

**WAIVER REQUEST FOR THE OPENING OF A DENTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
DISTRICT VIRTUAL ACADEMY FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR**

June 8, 2021

SUMMARY:

This item requests approval of a TEA waiver which would allow Denton ISD the opportunity to establish a K-8 Virtual Academy, a permanent full-time online learning option for families.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

Previous discussion of the K-8 Virtual Academy has occurred at prior Board meetings.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy will be a public, tuition-free school, serving students in kindergarten through 8th grade. The fully remote learning option will provide an opportunity for students who thrive in the online environment to learn virtually.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

No additional significant issues to report other than those reflected in the summary of this consent agenda item.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Should TEA fail to grant this waiver, it will result in approximately three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in lost revenue for Denton ISD and/or make it impossible for Denton ISD to implement the Virtual Academy.

BENEFIT OF ACTION:

Passage will allow Denton ISD to have the ability to provide a fully remote learning option to students who thrive in the online environment.

PROCEDURAL AND REPORTING IMPLICATIONS:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED:

None

ALTERNATIVES:

None at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the waiver for opening of a District Virtual Academy for the 2021-2022 school year.

STAFF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

Deron Robinson, General Counsel

ATTACHMENT:

Waiver Request for a District K-8 Virtual Academy

APPROVAL:

Signature of Staff Member Proposing Recommendation: _____

Comments: _____

Signature of Divisional Assistant Superintendent: _____

Comments: _____

Signature of Superintendent: _____

Comments: _____