District desires to act in full compliance with state law while protecting student choice, avoiding coercion, and safeguarding the instructional mission of the District;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Trustees of Snyder Independent School District as follows:

1. Establishment of Daily Prayer Period

The Snyder Independent School District shall adopt a policy requiring every campus of Snyder Independent School District to provide a period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text as provided by Section 25.0823, Education Code.

2. Procedural Requirements:

The policy developed shall comply with and be subject to all conditions set forth in this resolution and Texas Education Code § 25.0823.

3. Voluntary Participation and Written Consent

Participation in the Daily Prayer Period shall be strictly voluntary.

No student or employee of the District may participate unless:

- a. In the case of an employee, the employee has provided written consent acknowledging that participation is voluntary, that the employee has no objection to participation, and that the employee waives any claim under state or federal law arising from the adoption of this policy; or
- b. In the case of a student, the student's parent or guardian has provided written consent acknowledging that participation is voluntary, that the student has no objection to participation, and that the parent or guardian waives any claim under state or federal law arising from the adoption of this policy.

Written consent may be revoked at any time by providing written notice to the appropriate campus administrator. Upon revocation, the employee or student shall no longer participate unless and until new written consent is submitted. Any waiver included in the original consent form shall remain binding.

4. Protection of Nonparticipants

The District shall ensure that only participants with written consent hear or observe the prayer or reading.

The Daily Prayer Period may not be conducted:

- Over a public address system
- In the physical presence of nonparticipants
- Within the hearing range of nonparticipants
- In any manner that could reasonably be perceived as coercive or harmful to a nonparticipant

No student or employee shall be penalized, rewarded, or otherwise treated differently based on participation or nonparticipation.

5. Scheduling Outside Instructional Time

The Daily Prayer Period shall not occur during instructional time and may not substitute for instructional time.

The District may schedule the Daily Prayer Period before the start of the regular school day or during another non-instructional period, consistent with law.

6. Location and Supervision

The Daily Prayer Period shall take place only in locations designated by the District where participation is limited exclusively to participants with written consent.

The District may limit locations to classrooms or other designated areas for which written consent has been obtained from every student and employee present. The District is not required to provide multiple locations on a campus.

7. Neutrality and Non-Endorsement

The District, its employees, and its agents shall not require, encourage, discourage, or direct the content of any prayer or reading.

Participation shall not be used to advance, favor, or disfavor any particular religion or religious belief. The District does not endorse any religious content expressed during the Daily Prayer Period.

8. Administrative Oversight

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement administrative procedures necessary to carry out this resolution, including consent forms, supervision protocols, scheduling procedures, and compliance safeguards consistent with state and federal law.

9. Severability

If any provision of this resolution, or the underlying statute, is held invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the resolution shall be read as a whole and implemented, to the extent possible, in a manner to effectuate the purpose of the resolution.

10. Effective Date

This resolution shall take effect on the date adopted by the Board of Trustees.

PASSED and ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2026, by the Board of Trustees of Snyder Independent School District.