

**Hitchcock Independent School District**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Meeting Date:**       **March 23, 2026**

**Presented by:**       **Dr. Darryl J. Henson, Superintendent of Schools**

**Subject:**             **Board Policy FNA(LOCAL)**

**Consent Agenda**

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The proposed Hitchcock ISD board policy FNA (LOCAL), dated February 19, 2026, establishes a framework for students to participate in a designated period of prayer and the reading of the Bible or other religious texts during the school day. Under these provisions, each campus is required to provide an opportunity for this activity at a time and location designated by the Superintendent in accordance with the law. The policy explicitly states that this period cannot be substituted for instructional time, nor can any religious readings or prayers be broadcast over a district facility's public address system.

To participate, a student must submit a consent form signed by a parent or guardian that acknowledges the student's choice to participate and confirms that the parent has no objection to the student hearing the prayers or readings. Furthermore, the consent form must include an express waiver of the right for the student or parent to bring state or federal legal claims, including those related to the First Amendment or the Establishment Clause, against the district or its employees. For students whose parents have not submitted or have revoked this consent, the policy mandates that no religious activities take place in their physical presence, within their hearing, or in any manner that would constitute a legal injury under the United States or Texas Constitutions.

**BOARD ACTION REQUIRED:**

I move that the Board approve policy FNA(LOCAL) as presented.

**POLICY AUTHORIZATION:**

FNA(LOCAL)

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Dr. Darryl J. Henson, Superintendent

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

N/A

**ENCLOSURES:**

FNA(LOCAL)