



# TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

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Shirley J. Neeley, Ed.D.  
Commissioner

Xc: Janie  
Scott  
JKV

JUN 13

June 5, 2006

Yvette Coffman  
Southwest Regional Administrator  
ERDT/SHARE! High School Exchange Program  
1123 Shady Oaks Court  
Allen, Texas 75002

Dear Ms. Coffman,

This letter is in response to your complaint regarding the admittance of foreign exchange students to Keller Independent School District. Keller I.S.D. has a current waiver to limit the number of foreign exchange students (FES) to fifteen for the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school years. As per your letter, the district has admitted five FES and will not admit more students based on its current board policy.

This issue was forwarded to the Texas Education Agency legal division for a ruling since the district had not reached its limit of 15 students. According to legal counsel, Texas Education Code §25.001(e) allows the district to limit the number of foreign exchange students, but there is nothing stated in law that obliges a district to sign a school acceptance form. However, once the student resides in the district, the district must admit the FES as per Texas Education Code §25.001 (b)(6) if the district has not met its waiver limit.

If you have further questions related to the waiver process, please contact Jim Davis in the State Waiver Unit at 512-463-9630. For additional information on foreign exchange students, please contact me at 512-463-9581.

Sincerely,

María J. Treviño  
Director of Languages other than English  
Division of Curriculum

cc: Dr. James Veitenheimer, Keller I.S.D.  
Anne Vexler, TEA, Correspondence Manager  
Pablo Carrasquillo, TEA, Complaints Management Division  
Jim Davis, TEA, State Waiver Unit

*"Good, Better, Best—never let it rest—until your good is better—and your better is BEST!"*