

Executive Summary

Prepared for Board of Trustees Meeting

January 23, 2007

Expedited and General State Waivers

Purpose of Report

The staff development and early release waivers used each year to build the district calendar expire for Denton ISD this school year (2006-2007). Therefore, to file the application for expedited and general state waivers the Board of Trustees must approve the request. The Board vote must be included in the application. In addition the Superintendent and Board President must sign the application. The waivers are approved for three years at a time – 2007-2008; 2008-2009; 2009-2010.

Staff Development Waiver, pursuant to Texas Education Code (TEC) Section 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. Denton ISD is requesting 3 days.

Early Release Waiver, pursuant to TEC Section 25.082. 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. Denton ISD is requesting 7 days.

Modified Schedule/TAKS Testing Days Waiver, pursuant to TEC Section 25.082. 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. This waiver is approved yearly.

Objectives

- To allow for adequate, high quality campus based staff development
- To allow for connected, on-going, high quality district staff development
- To allow for early release during parent conferences for elementary
- To allow for early release during final exams at the middle school and high school level
- To allow for early release on the last day of school for all students
- To allow for the least amount of interruptions during testing periods.

Operational Impact

none

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Results

- Increase the student achievement evidenced by TAKS, SAT, PSAT, Final Exams, ELI, SELI, etc.
- Increase the knowledge base of teachers in their field of study, ESL learner, special education, etc.
- Evaluations of staff development will be conducted and shared with the Board by June 30th each year.

Other Options

Deny Staff Development Waiver

Deny Early Release Waiver

Deny Modified Schedule/TAKS Testing Days Waiver

Deny waivers in any combination