

BOARD CONSENT AGENDA ITEM
Board of Trustees Meeting
June 9, 2020

Consider Approval of TEA COVID-19 Related Waiver for Alternate Kinder Reading Instruments

SUMMARY:

This consent agenda item requests approval to apply for the Annual Financial Report Due Date

BOARD GOALS

TEACHING & LEARNING

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE, WE WILL:

- develop and maintain a culture where learning remains our first priority
- advocate and practice true accountability based on measurement of individual student progress over time, regardless of external mandates
- cultivate a consistent, strong, district-wide balanced curriculum based on ongoing needs assessments supporting all students
- establish high expectations with a curriculum fostering inquiry, critical thinking, civic responsibility and exemplary citizenship
- cultivate a network of professional learning communities addressing the educational needs of every child in our district
- incorporate best practices into teaching, learning, technology and leadership
- foster and support an advanced digital learning environment
- establish goals for individual campuses that incorporate both measurable and intangible factors

CULTURE & CLIMATE

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE, WE WILL:

- honor the dedication and professionalism of all staff
- establish high expectations for success
- effectively communicate achievements and recognitions to the Denton ISD community

GROWTH & MANAGEMENT

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE, WE WILL:

- provide leadership and/or oversight to ensure District meets all fiscal, legal and regulatory requirements.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

There has been no previous board action on this waiver.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

LEAs are required to use one of these two reading diagnostic instruments (TX-KEA or mCLASS) for the beginning-of-year screener of all kindergarten students, starting in the 2020-2021 school year. However, because of disruptions to the 2019-2020 school year and possible disruptions to the 2020-2021 school year resulting from COVID-19, districts may request a waiver in order to continue to use the instrument they used in the 2019-2020 school year or another instrument approved by a local district board of trustees in order to best meet student needs in the 2020-2021 school year only. A waiver of the requirement to use one of the two specified instruments will only be approved for one year and will not be waived in the 2021-2022 school year and beyond.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

There are no significant issues.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no fiscal implications.

BENEFIT OF ACTION:

Board approval of the TEA waiver request allows the District to utilize the diagnostic tools used previously in Denton ISD as a kindergarten screener. Use of Denton ISD's ELI (Early Literacy Inventory) allows continuity in training and instruction for all kinder teachers in Denton ISD.

PROCEDURAL AND REPORTING IMPLICATIONS:

Texas Education Agency will process the formal request as approved by the Denton ISD Board of Trustees.

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED:

None

ALTERNATIVES:

The Board of Trustees may choose to deny the request.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends the Board approves the TEA Alternate Kinder Reading Instruments Waiver request to be submitted for consideration to the Texas Education Agency.

STAFF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

Sandy Brown, Director of Elementary Curriculum

ATTACHMENT:

Summary of TEA COVID-19 Related Waivers

APPROVAL:

Signature of Staff Member Proposing Recommendation: Sandy Brown_____

Signature of Superintendent: _____