



Bastrop ISD  
Board Agenda  
August 19, 2025

Item #4-A

**SUBJECT:** Staff Development Minutes Waiver for 2025-2026

**PRESENTOR:** Kendra Monk, Director of Leadership Development and School Improvement

**LENGTH OF PRESENTATION:** 5 minutes

- HB 2442 dictates our operational minutes for an academic school year. Those minutes are set at 75,600.
- Starting with the 2018-2019 school year, districts were granted the ability to apply for a Staff Development Minutes Waiver to provide a maximum of 2,100 total waiver minutes to be used.
- In essence, these minutes count as part of the 75,600 required minutes for the school year.
- Each district has discretion in how it applies its Staff Development Minutes Waiver. Some districts opt for early release, late start, all-day professional development, or a combination of these three. The main requirement of the waiver is that we may not exceed 2,100 total minutes in one school year.
- In the 2022-2023 school year, the waiver was utilized to address a professional development day for staff members and attendance related to late starts and school cancellations due to weather conditions. In the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years, the waiver was used to address weather-related events and individual campus events.
- For the 2025-2026 school year, we do not need the waiver to address professional development days, but we want to ensure that we have the option to use the waiver in case of a school delay or late start due to weather or other catastrophic events.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approval of the Staff Development Minutes Waiver as presented.

From the Texas Education Agency:

## **Staff Development**

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*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. The 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.*

*As noted in the 2024-2025 Student Attendance Accounting Handbook (SAAH), **effective with the 2025–2026 school year**, districts and open-enrollment charter schools that are four-day-school-week LEAs are not eligible to receive a staff development waiver.*

*Each district and open-enrollment charter school may choose how to apply their approved Staff Development Minutes Waiver. For instance, schools may choose to offer early release, late start, all day staff development, or a combination. However, the total waiver minutes for staff development shall not exceed 2,100 minutes per year.*

*This waiver is for staff development in place of student instruction; therefore, the waiver minutes are only applicable to staff development provided instead of student instruction during the school year. Effective with the 2018-2019 school year, the Staff Development Minutes Waiver may not be used prior to the first day of student instruction or after the last day of student instruction.*

*On staff development days when students are in attendance part of the day, in order to receive full ADA funding, the district or open-enrollment charter school must provide at least 120 minutes of student instruction. Instructional minutes are defined in the SAAH as the portion of the school day in which instruction takes place along with other exceptions. In addition to the 120 minutes of student instruction, any staff development waiver minutes reported must reflect actual staff development minutes provided.*

*Districts and charter schools should continually seek to provide high-quality staff development that will impact student outcomes.*