

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Navarro Independent School District

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Navarro Independent School District was held Monday, January 27, 2025, beginning at 6:30 PM in the Intermediate School Cafeteria, 588 Link Rd, Seguin, TX 78155.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on this meeting notice. Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

1. **Invocation:** Ramon Parker

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Ramon Parker

3. **Call to Order:** Board President, Melissa Sartain, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and established a quorum. Present, in addition to Melissa Sartain, were Clint Scheib, Dan Reinhard, Donna Gilliam, Lacey Gosch, Becki Stephenson, and Joel Frederick.

Announcement that this meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Section 551.043 of the Texas Government Code.

4. **Recognitions:**

A. School Board Recognition Month- January is TASB Board Appreciation Month and the Navarro ISD Board of Trustees were recognized for their dedication to the district and the community. Board members include Melissa Sartain, Clint Scheib, Donna Gilliam, Dan Reinhard, Lacey Gosch, Becki Stephenson, and Joel Frederick.

B. Cheer – The Navarro Cheer Squad advanced to the UIL Spirit State Championship in Dallas, TX. Members Madison Gilliam, Jade Dahlke, Allyson Antista, Kiley Kernan, Presley Larson, Ainsley Pircher, Khloe Rodriguez, Maddie St. John, Mallory Velasquez, Tamara Villareal, Landri Wilson, Dakota Garrison, Kyndle Graham, Katilynn Hernandez, Leah Reyes, and Bailey Weatherly were recognized.

C. ATSSB Band Qualifiers – Ten Navarro ISD high school band students competed in the Association of Texas Small School Bands (ATSSB) Region 12 band auditions. The following students qualified for region: Aiden Ditch, Evie Scott, Santiago Rodriguez, Sofia Castillo, Alex Soto, Lucas Cantrell, Gabi Sassenhagen, Trinidad Aguirre, Sloan Wacaster, and Landon Cole. Additionally, two further students qualified for the advanced level Area Band: Senior and Drum Major Gabi Sassenhagen performed with the Area band on January 4 and Junior Trumpet Santiago Rodriguez will perform at Davenport HS with the Area Jazz band in February.

5. **Public Participation:**

Individuals wishing to participate in this portion of the meeting shall sign up before the meeting is

called to order and shall indicate the topic about which they wish to speak.[Ref. Board Policy BED(LOCAL)]

A. Public Comments on General Topics

Public comments regarding subjects not listed as an agenda item for this meeting

B. Public Comments on Posted Agenda Items

Public comments regarding a specific agenda item or items listed on the posted notice for this meeting.

There was no public participation.

6. High School Construction and Bond 2021 & 2024 Update: AG/CM Assistant Project Manager, Melisa Nu'u presented the following update.

High School Construction Update -this week's weather has been a challenge for the site, but not for the interior. The classroom wing continues with wall finishes, electrical and mechanical fixtures, ceiling grid and after some inspections this week, and possibly ceiling tile. The classroom building is dried in and under a temporary dehumidification system allowing work to keep going. The rest of the building is in various stages, most wall framing is complete, drywall hanging and finishing, mechanical, electrical and plumbing work. The Fine Arts and CTE areas are mainly CMU, and block filling is underway, along with MEP work. All the mechanical equipment has been set, and we are anticipating start up by the next board meeting. The AG Barn interior insulation, roofing is complete, and masonry work for wash stalls is in progress. Site work will continue once again, when the weather is more favorable. The priority will be at the Link Road rear drive to allow construction traffic access, then move to the main entrance.

Updates for Bond 2024 - Athletics Complex continues design and development, GMP 1 was passed tonight which will allow for the procurement of the complex seating and press boxes as those items have a long lead time. Navarro South elementary continues design and development of the school facilities, and coordination meetings with the City for water and drainage. Chiller replacement at the high school has a rough design, and the design team continues to assess the additional components and connections. Drives, Parking and Playgrounds projects are currently out to bid. We had a great turn out of contractors for the preproposal meeting last week. Bids are due February 6. Junior High remodel and refresh project is in scope development. We are meeting with the architects this week to discuss priorities for core spaces. Existing Elementary and Intermediate refresh continues scope development, and ways to incorporate features to match the new elementary.

