

INAVARRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Subject: **Junior High Innovative CTE Courses**

Date: February 23, 2026

Administrator Responsible/Position: Melissa Gossett- CTE Director

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

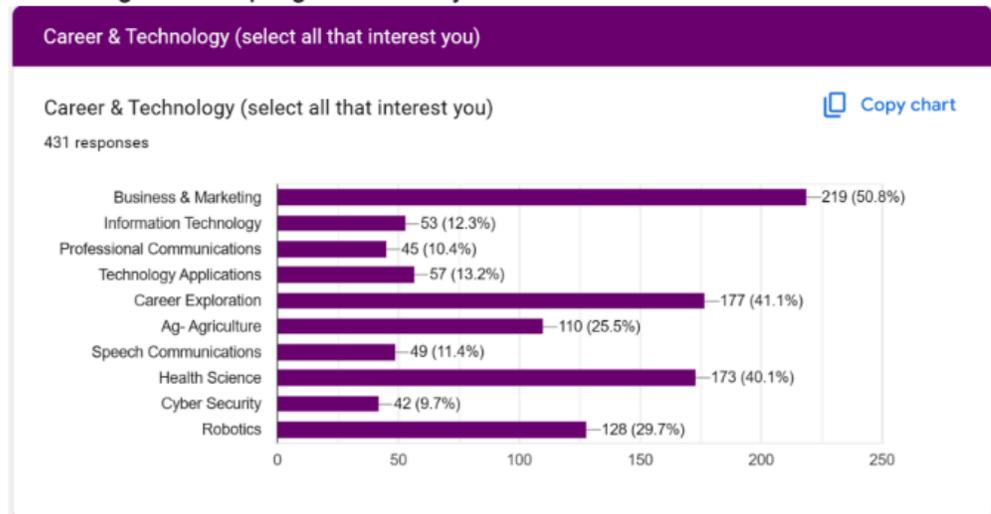
- Priority 1:** Recruiting, Hiring, Coaching, and Retaining High Quality Teachers and Staff to Support Student Outcomes.
- Priority 2:** Maximizing Academic Performance.
- Priority 3:** Maximizing Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Opportunities, Performance, and Engagement.
- Priority 4:** Planning, 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: Looking forward to next school year, Ms. Beutnagel wanted to add more elective options for her 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. She and Dr. Sanderson surveyed 6th and 7th grade students with elective options to determine student interest levels. The survey results are from 475 - 6th & 7th grade students.



We already offer Principles of Business, Marketing and Finance for HS credit to 8th grade students and it has been well received.

- Career Exploration is also already offered to JH students so glad they are enjoying those elective courses.
- Robotics was another favorite among students that we do not offer currently and IT and Cybersecurity are really close so you could combine those two totals.
- Agriculture came in strong and the number of Jr. FFA students (65+) would definitely warrant offering those classes to build a strong foundation in agriculture concepts, leadership and career development for the high school program of study.

The new innovative courses we are looking to offer are:

- 7th - Robotics (takes place of video game) - Engineering Foundations program of study
- 7th - Exploring Agriculture - Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources program of study
- 8th - Exploring Agriculture Leadership - Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources program of study

Course changes at JH for High School credit:

8th - Principles of Information Technology will change to Foundations of Cybersecurity. This change is necessary to meet course prerequisites for the P-TECH Cybersecurity program of study. When redesigning the courses for high school and dual credit college courses, we had to add Digital Forensics on the high school course side to match the college course. Digital Forensics has a prerequisite for Foundations of Cybersecurity, which is a better Level 1 course for our new P-TECH course offerings with Northeast Lakeview College.

Background Information:

Currently, the JH offers the following CTE courses for high school credit: Principles of Information Technology (8th) and Principles of Business, Marketing and Finance (8th). These courses feed directly into either the P-TECH Cybersecurity Academy or Business, Marketing & Finance Program of Study, which allows 8th grade students the ability to gain HS credit for the Level 1 course in that program of study. So essentially, they can take the Level 2 CTE course in the Business POS as a freshman. That will give that student more room in their schedule to take more CTE courses, especially the double blocked (2 period) courses, such as, Real Estate for example.

The 7th & 8th grade students also take Career Explorations for a local credit, Video Game has been offered for 7th grade students for a local credit and they have other elective options outside of CTE.

Currently, Video Game Design has dropped in enrollment and popularity. Video Game is now incorporated into Arts & A/V Technology's Digital Communication program of study. It will no longer be a course offered.

Robotics was a course that was favored by our 6th & 7th grade students. Robotics can be added as an innovative course option in place of Video Game Design to promote the engineering program of study and our students' changing interests. This would also support the Engineering Foundations program of study at the high school.

- If JH wanted to offer Principles of Applied Engineering for HS credit at the 8th grade level, we would need to look at a teacher qualified to teach that course or hire a new teacher.

Agriculture is another favorite among our 6th & 7th grade students. We have a large Ag program of study currently at the high school. I would like to add the innovative courses Exploring Agriculture for our 7th grade students and Exploring Ag Leadership for our 8th grade students. These innovative courses at the JH level have shown high growth in knowledge and understanding of the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources prior to taking the Principles of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources course their freshman year.

- The difference in moving this principles course to JH is Princ. of Ag, Food & Natural Resources coincides with FFA Greenhand year (first year FFA member in HS). In FFA first year FFA members have opportunities for leadership and career development tied directly to their Greenhand status, such as, Greenhand Camp, competitive Leadership Development events and Career Development events.
 - Neighboring districts implementing the innovative Ag courses at the JH level show greater growth in their Ag program of study, their LDE & CDE teams are more successful qualifying for State level competitions and showing a greater number of IBC & POS Completers.
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E. Comments Received:

LT

DEIC

Other

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

F.

**Administrative
Recommendation:**

**That the Board of Trustees approves the
proposed JH Innovative Courses - Robotics,
Exploring Agriculture and Exploring Ag
Leadership.**

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost:

- Budget
- Bond

Amount: N/A

- Grant/Special Funds

- Other

H. Exhibits: Informational slides

“I move to approve/disapprove/postpone”

I. Action: the Junior High Innovative CTE Courses proposed to the Board.

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