



Lamar CISD

Meeting Date: October 15, 2024

Meeting Type: Regular

Item Category: Consent Item

Primary Contact: Dr. Roosevelt Nivens

Presenter(s)/Add'l Contact(s): Dr. Marlon Waites

Item Name: CONSIDER APPROVAL TO SUBMIT LOW ATTENDANCE WAIVER TO TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

Item Summary: On Thursday, September 12, the district was notified of non-specific threats referenced on both a social media video and a national social media post threatening violence at “Terry and Lamar schools.” The District issued a statement to parents at 11:00 p.m. on September 12 regarding these threats as well as an action plan for heightened security at Terry High School and Lamar Consolidated High School the following day.

As a result, daily attendance on Friday, September 13 at Terry High School and Lamar Junior High was more than 10% points lower compared to the average for the previous year. On September 13, the daily attendance at Terry was 71.0% compared to an average of 92.1% for the 2023-2024 school year and the combined daily attendance at Lamar Junior High School/Wessendorff Middle School was 81.7% compared to an average of 93.4% for the 2023-2024 school year.

Per the Texas Education Agency’s (TEA) Student Attendance Accounting Handbook (SAAH), when districts experience a decline of Average Daily Attendance at a specific campus on a specific day of 10%-points or greater due to weather, health, or safety related issues can request a Low-Attendance Waiver to have that day excluded from overall calculations. Attendance declines at Lamar Consolidated High School and George Junior High School/Navarro Middle School did not exceed the required 10%-point threshold.

Recommendation: Administration recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Superintendent to submit a Low-Attendance Waiver to have Friday, September 13, 2024, excluded from the Average Daily Attendance calculations for Terry High School and Lamar Junior High School/Wessendorff Middle School.

Policy Reference: FEB (LEGAL), TEA SAAH 3.8.1.4

Leadership Definition Alignment: Plan for Success

Strategic Plan Alignment: Promote a Safe and Healthy Environment

Currently Budgeted? Yes No No Budgetary Impact

Completion or Implementation Timeline: If approved, the waiver will be submitted to TEA within 30 days.