Scott Parker from Barlett Cocke was present to answer questions and present information concerning the GMP Package #1 for the New Athletics Project.

7. Action Items:

A. Consider and take possible action to approve the Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment for Package #1 (GMP #1) for the New Athletics Project.

Clint Scheib motioned to approve the guaranteed maximum price amendment for Package No. 1 (GMP #1) in the amount presented by administration for the new Athletics Project, and further authorize the Superintendent to negotiate and finalize the terms of the required GMP Amendment in a form approved by legal counsel and to also execute the same. Dan Reinhard seconded the motion. Vote 7-0; motion carried.

8. Discussion/Information:

A. Athletic Advisory Progress Update – Navarro High School students, Addison Santone and Ayden Chapa, and parent Missy Brinsley presented for the Athletic Advisory Committee. The Committee was established in the fall of 2024 and includes over 40 members comprised of students, parents, coaches, administrators, Board members, and supporters. The mission of the committee is to enhance athletic programs, contribute to the Athletic Improvement Plan, address district growth and new sports, consider facility expansion and maintenance, focus on Jr. High sports, ensure equity across all sports, and maintain traditions and foster new engagement. The new Athletic Director/Head Football Coach will evaluate the Athletic Improvement Plan and work with the committee to meet the goals established. The committee will continue its work under the leadership of the new AD/HC and will provide feedback and remain an integral part of the district's athletic improvement efforts.

B. Bi-Lingual Report – Chief Academic Officer, Wendy McMullen, presented an overview of the Navarro ISD ESL/Bi-Lingual program. In Texas, a school district is required to offer a bilingual education program if 20 or more students identified as emergent bilinguals at the same grade level with the same primary language and must provide this program from pre-kindergarten through elementary grades (typically through grade 5). Districts must also provide ESL programs for any student identified as an emergent bilingual, regardless of the number of students at a given grade level. As of January 2025, the following are the NISD program numbers: Pre-K 17 active; Kindergarten 20 active; 1st grade 20 active; 2nd grade 15 active; 3rd grade 13 active; 4th grade 19 active; 5th grade 17 active; 6th grade 15 active; 7th grade 4 active; 8th grade 16 active; 9th grade 10 active; 10th grade 13 active; 11th grade 6 active; 12th grade 4 active. The NISD program plan is to hire a bilingually certified teacher for one full-time employee allotment and to begin with a one-way program and to look at future options for two-way with program interest.

C. GT Update – In Texas, an annual GT program update for the school board should include information regarding the district's compliance with the state's "Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students," which mandates that all teachers involved in gifted and talented programs receive a minimum of six hours of annual professional development focused on gifted education, in addition to the initial 30 hours of foundational GT training required for all GT teachers. Stephanie Adams, GT Instructional Specialist, presented the update to the Board. GT Enrollment as of January 2025 is 256 students district wide.

D. New Band Uniforms – Fine Arts Director Ramon Parker presented information and a design prototype for new Navarro High School band uniforms. The average uniform lifespan is 7 years, which is the age of the current Navarro band uniforms. The design process for the new uniforms included gathering information and feedback from students, parents, administration, staff, and directors. Potential prototypes were vetted with the administration leadership team, band students, and band parents. Revisions were made and the prototype was presented to the board for feedback.

9. Reports:

A. Campus Activity Reports - Principals, Athletic & Fine Arts Directors, District Departments – Joel Frederick asked about the 20 student increase in enrollment for Navarro Elementary School and Lacey Gosch inquired how the increase in enrollment affects the student to teacher ratio. Mrs. Epley responded that historically there is an enrollment increase after the winter holiday and that she is in constant communication with Elementary Principal Laurel Wilson to address any concerns or issues. The current student to teacher ratio at the Elementary is 22:1.

B. Superintendent's Report

1. *Enrollment* - Enrollment as of January 24, 2025 was Elementary 745 (+20), Intermediate 674 (+3), Jr. High 609 (+7), and High School 700 (-1), for a total of 2,728 enrollment and an attendance rate of 93.61%.

