

NAVARRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Subject: **Navarro ISD Proposed 89th Session Legislative Priorities**

Date: October 21, 2024

Administrator Responsible/Position: Mandy Epley, Superintendent of Schools

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: **In preparation for the 89th legislative session the Navarro ISD School Board may choose to adopt legislative priorities to advocate for the needs of the district to support the goals of the Collaborative Vision developed by employees, parents, and students, and support the Board priorities and Board goals.**

Background Information:	The district is a member of the Guadalupe County Education Coalition (GCEC) that brings superintendents together from the county to develop advocacy goals with the legislature. The proposed legislative priorities are supported by the GCEC. Navarro ISD sent Board member, Lacey Gosch to the TASB delegate convening in September 2024, as the delegate representing Navarro ISD, to participate in the establishment of legislative priorities for the 89th session for the membership of the Texas Association of School Boards.
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E. Comments Received:

☒ LT

☐ DEIC

☐ Other

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

F. Administrative Recommendation:

Administration recommends the following legislative priorities for the 89th legislative session to support the goals of the collaborative vision, board goals, and priorities.

School Funding

- The Basic Allotment must be adjusted based on inflation to ensure school districts are able to maintain the constitutional obligations of a comprehensive education.
- The special education funding formula should be updated to provide adequate fiscal support to fully fund all federally required services.
- Any educational institution or provider receiving public funds must be held to equitable and transparent fiscal and academic standards.
- Businesses should be incentivized to invest in communities through property tax reduction agreements that allow for local control over agreements and the endowment included.

School Safety

- School safety allotment must reflect the comprehensive needs of school districts to maintain and increase proactive and reactive safety and security.
- School safety grants should allow for school districts to make spending decisions that reflect the needs of their communities.
- The State of Texas should incentivize law enforcement to partner and provide additional support and security to independent school districts.

Accountability

- Accountability rules should be established and adopted before the start of the school year to which the rules apply.

Retention and Recruitment

- The State of Texas should guarantee all children have continuous access to high-quality educators. This can be achieved by ensuring that educators' base salaries increase with inflation and provide affordable healthcare insurance and retirement plans that resemble benefits packages offered to state governmental employees.
- The State of Texas should remove retirement-related penalties to ensure all students experience reasonable class sizes and experienced education professionals.
- The State should prioritize and incentivize programs that increase the recruitment of education professionals through the residency program allotment.

Tier II:

- School district budgets should not be held hostage by
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misaligned local and state appraised values. The Comptroller and county appraisal districts need to proactively establish corrective action plans to ensure school districts do not fall victim to disagreements in property value.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost:

Amount: N/A

☐ Budget
☐ Bond

☐ Grant/Special
Funds

☐ Other

H. Exhibits: Navarro ISD Proposed 89th Legislative Priorities

I. Action:

“I move to approve/disapprove/postpone the 89th Legislative Session Priorities as presented.”

Motion by: _____ second by: _____

FOR: R. Rehfeld, D. Gilliam, L. Gosch, D. Reinhard, M. Sartain, C. Scheib

AGAINST: R. Rehfeld, D. Gilliam, L. Gosch, D. Reinhard, M. Sartain, C. Scheib

MOTION CARRIED/DENIED/POSTPONED