

## NAVARRO COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES House Bill 8 Workshop Minutes August 15, 2023

On Tuesday, August 15, 2023, the Navarro College Board of Trustees gathered in the Bulldog Board Room located on the Corsicana Campus to conduct House Bill 8 Workshop. Trustees in attendance included: Chairman Phil Judson, Secretary-Treasurer Richard Aldama, Trustee A. L. "Buster" Atkeisson, Trustee Faith Boyd, and Trustee Kim C. Wyatt.

Trustee Loran Seely and Trustee Todd McGraw were absent.

## Others in attendance included:

Dr. Kevin G. Fegan District President

Ms. Teresa Thomas Vice President of Finance

Dr. Jeanetta Johnson Vice President of Academic Affairs
Ms. Sina Ruiz Vice President of Student Success

Dr. Richey Cutrer Executive Director Navarro College Foundation
Dr. Richard Phillips Dean of Academics and Safety Planning
Mr. Michael Landers Exec. Director of Student Services & Athletics

Ms. Susan Womack Director of Institutional Research

Mr. Guy Featherston Executive Dean, Waxahachie Campus, and Health Professions

Ms. Jeanette Underwood Dean, Midlothian Campus, and Dual Credit

Dr. T.A. Essex Dean of Online Instruction
Ms. Christina Mims Asst. Dean of Mexia Campus

Ms. Aspen Douglas Director of Grants
Ms. Margaret Alfaro Director of Enrollment

Ms. Karen Simons Executive Assistant to the District President

Other staff and guests were also present.

The workshop began at 9 a.m. and was held to explain how the recent House Bill 8 legislation will affect how educational institutions will be funded beginning in the 2023-2024 budget year. House Bill 8 was signed by Governor Abbott in June of 2023, in attendance at the signing was Commission Keller, Woody Hunt, Gary Vandever, and Senator Creighton.

House Bill 8 provides an innovative community college funding model in support of the goals in building a talent strong Texas. It rewards community college for positive student outcomes, increases affordability and financial aid and increases capacity at colleges to meet changing workforce needs.

The key components of HB 8: FAST – new financial aid program, Performance Tier, Base Tier, and Community College Standing Advisory Committee (SAC)

Previously funding was heavy on contact hours, but the new funding model is based on 97% performance tier and 3% base tier funding. Performance tier funding is \$11.5 million which is based on outcomes, raw outcome count, weighted outcome (25 or older, academic, or economic disadvantaged). The funding includes continuing education, earning a certificate, high-demand certificates (such as nursing), and earning an associate degree.

Trustee Aldama asked is there a time limit for the student getting to the 15 hours. Dr. Fegan responded at this time we are still learning more of the details of the funding.

Board Chairman Phil Judson asked if we have the system in place to track all the information needed. Dr. Fegan replied that it is not fully in place yet, but we are constantly working on the detailed information.

Previously, funding from the state was over 10 months, but now we will get more funding up front. Performance funding comes to \$11.5 million, base tier of \$3 million equals a guaranteed funding of \$14.5 million based on the new model plus additional funding for insurance.

Dr. Fegan recently met with ISD Superintendents to learn how many students are enrolled in dual credit, or on track for 15 hours. The new formula is beneficial to both students and ISD's who will receive the benefit and bare less of the cost for dual credit students. With dual credit students the potential for additional funding could be another million dollars.

Commissioner Harrison Keller commented for HB 8 that to achieve the base tier funding levels, the finance model assumes colleges will continue to raise local funds through a combination of tuition and fees & property taxes for maintenance and operations.

Board Member Trustee Atkeisson asked about districts that have students, but they don't fill out the forms. Dr. Fegan stated that to qualify, they must fill out and submit the form to be eligible. Also, for free reduced lunch students it is no cost (either ISD or college pays) for tuition & fees, books, supplies, and other course materials. The TEC defines educationally disadvantaged as those students eligible for national free/reduced lunch program.

Trustee Atkeisson asked what the incentive was for the ISD's and Dr. Fegan commented that the school district will get funding and we have MOUs with the school districts and an addendum was done to the MOU to include the new funding program. Trustee Atkeisson also asked if one small school district does not want to participate how does it affect the college. Dr. Fegan stated if that were to happen then the college is looking at ways to pick up the costs (possibly with scholarships).

Board Member Trustee Atkeisson asked if ISD's understood that difference under the FAST program. Dr. Fegan said during the meeting he had with the Superintendent's that they understood the difference.

Chairman Judson asked if the College has a contract with the ISD.'s Dr. Fegan stated that we do have a contract with the ISD's. Chairman Judson then commented that everyone has done a great job at looking at the new funding program and to see how it affects the college.

Trustee Atkeisson made comment that he really appreciates having the informative workshops and thanked everyone for their hard work. Trustee Aldama and Trustee Boyd thanked everyone for all they do for the college.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Aldama, Secretary-Treasurer Navarro College Board of Trustees

Richard L. Aldam