



NAVARRO



INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

2024-2025 Superintendent Student Advisory Report

Superintendent Student Advisory

- We are a team of dedicated student leaders representing various activities, working directly with the superintendent to provide student perspectives on important issues
- Our mission is to advocate for student voices, identity issues, and collaborate solutions
- This year, we focused on **quality over quantity**— fewer projects, but with deeper impact and better execution
- That shift allowed us to be more intentional, build stronger partnerships, and ensure lasting change in our initiatives

Problems and Concerns

- After Hours Gate Access to Athletic Facilities - Solved
- Food Quality (Milk) - Solved
- Transition Away From St. Philip's College - Solved
- UIL Continuation and Involvement - Progress
- Interference with Athletics and Academics - Progress
- Preparing 8th Graders for High School - Progress
- Specialty Classes and Other Programs
- Tardies and Absences
- Master Schedule
- DC and AP Classes (Integrating classes)
- Maintaining Traditions
- Fitness/Weight lifting Classes-Allowed enrollment in Athletic period without participating in sports)

Long Range Recommendations

- Master Schedule
- Advanced Courses and Four Year Planning
- UIL Academics
- Culinary/ Home Economics - Justin Braune
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Master Schedule: Giovanna Coello

- Once an outline or an basic idea of how the master schedule will look, make it accessible to students and parents if possible, so that they may see if there are any possible conflictions. This allows them to make class choices or changes without all the rush.
- Provide AP, DC and Honors classes not during 1st or 4th period, or have other options of class times if possible. (Some honors classes or DC classes have multiple periods (Pre Cal, Government, Speech, etc).
- If there is a conflicting core class, or a college class that takes hundreds, maybe thousands of dollars (average cost is \$477 tuition per credit hour) off of college, then there should be some sort of agreement that allows the student to participate in their sport while being academically sound (exceptions could be bad behavior or poor performance). If students are dedicated to their sport, they will find time to practice it and most practices are before and after school.

Master Schedule: Jack Kehoe

- Ways to lower constraints when making schedules, more freedom for students.
- Computerizing the class scheduling process.
- Reintroduce the study hall option for trustworthy and good students, not to replace core classes. Include attendance (Teacher, Library and check in with the office). Meet with counselors.
- Make clear punishments for taking advantage of study hall. It's a privilege.
- Swap out an elective for study hall or other classes during the same period. (1st week of school)
- Small classes of similar subject can be integrated and possibly work together. Ex. (Spanish III & IV).
- Online classes that require no in person instructor can be left to fill in any holes in schedules to satisfy the rest of the student's schedule. "Singletons"
- To not have last second changes start the process earlier in the year, communicate problems with students earlier. Not 1 week before school starts.
- Alternate classes in course selection.

Advanced Courses: Sofia Castillo and Bailey Zoeller

Hosting an 8th Grade Introduction to Advanced Courses:

- In order to properly inform the incoming freshmen, we would like to host an “AP and Dual Credit Night” for 8th graders and their families to explain the benefits and options available.
 - This would include a senior or former student speaker that has benefited from taking AP, DC, and Honors classes. They would share the importance of having a plan, how to begin your academic journey early, and give any advice.
- Conduct surveys in 8th grade and among current students to gauge interest in potential AP and Dual Credit courses. Use feedback to prioritize course offerings based on demand.

Advanced Courses: Sofia Castillo and Bailey Zoeller

Preparing 8th Graders For High School:

- Develop a four-year plan for students who spark interest in higher education, outlining potential AP and Dual Credit opportunities each year.
- Provide Pre-AP courses in middle school, allowing exposure to students in order to determine what classes they want to take in high school.

Transition Away From St. Philip's College

- Due to poor personal experiences and various hardships from teachers, we would like to additionally mention a potential transition away from St. Philip's College to something like Northeast Lakeview College. Although we do not expect a rapid change, we would like to underscore the benefits it would provide for our dual credit students.

Debate Program: Daniel Glinn and Sofia Castillo

CX Debate Program:

Currently, the Navarro debate program consists of one senior team with Daniel Glinn and Sofia Castillo

In student advisory we discussed:

- Ways to grow interest in the debate program
- Ways to keep the program from dying in future years
- Ways to grow the skill of the program

We outlined 3 main areas of focus we can grow:

- Student Recruitment
- Coaching
- Involvement

Home Economics & Culinary Arts: Justin Braune and Lizzie

The Evolution of “Success 101”

- Change this to a weekend or in school seminars.
- Move it to a class just for seniors to get helps with college or scholarships essays, FAFSA, and graduation.
- Have this as the class for industry professionals to come and talk to students.

Culinary Arts

- Have it in the plans for the budget when thinking about renovations.
- These renovation would include a commercial kitchen, walk in cooler, and plating area.
- This addition would make Navarro students more competitive for Culinary college, scholarships and promote overall adult skills.

Tardy Policy and Opportunities: Colton Jones

- The tardy policy should be reconstructed in order to not incentivise skipping entire periods to avoid lunch detention. This can be done through multiple ways, however I believe the most effective course of action would include becoming more lenient on tardies taking place in earlier periods, as well as increasing the number of tardies allowed before lunch detention takes place. This promotes learning as much as you can, even if that may be for only half of a class.
- Upon the completion of the new campus, many more opportunities afforded by larger schools can potentially become available. With that being said, I believe programs such as JROTC and CAP, as well as a wider variety of extracurriculars that students can take leadership positions in, can aid in receiving appointments to Service Academies, ROTC Scholarships, and colleges as a whole.

Traditions: Faith Castillo

- As our district grows, it is important to keep it as a whole in order to continue that small town feeling.
- We should Keep senior walk so that younger students get to look forward to seeing the students they strive to be as they grow.
- Many families that may be new, can often feel like outsiders so try to have a day full of activities for all panthers.
- Homecoming should have more events like painting windows in rotundas, more decorations, and bigger pep rallies that include everyone, not just football/volleyball.
- Football games should have a specific student section that is supervised throughout the entire game at top and bottom of bleachers. Parents are often found in the area that students typically sit in and are not appealed to our energy and standing for the entirety of the game.
- Give a larger opportunity for older students to work with younger students. (field day, studying partners, PE)

GPA and Weighted Classes: Camden Shields and Avery Sisak

- Students should have a presentation from counselors at the end of 8th grade-define what a GPA is and how weighted classes affect it. This could also be a parent night.
- A former number 1 student could come back and provide personal experiences from the academic importance of freshman year.
- Highlight to students the importance of class rank, and how it plays into college acceptances and scholarships. (Ex: top 10% automatically get into Texas A&M)
- This allows for incoming freshman to be able to set realistic goals for their academic future

Questions?



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Thank You