2. *Calendar of Events* - Mrs. Epley highlighted upcoming events including: Jan. 28 ESL Parent Meeting; Jan. 29 P-Tech Academy Night; Jan. 31 District Debate Tournament; Feb. 1 Community Food Drive; Feb. 5 CTE Job Shadow Day; Feb. 7 Superintendent Student Advisory; Feb. 10 Athletics Booster Club Meeting; Feb. 14 Elementary Valentines Dance; Feb. 18 TASA/TASB Legislative Conference; Feb. 22 Winterguard Competition & FFA East Central CDE Invitational; Feb. 24 Regular Board Meeting. The Board was also given a full list of upcoming NISD athletic events and competitions. For the full schedule of events, please visit the Navarro ISD Website at <https://www.nisd.us/events>.

C. District Financial Reports – There were no questions concerning the District Financial Reports.

D. Advanced Academics and Course Guide Process Update – Chief Academic Officer, Wendy McMullen presented the update. Each school year the Academic Services team meets to update the course catalog and courses offered at the Junior High and High School based on legislative changes, TEA guidelines, student interest surveys and enrollment. They also annually review our advanced courses and work to continue to develop our advanced programs to further prepare our students for college, career, military, or any other future chosen pathway. The annual course guide review and update is conducted October through January of each school year. New High School Advanced Courses for SY 2025-2026 are: On-Ramps Statistics, AP Biology, AP Human Geography, ASL III, Fundamental of Real Estate, Insurance Operations, Instructional Practices, Interworking Technologies, Computer Science I, CTE Project Based Capstone I & II, Paid Practicum in Education and Training, Extended Paid Practicum in Education and Training, Digital Forensics, and Practicum in Information Technology. The continued expansion of advanced courses includes enrolling teachers in the AP institute, so they are eligible to teach addition AP courses, strengthening our collaboration with Alamo Colleges to increase dual credit enrollment and to increase IBCs taken for students in their specific pathways.

10. **Consent Agenda:**

- A. Minutes of the December 16, 2024 Regular Meeting
- B. Minutes Of the January 13, 2025 Special Team of Eight Board Meeting
- C. Child Nutrition SY25-26 Interlocal Agreement with Multi-Region Purchasing Cooperative
- D. Budget Amendment – Joel Frederick asked about the budget amendment for the Suburban purchase and Lacey Gosch asked about the budget amendment and the Board approval threshold. Both questions were addressed by CFO, Paul Neuhoff.
- E. Pope Consulting - Taxable Value Audit Service
- F. Approve the Purchase of additional FF&E for the new High School
- G. 2025 Chevrolet Suburban Purchase
- H. Resolution Regarding Employee Pay During Weather Emergency Closure
- I. Donations - McQueeney Lions Club & Panther Posse

Donna Gilliam motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Clint Scheib seconded the motion. Vote 7-0; motion carried.

11. **Closed Session:** The Board went into closed session at 9:11PM.

- A. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to discuss the responsibilities and duties of the Superintendent.
- B. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to discuss the responsibilities and duties of the Board of Trustees.

C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to discuss the Employment and Resignations of Professional Personnel to include Administrators, Teachers, and other Professionals.

D. Superintendent Formative Evaluation

E. Deliberation regarding the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property pursuant to Section 551.072 of the Texas Government Code.

Any related action will be taken in open session.

12. **Reconvene:** The Board reconvened in Open Session at 12:38 AM to consider possible action related to closed session discussion.

Dan Reihard motioned that the Board authorize the Superintendent to proceed as discussed in closed session. Joel Frederick seconded the motion. Vote 7-0; motion carried.

Clint Scheib motioned to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for employment as discussed in closed session. Dan Reinhard seconded the motion. Vote 7-0; motion carried.

13. **Adjourn:** Melissa Sartain adjourned the meeting at 12:39 AM.

Melissa Sartain, President
NISD Board of Trustees

Donna Gilliam, Secretary
NISD Board of Trustees