UVALDE CISD

TO: Members of the Board

FROM: Dr**.** Norma Carranza, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction

PRESENTER: Dr. Norma Carranza, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction

MEETING DATE: October 19, 2026

SUBJECT: Discuss to Approve Waivers to be submitted to TEA for the 2026-2027 school year

BACKGROUND:
The Texas Education Agency (TEA) allows school districts to apply for a variety of waivers. These waivers allow school systems alternative solutions for state mandates and regulations. We are requesting approval to apply for the following waivers:

Staff Development: This waiver allows the district and charter schools to train staff on various educational strategies designed to improve student performance in lieu of student instruction during the school year. Effective with the 2026-2027 school year, the Staff Development Minutes Waiver provides for a maximum of 2,100 total waiver minutes to use for professional development for districts and charter schools that provide operational and instructional minutes. These minutes cannot be used before the first day or after the last day of student instruction.

Teacher Data Portal of the Texas Assessment Management System: The assessment data portal of the Texas Assessment Management System became fully operational in October 2011 and complies with the requirements of Texas Education Code (TEC), §32.258, as enacted by House Bill 3, 81st Legislature. Districts that are interested in fulfilling the requirement of TEC, §32.258 to provide teacher access to student assessment data through a local student data system must apply for an expedited waiver from the Texas Education Agency (TEA). The local data portal must meet the following requirements:

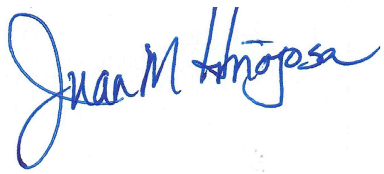
- The local data portal must be accessible to all teachers in the core subject areas (reading/English Language Arts, mathematics, science, and social studies) and must allow teachers to view their own students' assessment data. It is a local decision whether to extend access to teachers outside of the four core subjects; however, districts must consider whether there exists a sound educational reason, allowable under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), for non-core teachers to have access to student-level data.
- Student data must be available from the 2007–2008 school year forward and include data indicating progress in student achievement.
- Student data must be available on or before the first instructional day of the year following the year in which the data were collected.

● The local data portal must permit comparisons of student performance at the classroom, campus, district, and state levels. Though it will not be necessary for local data portals to contain statewide data for comparisons of student performance, local portals must include a link to the TEA's website where statewide reports are posted.
● As a condition to granting a waiver for teacher access to the state data portal, local systems must have all of the above data available to teachers.

Uncertified Teachers: This waiver allows school districts to temporarily hire or assign individuals who do not yet hold a standard state teaching certificate to fill critical staffing gaps. Uncertified teachers in the areas of special education, bilingual, CTE, art, and early childhood need to be approved through a waiver.

RECOMMENDATION:
Staff recommends board approval of the TEA Waivers for 2026-2027 school year.

Superintendent's Recommendation: ✓ Approval _____ Rejected



Dr. Juan M. Hinojosa, Superintendent