

NAVARRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

Date: July 21, 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: At Navarro ISD, students are afforded the opportunity to engage in a broad array of extracurricular activities. Participation in these programs often necessitates excused absences from school, particularly when students travel far beyond district boundaries for competitions or advance to post-district events. Pursuant to Policy FM (Local), the

number of school-related excused absences is currently limited to 18 per semester or 26 per academic year. Over the past five years, the Board of Trustees has reviewed this policy to evaluate the number of excused absences students should be allowed when absent for school related activities. Because we have students who are actively involved in multiple extracurricular activities, there are some who have exceeded the number of allowed absences as outlined in policy FM (Local).

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.

This is the proposed new language from TASB:

The District shall make no distinction between absences for UIL activities and absences for other extracurricular activities approved by the Board.

The District shall not limit an eligible student's absences related to participation in extracurricular activities. [See Record of Absences in FM(LEGAL)]

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 policy FM (Local)discusses policy FM (Local) to make recommendations or any necessary changes based on new legislation and TASB input.

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 TASB 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