

BOARD CONSENT AGENDA ITEM
Board of Trustees Meeting June 23, 2020

Consider Approval of 2020 – 2021 Expedited and General State Waivers

SUMMARY:

This consent agenda item requests approval to apply for the Expedited and General State Waivers listed below for the 2020 – 2021 school year.

The following [Expedited State Waivers](#) are being recommended for approval:

- Staff Development
 - This waiver is for staff development in place of student instruction; therefore, the waiver minutes are only applicable to staff development provided instead of student instruction during the school year.
- Modified Schedule/State Assessment Testing Days
 - This waiver allows the district or charter school to modify the schedule of classes for students who are not being tested to report to and attend school after the state assessment testing period has ended, therefore reducing the interruptions during testing period.
- Teacher Data Portal of the Texas Assessment Management System
 - Districts that are interested in fulfilling the requirement of TEC, §32.258 to provide teacher access to student assessment data through a local student data system must apply for an expedited waiver from the Texas Education Agency (TEA).
- Timeline for Accelerated Instruction
 - To assist districts in meeting the accelerated instruction provision after the third administration of the test, the agency is allowing districts to apply for a waiver to adjust the timeline for providing accelerated instruction to students who fail the third administration

The following [General State Waiver](#) is being recommended for approval:

- Foreign Exchange Student (Less Than Five)
 - This waiver allows districts and charter schools to limit the number of foreign exchange students to five or less per high school.

BOARD GOALS:

Teaching & Learning – In pursuit of excellence, we will:

- develop and maintain a culture where learning remains our first priority
- advocate and practice true accountability based on measurement of individual student progress over time, regardless of external mandates
- cultivate a consistent, strong, district-wide balanced curriculum based on ongoing needs assessments supporting all students
- establish high expectations with a curriculum fostering inquiry, critical thinking, civic responsibility and exemplary citizenship
- cultivate a network of professional learning communities addressing the educational needs of every child in our district
- incorporate best practices into teaching, learning, technology and leadership
- foster and support an advanced digital learning environment
- establish goals for individual campuses that incorporate both measurable and intangible factors

Culture & Climate – In pursuit of excellence, we will:

- honor the dedication and professionalism of all staff
- celebrate, respect, and promote the value of diversity in our Denton ISD Community
- support a working environment ensuring open and transparent communication
- establish high expectations for success
- instill in students a love of lifelong learning
- foster a positive, welcoming environment encouraging parent and community partnerships

- promote health, wellness and emotional well-being
- effectively communicate achievements and recognitions to the Denton ISD community

Growth & Management – In pursuit of excellence, we will:

- recruit, employ and retain high quality teachers
- remain committed to providing equitable and outstanding opportunities for every student on every campus
- work with the community in planning and facility development
- utilize citizens' advisory committees to focus on short and long-term tasks
- adjust policies and procedures to address rapid growth and changing demographics, nurturing our strong sense of community
- demonstrate effective and efficient management of district resources
- provide leadership and/or oversight to ensure District meets all fiscal, legal and regulatory requirements.
- encourage teachers and staff to pursue advanced degrees
- pursue energy efficiency and conservation principles -
- develop a budget focused on student and professional learning
- maintain a diverse workforce

Opportunities for Students – In pursuit of excellence, we will:

- support college, career, military and life readiness
- engage students in extracurricular clubs and organizations
- Advocate for public education across the state and nation
- develop academic skills and interpersonal relationships necessary for student success in college, the workplace and for life

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

The Texas Education Agency waivers are typically approved for one to three years. Waivers being recommended for approval expired with the 2019 – 2020 school year and are due for resubmission.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Expedited and General Waivers being recommended for approval were last approved in July 2017 and will expire July 2020. For more information regarding the waivers [click here for Expedited Waivers](#) and [click here for General Waivers](#).

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

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

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

None noted at this time.

BENEFIT OF ACTION:

Board approval of the TEA waiver requests allows the District to remain in compliance with TEA requirements.

PROCEDURAL AND REPORTING IMPLICATIONS:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED:

None

ALTERNATIVES:

The Board of Trustees may choose to deny the request.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the TEA Expedited and General State Waivers for submission to the Texas Education Agency.

STAFF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

Gwendolyn M. Perkins, Area Superintendent for Academic Programs

ATTACHMENT:

None

APPROVAL:

Signature of Staff Member Proposing Recommendation: Gwendolyn M. Perkins

Signature of Superintendent: _____