

Memorandum of Understanding for Third-Party Skills Testing for Commercial Driver's License

November 14, 2017

SUMMARY:

This item requests approval that Denton ISD Transportation provide Third-Party Skills Testing services and enter into agreement to provide such services per the terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Understanding for Third-Party Skills Testing for Commercial Driver's License to other Texas school districts.

BOARD GOAL:

VI. Growth, Change & Fiscal Responsibility... In pursuit of excellence, the district will provide leadership and/or oversight to ensure District meets all fiscal, legal, and regulatory requirements.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In 2016, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration enacted new regulations governing the Commercial Driver's License (CDL) issuance process. As a part of the state of Texas' implementation of this regulation, CDL skills testing must be done at one of only twenty-nine locations around the state. The lack of timely appointments being available for this testing has caused a hardship for several Texas school districts.

Therefore, the Texas Department of Public Safety (TxDPS) has authorized the Third-Party Skills Testing Program (TPST) where qualified companies certified by the TxDPS can administer the driving skills examination for certain CDL applicants.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

Denton ISD has obtained certification to administer the driving skills examination on behalf of the TxDPS. Denton ISD's Transportation Department has three employees who have successfully mastered the required course needed to become certified commercial examiners. By doing so, Denton ISD is qualified to provide this much-needed service to other Texas school districts, as well as Denton ISD drivers who must obtain a CDL. Denton ISD's legal counsel and Director of Transportation have worked to draft a Memorandum of Understanding that will be used when contracting with area school districts to provide the TPST service.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

In consideration of providing this service, participating districts will be required to pay a testing fee for the services, provide their own school bus to be used for training, and agree to all terms and conditions of the MOU. We do not anticipate a negative fiscal impact on Denton ISD for providing this service.

BENEFIT OF ACTION:

By providing this service, Denton ISD can provide the much needed TPST services to assist participating districts, as well as DISD drivers who must obtain a CDL.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board approve that Denton ISD Transportation provide Third-Party Skills Testing services and enter into agreement to provide such services per the terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Understanding for Third-Party Skills Testing for Commercial Driver's License to other Texas school districts.

STAFF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

Jim Watson, Director of Transportation

ATTACHMENT:

Memorandum of Understanding for Third Party Skills Testing for Commercial Driver's License

APPROVAL:

Signature of Staff Member Proposing Recommendation: _____

Signature of Divisional Assistant Superintendent: _____

Signature of Superintendent: _____