

Sanford-Fritch Independent School District

Request for Approval to Apply for Low Attendance Waiver

March 18, 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting

Purpose

The purpose of this agenda item is to request Board approval for Sanford-Fritch ISD to apply to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for a Low Attendance Waiver for two instructional days at Sanford-Fritch Elementary School due to unusually high student illness-related absences.

Background

On December 17, 2025, Sanford-Fritch Elementary School recorded a campus attendance rate of 68.2%. On December 18, 2025, the campus attendance rate declined further to 61.6%. Both days were marked by widespread student illness, significantly impacting student attendance beyond normal fluctuations.

These attendance percentages are substantially lower than the 2024–2025 overall district attendance rate of 92.73%, clearly indicating an abnormal and isolated event rather than a systemic attendance concern.

Low attendance days resulting from extraordinary circumstances—such as illness outbreaks—qualify districts to request a waiver from the TEA so the district is not financially penalized for circumstances outside of its control.

Rationale

Applying for a Low Attendance Waiver supports the district’s financial stewardship by protecting funding tied to average daily attendance while recognizing that the absences were unavoidable and health-related. The significant deviation from normal attendance trends demonstrates that these days were exceptional occurrences.

Approval to submit this waiver aligns with the district’s responsibility to maximize available resources while maintaining transparency and accountability.

Recommendation

Administration recommends that the Board of Trustees approve Sanford-Fritch ISD’s application to the Texas Education Agency for a Low Attendance Waiver for:

- December 17, 2025 – Attendance rate: 68.2%
- December 18, 2025 – Attendance rate: 61.6%

Both days were impacted by widespread illness resulting in unusually low attendance.

Approved by the Sanford-Fritch ISD Board of Trustees:

Rusty Ratliff, Board President	Date:
Doug Moneymaker, Board Secretary	Date: