

NAVARRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Subject: Update to Policy FM(Local) - Student Activities and Extracurricular Absences

Date: April 28, 2025

Administrator Responsible/Position: Wendy McMullen, Chief Academic Officer

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 Navarro ISD, our students are able to participate in a multitude of extracurricular activities. Many of these activities incur excused school absences, especially when groups are traveling far outside the district boundaries for competition or when a group qualifies for post district competition. Policy FM (Local) currently limits the number of school**

related absences to 18 per semester or 26 for the entire school year. The School Board has reviewed this policy in the past 5 years to consider not limiting the number of absences a student has if they are participating in multiple extracurricular activities and exceed the number of absences referenced in the FM (Local) policy.

Background Information:

Policy FM(LOCAL) sets a limit to the number of days students can be absent from class due to extracurricular activities or public performances. The current policy states:

The District shall not schedule, nor permit students to participate in an extracurricular activity or a public performance that would require, permit, or allow a student to be absent from class in any course more than 26 times in a school year and not to exceed 18 times in a semester.

A student who has qualified or advanced beyond an initial level of competition prior to exceeding the days allowed above shall be granted additional days in that qualified activity to its completion.

The proposed policy change clarifies that there will not be limits for absences that are due to post-district, state, or other school sponsored extracurricular competitions. The new language would read:

The District shall make no distinction between absences for UIL activities and absences for other extracurricular activities approved by the Board. In accordance with administrative regulations, a student shall be allowed in a school year a maximum of 26 extracurricular activity or public performance absences, with a limit of 18 absences in a semester; not related to post-district competition; however, the District shall not limit the number of absences for post-district, state, or other competition.

The TASB Policy Service consultant has also recommended that the “Alternative Education” provision be removed from this policy because it is administrative in nature, and should therefore be included in the administrative regulations.

E. Comments Received:

☒ LT

☐ DEIC

☒ Other

*This policy update was also reviewed by The Texas Association of School Boards Policy Services

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

F. Administrative Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees reviews and approves the proposed updates to policy FM (Local) related to student extracurricular activities and school related absences that exceed 18 in a semester of 26 for the school year.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost: Amount: N/A - There will not be a Fiscal impact.

☐ Budget

☐ Grant/Special
Funds

☐ Other

☐ Bond

H. Exhibits: Redlined FM(LOCAL) policy showing recommended changes

I. Action: "I move to approve/disapprove/postpone"

the proposed changes to policy FM (Local) to include the new language that "*the District shall not limit the number of absences for post-district, state, or other competition.*"

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