



**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JOSHUA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Resolution Affirming Our Constitutional and Legal Right to Choose to Pray in School

WHEREAS, the First Amendment to the United States Constitution protects students' religious freedom in public schools. Specifically, the Free Exercise Clause ensures that individuals have the right to practice their religious beliefs, free from government interference; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Religious Freedom Restoration Act, Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code § 110.003 prohibits school districts and other government entities from "substantially burden[ing] a person's free exercise of religion"; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Education Code § 25.901 affirms that "[a] public school student has an absolute right to individually, voluntarily, and silently pray or meditate in school in a manner that does not disrupt the instructional or other activities of the school."; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Education Code § 25.082(d) establishes a school district's ability to institute a period of silence during which students may choose to "reflect, pray, meditate, or engage in any other silent activity that is not likely to interfere with or distract another student," a practice which has been in place within **Joshua Independent School District** for more than two decades;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Joshua Independent School District hereby wishes to preserve students' flexibility to pray, read scripture, or discuss faith naturally and voluntarily throughout the day, as established by current law.

THAT, the Joshua ISD Board of Trustees supports student-led, voluntary Bible studies, prayer groups, and faith-based activities before school, during free time, and after school.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Joshua ISD Board of Trustees, in consideration of the laws and policies recited above, votes against a resolution to adopt a state-organized prayer policy for our district, as contemplated by S.B. 11, 89th Legislature, codified at Texas Education Code § 25.0823.

Adopted and approved by the Board of Trustees of Joshua Independent School District, this 16th day of February, 2026.


President, Board of Trustees


Secretary, Board of Trustees