



Decatur Independent School District
Board of Trustees Agenda Item

To: Board of Trustees
From: Taylor Williams
Subject: Bilingual/ESL Waivers 2026-2027
Meeting Date: October 19, 2026
Type of Item: ☐ Information ☐ Presentation ☐ Consent Agenda ☐ Discussion ☒ Action

Supporting Documents: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Background Information and Rationale:

All school systems, including school districts, open enrollment charter schools, and districts of innovation, are required to identify and serve emergent bilingual (EB) students through bilingual education, which includes bilingual and ESL programs, per 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §89.1205. Pursuant to 19 TAC §89.1207(a)(1) and (b)(1), a school system that does not have the appropriately certified teachers for their required bilingual and/or ESL program(s) must apply to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for a bilingual exception and/or ESL waiver. The approval of a bilingual exception and/or an ESL waiver shall be valid only during the school year for which it is granted.

Support of Strategic Goals:

- Goal 2: DISD values our employees and invests in their growth to ensure a highly effective and engaged staff.

Fiscal Implication:

Bilingual Education Allotment funds are in the FY26-27 budget.

Administrative Recommendation:

Approve the ESL and Bilingual Exception waiver for Decatur ISD for the 2026-2027 school year.

Contact Person(s):

Jenni Garcia, Director of Elementary Academics & ESL/BIL

Respectfully submitted,

Taylor Williams
Superintendent

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