



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC: Approval of Expedited State Waiver Application on Timeline for Accelerated Instruction

SUBMITTED BY: Pam Juarez **OF:** Associate Superintendent for Instruction

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: Sept. 14, 2010

RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends the approval of the Accelerated Instructional Waiver for submission to the Texas Education Agency.

RATIONALE:

BUDGETARY INFORMATION:

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:



APPLICATION FOR EXPEDITED AND GENERAL STATE WAIVERS

General Instructions. For Expedited Waivers, please complete Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4. For General State Waivers, please complete Sections 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6. **Bolded** items in Section 2 and Section 3 must be completed. Please direct questions to the State Waiver Unit at (512) 463-9630 or Waivers@tea.state.tx.us. You may also visit the TEA website at www.tea.state.tx.us/waivers.

SECTION 1. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION FOR ALL WAIVERS.

District Name: UNITED ISD County/District No. 240-903
 Address: 201 LINDENWOOD DR. Telephone No. () - () - ()
 City, State, Zip: LAREDO, TX. 78045 Fax No. () - () - ()
 Contact Person(s): _____ Telephone No. () - () - ()
 Email: _____

SECTION 2. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION FOR ALL WAIVERS.

Superintendent: ROBERTO J. SANTOS
 Dr. Mr. _____ Typed Name _____ Signature _____
 Mrs. Ms. _____
 Board President: MS. PAT CAMPOS
 _____ Typed Name _____ Signature _____
 Date Board Approval: _____
 Board Vote – For _____ Against _____ Abstain _____ Absent _____

SECTION 3. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION FOR ALL WAIVERS.

Comments of appropriate Site-Based Decision Making Committee: _____

SBDM Committee Chairperson Signature _____

SECTION 4. EXPEDITED WAIVERS. PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

- Staff Development Waiver**, pursuant to Texas Education Code (TEC) §25.081. This waiver allows the district or charter school to train staff on various educational strategies designed to improve student performance in lieu of a maximum of three days of student instruction. Please state the number of days requested: _____
 Please check the years requested: 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013
- Reading/English Language Arts; Mathematics; Science; and/or Social Studies Staff Development Waiver**, pursuant to TEC §25.081. This waiver allows the district or charter school to conduct additional staff training for reading/english language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies strategies aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills in lieu of a maximum of two days of student instruction.
 Please check no more than two subject areas for only one day each:
 Reading/English Language Arts _____ Mathematics _____ Science _____ Social Studies _____
 Please check the years requested: 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013
- Staff Development through Participation in Eligible Conferences Waiver**, pursuant to TEC §25.081. This waiver allows the district or charter school to send staff to eligible conferences for staff development to improve student performance in lieu of one day of student instruction.
 Please check the years requested: 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013
- Early Release Waiver**, pursuant to TEC §25.082(a). This waiver allows the district or charter school to conduct school for less than seven (7) hours for a total of six (6) days of student instruction to provide additional training in educational methodologies and/or to provide time to meet the needs of students and local communities. Please state the number of days requested: _____
 Please check the years requested: 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013
- Modified Schedule/TAKS Testing Days Waiver**, pursuant to TEC §25.082(a). This waiver allows the district or charter school to modify the schedule of classes on TAKS testing days during the current school year to reduce interruptions during testing periods.
 Please check the years requested: 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013

SECTION 4. EXPEDITED WAIVERS

TEXTBOOK WAIVERS: Pursuant to TEC §7.056. This waiver allows school districts and open enrollment charter schools the opportunity to purchase instructional materials and obtain reimbursement up to the state maximum cost called for in a proclamation, for which no textbook was offered for consideration by publishers. These courses include, but are not limited to:

