

Graham Independent School District Board Agenda Item Synopsis

Subject: Consider Senate Bill 11 Resolution

Background Information:

Senate Bill 11, passed by the 89th Texas Legislature, requires each school board to take a recorded vote by March 1, 2026, on whether to adopt a policy requiring each campus to provide students and employees with an opportunity to participate in a period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text on each school day.

Administrative Consideration:

We note that our Graham ISD Board of Trustees respect, recognize and affirm the fundamental right to freedom of religion and belief as protected by law, and values the individual faiths, beliefs, and traditions represented amongst its student and employees; and Graham ISD supports each individual's right to engage in personal religious observance or reflection during one's personal time, consistent with applicable law and Graham ISD Board Policies. Graham ISD Board of Trustees shall consider a resolution to affirm or reject adopting a policy requiring each campus to provide students and employees with an opportunity to participate in a period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text on each school day.

Senate Bill 11 is written in such a way that the vote must be taken to adopt a policy requiring each campus to provide students and employees with an opportunity to participate in a period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text, outside of instructional time, on each school day. If the Board of Trustees do not wish to adopt such a period of time, then they would have to vote to reject the period of prayer.

Alignment to District Goals:

- 1. **Academics:** All students will be prepared for success at the next level.
- 2. **Our People:** Recruit and retain highly qualified employees at all levels.
- 3. **Finance and Facilities:**
 - Optimize revenues and impact student achievement by increasing attendance rates at all campuses.
 - Commit to excellence in facilities that promote innovative, health, and welcoming learning environments.
- 4. **Culture:** All stakeholders will take ownership in creating a welcoming, compassionate, unified school community striving for aspirational achievements.
- 5. **Safety:** Provide a safe, healthy and secure environment for all stakeholders.
- 6. **Communications:** Support student success through clear, consistent, and inclusive communication and marketing that builds trust, reflects our diverse community, and empowers all stakeholders.

Budgetary Impact:

None.

Recommendation:

Recommend the Board of Trustees vote to reject by the Senate Bill 11 resolution, while noting the support of each individual's right to engage in personal religious observance or reflection during one's personal time.

Meeting Date: February 11, 2026