



COPPELL
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Empowering Educational Excellence

Board Action Required ☒

No Action Required ☐

To: Board of Trustees
From: Diana Sircar
Date: May 18, 2020
Cc: Dr. Brad Hunt

RE: Missed School Day Waiver to Maximize State Funding

Texas Education Code 25.081, and Texas Education Agency's Student Attendance Accounting Handbook 3.8.1.3 allows a district or campus to request that if weather, safety, or health issues cause the district or campus to fall short of the required number of minutes/days required per TEA guidelines, a Missed School Day waiver application may be submitted.

Due to the outbreak of COVID-19, all Coppell ISD campuses were closed for the period beginning March 16, 2020 and ending May 21, 2020.

From March 16-20, 2020, the district was in "closed, preparing" status which is defined in TEA COVID-19 guidance as: [school has ceased] normal operations, but campus staff are working (either on-site or remotely) in order to prepare so they can deliver instruction to students while they the students are at home / off-site. Non-instructional staff may also be working during this time, including at least school cleaning activities.

From March 23-May 21, 2020, the district was in "closed, instructing" status, which is defined in TEA COVID-19 guidance as: [school has ceased] normal operations, so that children no longer come to the school site at all, but are instead provided support to receive instruction at home / offsite. The staff may be doing this work while on site or remotely or in some combination.

For school closures of any status based on COVID-19-related concerns, the district must seek additional minute waivers from TEA in order to meet the 75,600 operational minute requirement. These waivers will be granted as long as the district has committed to supporting students instructionally while at home. As such, an "Instructional Continuity Attestation While Closed" must be submitted with a Missed School Day waiver. Districts are to submit one waiver, inclusive of all days missed and all campuses affected.

COVID-19 guidance also indicates that for each day a Missed School Day waiver is granted, the district should leave these days as designated instructional days in their attendance accounting software. These days should be counted in terms of total minutes of operation the same as they would have been if the district had been able to operate normally. This is a departure from normal practices for documentation of missed school day waivers in the Student Information System.

The district will apply for the Missed School Day waiver for all instructional campuses for all days of closure due to COVID-19. Missed School Day waivers require board approval.

Recommendation: The Board adopts the resolution authorizing the application for the missed school day waiver for all instructional campuses for all days of closure and that Superintendent Hunt be granted authority to pursue any other necessary and available waivers from TEA without further action of the Board.