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UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC Request for Maximum Class Size Waivers for the Fall Semester 2008-2009 School Year

SUBMITTED BY: Gloria Rendon **OF:** Asst. to the Superintendent

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: September 17, 2008

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the United ISD Board of Trustees approve the Maximum Class Size Waiver for the Fall Semester 2008-2009 School Year.

RATIONALE:

BUDGETARY INFORMATION

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

**Texas Education Agency
Request for Maximum Class Size Waiver**
Fall Semester (2008-2009 School Year)

District Name: United I.S.D. 240 - 903 Acceptable
Address: 201 Lindenwood Dr. County-District Number Current District
Laredo, TX 78045 Accountability Rating

This form is also available on-line at www.tea.state.tx.us. Completed forms must be submitted in hard copy to the Texas Education Agency, State Waiver Unit, 1701 North Congress Avenue, Austin, TX 78701-1494 or Fax: 512-475-3666. (This report is authorized under TEC §39.183.)
*** It is not necessary to submit this form unless a waiver is needed.**

Campus Name(s)	Campus No.	Campus Accountability Rating	Total Number of District Sections That Exceed 22:1 Class Size Ratio: <u>6</u> (This amount should be entered only one time even though additional sheets may be needed for campus information.)				Total K-4 Sections	F=Facilities T=Teachers G=Unanticipated Growth	Reason(s)
			K	1	2	3			
			Total Sections	Total Sections	Total Sections	Total Sections			
Gutierrez	114	Recognized				2	F		
Killam	132	New campus	4			4	F		
District Totals			6	7	4	0	6		

Instructions

Each district is to conduct a class enrollment survey of Kindergarten through Grade Four (K-4) no later than **September 11, 2008**. Based on class enrollment surveys for Grades K-4, enter the campus name and campus number for each campus in which the class size ratio exceeds 22:1. Enter the total number of sections and the reason(s) for the waiver request. Class size limits do not apply to physical education or fine arts classes.

The waiver request must be submitted by **October 10, 2008**, and **must include a current compliance plan** that has been approved by the local board of trustees. The plan must include the name(s) of campus(es), campus rating, grade(s), and number of sections exceeding a 22:1 class size ratio; steps to be taken to bring the district into compliance; timeline for completion; any new efforts/progress toward compliance (if plan was previously submitted); and specific reasons that noncompliance must be addressed. In addition, districts that request a waiver due to an inability to employ teachers must document efforts to recruit and hire staff.

Roberto J. Santos Signature of Superintendent **9-17-08** Date
Print Name of Superintendent Date of Board Approval For Against Abstain Absent

John M. Bruce Signature of Board President
Print Name of Board President (956) 728-8691 Email grendon@quisd.net

Gloria S. Rendon Telephone Number (956) 473-6219 Fax Number CDD-105

Print Name of Contact Person



United Independent School District Compliance Plan Fall 2008

United Independent School District continues to experience student enrollment growth; therefore, the district persists in its recruiting efforts, construction of additional campuses, and the constant evaluation of boundaries and student demographics.

Gutierrez Elementary (240-903-114) TEA Recognized Rating:

2 sections in 4th grade over the 22:1 ratio

The district has taken the following measures to assure that this campus is in compliance with class size requirements:

- the district will continue to work closely with the district's demographer to review district wide growth to plan accordingly;
- this campus has a unique situation due to the reason that this campus is one of two *Gifted and Talented Magnet Schools*. Those Gifted and Talented students in grades 3-5 who choose to attend this campus are homogenously grouped. The two sections that are over the 22:1 ratio are composed of G.T. students.

Killam Elementary (240-903-132)--No rating because it is a new campus:

4 sections in 1st grade over the 22:1 ratio

The district has taken the following measures to assure that this campus is in compliance with class size requirements:

- the district will continue to work closely with the district's demographer to review district wide growth to plan accordingly;
- the district will relocate portable buildings to campuses with over-projected enrollments;

Other steps that the district has taken include:

- Continue collaborative efforts with local educational institutions to graduate qualified paraprofessional staff members as teachers.
- The district has established a "Tomorrow's Teachers" Project. This project addresses the need for qualified teachers in all areas of education and plans to meet the challenge by "growing our own" teachers from the talented pool of United I.S.D. students.
- The District is currently meeting with a citizen's group consisting of over 100 constituents to review the district's growth and how to best deal with it. The committee is looking at the possibility of a new bond election.

WAIVER HISTORY 2007 on

	SP '99	FALL '99	SP '00	FALL '00	SP '01	F SP '02	FALL '02	SP '03	F S\Fall '04	SP '05	Fall '05	SP '06	F S\F '07	Sp. '08	f08
CAMPUS															
ARNDT												2 (K)			
CLARK							3(4th)	1 (4th)				1 (2nd)	1(2nd)	3(2nd)	
COL. SANTOS		2(4TH)												3(2nd)	
CUELLAR		2(K)													
FINLEY							1(4th)	2 (4th)							
GUTIERREZ					1(3RD)	1(4TH)			1(2nd)	1(2nd)		4(4th)	1(4th)	1(4th)	2(4th)
									1(4TH)	1(4th)		3(2nd)			
JUAREZ									1(2nd)	1(2nd)					
KAZEN	10(1ST)	5(K)	2(K)	1(K)											
			2(1ST)												
KENNEDY	2(1ST)	5(K)					2(K)								
DELLANO		5(K)		2(K)	2(K)	2(2ND)					1(K)	3 (K)	1(3rd)		
MULLER				1(1ST)				4(4th)						5(1st)	
								2 (K)							
NEWMAN															
NYE							1(1st)							2(1st)	
PEREZ		3(3RD)													
PRADA															
ROOSEVELT															
RUIZ											4(1st)	3(1st)			
SALINAS	2(K)										1(1st)	6(1st)			
												2(2nd)			
TRAUTMANN	3(1ST)				2(1ST)		1(K)				2(4th)	5(K)			
												4(4th)			
DD HACHAR															
ZAFFIRINI		6(1ST)	6(1ST)	5(3RD)							3(4th)	1 (4th)	2(K)	1(1st)	
		4(3RD)	3(3RD)												
			3(4TH)												
BORCHERS								1 (1st)							
								3 (2nd)							
GARCIA									5 (K)	4(K)					
CENTENO														1(1st)	
MALAKOFF												2(k)			
KILLAM															4(1st)
FASKEN															
Total	17	32	16	9	5	2	8	13	8	7	14	38 0	5	16	

Public Notice

The United Independent School District will apply for a class-size waivers for Gutierrez Elementary due to scheduling conflicts produced by the Gifted and Talented Magnet Program and Killam Elementary because of high student growth. State law mandates a 22.1 student-teacher ratio in grades K-4, and a waiver is required by law should a class exceed that amount. The District will continue to work with the demographers for projections and relocate portable classrooms and/or adjust boundaries where needed.