Nazareth ISD BOE
Special Meeting
August 26, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President Alan Birkenfeld at 7:30 p.m. Other members present were Vice President Jenny Schulte, Secretary Maegan Rowland, and members Keith Hoelting, Mitchell Brockman, Marcus Brockman, and Shane Ethridge. Also present was Superintendent Dr. Kara Sue Garlitz. The prayer was led by Keith, the pledge by Jenny, and the mission statement was read by Marcus.

The budget and tax hearing was opened by President Alan Birkenfeld at 7:34 p.m. Superintendent Garlitz presented a summary of the proposed budget for 2026-2027. Details regarding revenues and expenditures were presented for the three budgets including general operating (199), child nutrition (240), and debt services (599). Following the reports, the hearing was closed by President Birkenfeld at 7:56 p.m.

Dr. Garlitz presented the Superintendent Report, which included current enrollment of 237 students K-12, and 253 with PK. Also included were updates on transportation, facilities and operations, personnel, accountability ratings, construction updates, the Good Cause Exception, the board's acceptable use policy, the school calendar, and the District of Innovation Plan Renewal for 2026-2031.

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda including the approval of the minutes from the regular meeting on August 12, renewal of Good Cause Exception and designating ten non-business days on the school calendar was made by Jenny. The motion was seconded by Keith, and the motion carried 7-0.

Vote Record:

Alan	FOR
Jenny	FOR
Maegan	FOR
Keith	FOR
Mitchell	FOR
Marcus	FOR
Shane	FOR

Marcus made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 budget amendments to general operating as presented. Shane seconded the motion, and it carried 7-0.

Vote Record:

Alan	FOR
Jenny	FOR
Maegan	FOR
Keith	FOR
Mitchell	FOR
Marcus	FOR
Shane	FOR

The motion to adopt the proposed 2026-2027 budget as presented made by Jenny. It was seconded by Mitchell, and the motion carried 7-0.

Vote Record:

Alan	FOR
Jenny	FOR
Maegan	FOR

Keith	FOR
Mitchell	FOR
Marcus	FOR
Shane	FOR

Shane made motion classify fund balance as presented. The motion was seconded by Jenny, and the motion carried 7-0.

Vote Record:

Alan	FOR
Jenny	FOR
Maegan	FOR
Keith	FOR
Mitchell	FOR
Marcus	FOR
Shane	FOR

Mitchell made the following motion, "I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of $0.9254, which is effectively a 4.86 percent increase in the tax rate." It was seconded by Marcus, and the motion carried 7-0.

Vote Record:

Alan	FOR
Jenny	FOR
Maegan	FOR
Keith	FOR
Mitchell	FOR
Marcus	FOR
Shane	FOR

Jenny made a motion to approve the District of Innovation Plan Renewal as presented by the SBDM Committee. It was seconded by Marcus, and the motion carried 7-0.

Vote Record:

Alan	FOR
Jenny	FOR
Maegan	FOR
Keith	FOR
Mitchell	FOR
Marcus	FOR
Shane	FOR

Time was provided for Board members' comments and questions. Jenny made a motion and Keith seconded it to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Alan Birkenfeld, BOE President

Maegan Rowland, BOE Secretary

TASB LEGAL SERVICES

Resolution of the Board to Set Tax Rate

Published online in TASB School Law eSource

Date: August 26, 2026

On this date, we, the Board of Trustees of the Nazareth Independent School District, hereby levy or set the tax rate on $100 valuation for the District for the tax year 2026 at a total tax rate of $0.9254, to be assessed and collected by the duly specified assessor and collector as follows:

$0.7954 for the purpose of maintenance and operations, and

$0.1300 for the purpose of payment of principal and interest on debts.

Such taxes are to be assessed and collected by the tax officials designated by the District.

Adopted this 26th *(date)* day of August *(month)*, 2026 *(year)*, by the Board of Trustees.

Glen Birkenfeld
President's signature

Maegan Rinkard
Secretary's signature

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TASB Legal Services

RESOLUTION OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NAZARETH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF ARMED SECURITY OFFICERS ON DISTRICT CAMPUSES

At a lawfully called meeting on August 26, 2026, the Nazareth Independent School District Board of Trustees (the "Board") does hereby make the following Resolution regarding the provision of armed security officers on each Nazareth Independent School District ("District") campus:

WHEREAS, the 88th Legislature passed and Governor Abbott signed into law House Bill 3, effective September 1, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, House Bill 3 added section 37.0814 to the Texas Education Code, requiring the Board to determine the number of armed security officers for each District campus and to ensure at least one (1) armed security officer is present during regular school hours at each campus; and,

WHEREAS, section 37.0814 requires a security officer to be: (1) a school district peace officer; (2) a school resource officer; or, (3) a commissioned peace officer employed as security personnel under section 37.081 of the Texas Education Code; and,

WHEREAS, the Board may claim a good cause exception from the requirement to comply with section 37.0814 if the District's noncompliance is due to the unavailability of: (1) funding; or, (2) personnel who qualify to serve as a security officer under section 37.0814.; and,

