

PROPOSED POLICY 2.19.26

**Prayer and Reading
of Bible or Other
Religious Text**

In accordance with the resolution adopted by the Board, each school day each campus shall provide an opportunity for students to participate in a period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text.

General Provisions

The Superintendent shall designate the appropriate location and time for the period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text in accordance with law. The period designated for prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text shall not be substituted for instructional time.

No prayer or reading of the Bible or other religious text shall occur over a District facility's public address system.

Consent Forms

A student who wishes to participate in the period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text must submit a consent form signed by their parent or guardian that includes:

1. An acknowledgement that the student has a choice whether to participate in the period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text;
2. A statement that the parent or guardian has no objection to the student's participation in or hearing of the prayers or readings offered during the period; and
3. An express waiver of the student's and parent's or guardian's right to bring a claim under state or federal law arising out of the adoption of this policy, including a claim under the First Amendment, Establishment Clause in the United States Constitution or a related federal law, releasing the District and District employees from liability for those claims brought in state or federal court.

If the parent or guardian has not submitted a consent form or has revoked a previous consent form, no prayer or reading of the Bible or other religious text shall take place in that student's physical presence, within the hearing of that student, or in another manner that would constitute an injury in fact within the meaning of the United States or Texas Constitution.