

Approval of TASB Update 95 Local Policies – First Reading December 11, 2012

SUMMARY:

TASB Update 95 incorporates recent changes to the Administrative Code regarding bilingual education, student retention and promotion, the required instructional program, tuition for transfer students, and graduation requirements.

Local policies included in Update 95:

- AB (Local) District Name
- DFBB (Local) Term Contracts: Non-renewals
- DFE (Local) Termination of Employment: Resignation
- DGBA (Local) Personnel-Management Relations: Employee Complaints/Grievances
- EIE (Local) Academic Achievement: Retention & Promotion
- FNG (Local) Student Rights and Responsibilities: Student and Parent Complaints/Grievances
- GF (Local) Public Complaints

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

The Board discussed TASB Update 95 policy revisions at the July 31, 2012 board meeting.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Update 95 includes 7 local policies, 29 legal policies and 9 exhibits. TASB Update 95 incorporates recent changes to the Administrative Code regarding bilingual education, student retention and promotion, the required instructional program, tuition for transfer students, and graduation requirements. The Update also includes statutory provisions addressing the official name of the district, board member powers and duties, procurement of legal services, and facilities construction. Several employment-related exhibits are included to notify employees when the district is terminating or non-renewing an employment contract under Chapter 21 of the Education Code. Local policies in Update 95 address the additional topics of term contract nonrenewal, employee resignations, and grievances.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

The district must have school policies that are consistent with current laws and appropriately communicate local policy issues. Policies are classified as either “Legal” or “Local” in design. A “Legal” policy is a statement of existing law or of binding legal decisions and as such do not require Board approval. Local policies are decisions made at the local level that reflect district decisions and practices and do require approval. Legal policies are always included in updates so local policy development occurs within the context of binding law.

BENEFIT OF ACTION:

To allow the Board to evaluate and ensure that these policies reflect the practices of the District.

PROCEDURAL AND REPORTING IMPLICATIONS:

Because the law requires districts to adopt a local policy so quickly, districts are allowed to implement the process for emergency adoption with one reading.

ALTERNATIVES:

The following options are available to the Board:

- continue to study the policy
- modify the existing language
- approve policies as written and submitted by TASB

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve TASB Update 95 local policies on first reading as presented.

PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

James K. Wilson III, Superintendent
Randy Stout, DISD Legal Advisor

ATTACHMENT:

TASB Update 95 Local Policies