- Proclamations 1998, 1999 and 2000: Photojournalism, Astronomy; AP Environmental Science; IB Environmental Systems; and AP Human Geography:**
 - 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013
- Proclamations 2001 and 2002: Business Education; Technology Education/Industrial Technology Education; Trade and Industrial Education; Languages Other Than English; and Fine Arts:**
 - 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013
- Proclamation 2004: IB Mathematical Studies Subsidiary Level; IB Mathematical Methods Subsidiary Level; IB Mathematical Higher Level; and IB Advanced Mathematics Subsidiary Level.**
 - 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013
- Proclamation 2010: Spanish Literature, Grade 6; IB Language Studies Standard Level; and IB Language Studies Higher Level.**
 - 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013

A complete list of subjects eligible for waivers and the maximum costs allowed may be viewed at:
<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/textbooks/waivers/subjectsnobids.pdf>

Foreign Exchange Student Waiver, pursuant to TEC §25.001(e). This expedited waiver allows the district to limit the number of foreign exchange students to a number that is not less than five per high school. An application to limit the number to less than five per high school must be submitted as a general waiver. The number requested by the district for an expedited waiver is ___ (state number of students) per high school. The waiver is subject to the provisions in the attached guidelines and FAQ <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/waivers/ForeignExchangeGuidelines.doc> <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/waivers/ForeignExchangeFAQ.doc>. The waiver will be issued if it is determined that admission of more than this number indicated will (check all that apply):

- (1) create a financial or staffing hardship for the district;
- (2) diminish the district's ability to provide high quality educational services for the district's domestic students; or
- (3) require domestic students to compete with foreign exchange students for educational resources.

Please check the years requested: 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013

Timeline for Accelerated Instruction Waiver, pursuant to §28.0211(a) and (a-2). This waiver allows districts and charter schools to adjust the timeline for providing the accelerated instruction required for placement in/promotion to the next grade. This waiver is limited to students who fail the third administration of the grade 5 or 8 TAKS reading and/or mathematics test. The waiver is subject to the conditions listed in the attached guidelines: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=7085#Timeline>

Please check the years requested: 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013

SECTION 5. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION & SECTION 6 FOR GENERAL WAIVERS

- Course Requirement
- Course Requirement CTE
- Pregnancy Related Services On-Campus CEHI
- Electronic Course Program
- Other Specify _____
- For foreign exchange student waiver, description must address the circumstances applicable to the district under TEC § Section 25.001(e) (1), (2), or (3). Please submit local policy with application.
<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/waivers/ForeignExchangeGuidelines.doc>
<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/waivers/ForeignExchangeFAQ.doc>

Disciplinary Alternative Education Programs, pursuant to TEC 37.008(g). This waiver allows the district to use more than 18% of the district's SCE allotment to provide supplemental services for disciplinary alternative education programs established under Section 37.008. The school district is required to state the reason for needing to exceed the 18% limit and to report the number of students in each grade level, by demographic subgroup, not making satisfactory progress under the state's assessment system. Please state the total percentage of the district's SCE allotment that is being requested to provide supplemental services at the DAEP. _____. For additional information, reference page 20 of the T.E.A. Financial Accountability System Resource Guide located at <http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/financial.audits/resguide14/Comped.pdf>.

SECTION 6. COMPLETE THIS SECTION FOR ALL WAIVERS OTHER THAN EXPEDITED WAIVERS.

PLEASE USE SEPARATE PAGE.

1. Give a brief narrative description of the requested waiver.
2. Does the district or campus plan reflect the need for this waiver? If yes, what is the specific objective impacted by the waiver?
3. Cite the Texas Education Code or the Texas Administration Code that the district or campus wishes to waive?
4. Describe the plan to be implemented, if the waiver is granted.
5. How will granting this waiver help achieve the district's or campus' objective?
6. Please explain how the school district or campus will evaluate the impact of the waiver towards meeting the district's or campus' goal.
7. Please specify the school years for which the waiver is requested, to a maximum of three years.

2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013

ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MAILED OR FAXED. THE FAX NUMBER IS (512) 475-3666.