

NAVARRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Subject: **Close Up Program - Washington, DC - Discussion Item**

Date: January 21, 2026

Administrator Responsible/Position: Wendy McMullen, Chief Academic Officer

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: **The Close Up Washington High School Program is a one-of-a-kind trip for students to experience their government in action. During this six-day/five-night program, students make personal connections with the people, institutions, and iconic sites that embody our nation's past and present. This program is funded through our Title III Shared Service Agreement and is open to eligible emergent bilingual students at the high school who apply.**

**Background
Information:**

Eligible Emergent Bilingual students have participated in the Close Up program in Austin for the past five years. This three-day summer program is specifically designed to serve Texas migrant and Emergent Bilingual students and focuses on civic engagement, leadership, and postsecondary awareness.

The Close Up program has two local opportunities:

- [Texas Academy \(High School\)](#): Students explore Texas government, public policy, and community issues through workshops, Capitol visits, and a university tour.
- [Austin Academy \(Middle School\)](#): Students build civic skills, investigate real community challenges, and learn about pathways to higher education.

These programs are engaging, aligned to curriculum standards, and intentionally designed to provide meaningful learning experiences that support student academics and future goals. In alternating years, eligible students may also have the opportunity to participate in the Washington, D.C. Close Up program, which serves as an extension of the Texas-based experience.

E. Comments Received:

☒ LT

☐ DEIC

☒ Other

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

F.

**Administrative
Recommendation:**

To review the Close Up program and the opportunity for our eligible Navarro ISD students to participate, and take action to approve this out of state trip if no further review or information is needed.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost:

☐ Budget

☐ Bond

Amount: N/A

☐ Grant/Special
Funds

☒ Other

H.

Exhibits: Sample Close Up Program Schedule, Close Up Program general information sheet

**I. Action: “ I move to approve/disapprove/postpone the participation of eligible Navarro
ISD students in the Close Up program which will be held in Washington, DC in June of
2026.**

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

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

MOTION CARRIED/DENIED/POSTPONED