WHEREAS, the Board must develop an alternative standard with which the District is able to comply if it cannot fulfill the aforementioned requirements of section 37.0814; and,

WHEREAS, an alternative standard may include providing a person to act as a security officer who is a school marshal or a school district employee or a person with whom the district contracts who (1) has completed school safety training provided by a qualified handgun instructor certified in school safety under section 411.1901 of the Government Code, and (2) carries a handgun on school premises in accordance with written regulations or written authorization of the District under Section 46.03(a)(1)(A) of the Penal Code (the "alternative standard"); and,

WHEREAS, the District is required to maintain documentation of the District's implementation of and compliance with Section 37.0814; and,

WHEREAS, the District lacks funding to ensure an armed security officer is present on each school campus, as demonstrated in **Exhibit A**; and

WHEREAS, the District is unable to engage the services of personnel who qualify to serve as a security officer as demonstrated in **Exhibit A**; and

WHEREAS, the BOARD has developed an alternative standard in order to comply with section 37.0814, as provided in Board Policy CKE(LOCAL) and CKE(REGULATION) and related Board Policies.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the recitals contained in the Resolution are true and correct and are adopted as findings of fact and operative provisions hereof; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board determines that at least one (1) armed security officer or authorized employee under its alternative standard should be provided for each District campus; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board claims a good cause exception from the requirement to comply with section 37.0814 by reason of lack of funding and personnel who qualify to serve as a security officer; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board finds that it may satisfy the requirements of section 37.0814 by implementing the alternative standard documented in Board Policy CKE (LOCAL) and CKE (REGULATION); and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board directs and authorizes the Superintendent to take any and all action necessary to maintain compliance with Section 37.0814.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Nazareth Independent School District Board of Trustees this 26th day of August, 2026.

Attest:

Alan Burkenfeld
President, Board of Trustees

Maegan Romelcea
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Exhibit A

See Attached Supportive Documents

NAZARETH ISD
HOME OF CHAMPIONS
101 SOUTH 1ST STREET
NAZARETH, TX 79063
(Phone) 806-945-2231
(Fax) 806-945-2431

August 17, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Nazareth Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Kara Sue Garlitz

SUBJECT: HB3 Implementation

In response to the 88th Legislature's passing of HB3 which added section 37.0814 to the TEC, school districts are required to ensure at least one (1) armed security officer is present during regular school hours at each campus. Section 37.0814 further requires a security officer to be: (1) a school district peace officer; (2) a school resource officer; or (3) a commissioned peace officer. However, the Board may claim a good cause exception from the requirement of section 37.0814 if the District lacks availability of: (1) funding; and/or, (2) personnel who qualify to serve as a security officers and the Board adopts an alternative standard. I have evaluated the availability of school funds and personnel and recommend that the Board adopt a resolution to claim a good cause exemption from TEC 37.0814.

In conferencing with Sheriff Sal Rivera, his department is unable to provide a full-time deputy/deputies for our school. His letter is included. There is no other law enforcement agency available to provide security officers to the District. Therefore, no commissioned peace officers can serve as security officers as mandated by TEC 37.0814.

In addition, it must be noted that with our limited resources from the state regarding HB3, it would be cost prohibitive for our district to add a full-time armed resource officer even if one becomes available. The cost to the District is believed to be in the range of $60,000-$75,000 per year per officer in salary, plus the additional costs of TRS and insurance benefits, training, and equipment. The amount of revenue provided under HB 3 is inadequate to cover this expense. I did note "per officer" because although we claim only one campus, the district would likely be considered to have both an elementary school and a secondary school, so we could end up needing 2-3 officers to meet the state's requirements to have an officer available at all times at each campus.

With the district being unable to engage the services of personnel who qualify to serve as a security officer, and a lack of funding, I recommend that the Board claim an HB3 Good Cause Exception.

In claiming a Good Cause Exception, I further recommend that Nazareth ISD continue to utilize our certified Armed Guardians that we put into practice through CKE(LOCAL), and maintain with CKE(REGULATION), as the District's official "alternative standard" for TEC 37.0814. We will stay in contact with the Sheriff's office for support, assistance, and a presence if there is a need or concern.

Attachment: Letter from Sheriff Sal Rivera

SAL RIVERA
SHERIFF

Office (806) 647-3311
Fax (806) 647-2189

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
CASTRO COUNTY

August 17. 2026

Dr. Kara Garlitz
Nazareth Independent School District
101 S. 1st Ave
Nazareth, Texas 79063

Reference: Shortage of Manpower and not having the ability to provide a full-time law enforcement officer to school districts as required by HB 3.

Dr. Garlitz,

I am writing to inform you that the Castro County Sheriff's Office does not have the law enforcement personnel to provide a full-time Deputy for every campus in the Nazareth Independent School District.

During the Day Shift patrol, Deputies patrol Nazareth and go by the school campuses as often as they can. We will be available as needed and respond to emergencies as they arise.

If you need anything else, please contact me or my Office at any time.

Respectfully,

Sal Rivera

Sheriff Sal Rivera