

WICHITA FALLS ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES
June 15, 2026

Agenda Item:	Texas Education Agency Waiver Application for Expedited and General State Waiver for Staff Development		
Administrator Responsible:	Ashley Thomas, Communications Officer		
Attachments:	None		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed	<input type="checkbox"/> Future Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Presentation	<input type="checkbox"/> Report

Administrative Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees for WFISD approves the request for submitting an application for expedited and general state waiver for a reduction in instructional days for 2026-2027 in order to provide staff development as prepared by Ashley Thomas, Communications Officer and as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools.

Explanation:

Texas Education Agency offers a *Staff Development Minutes Waiver* that provides for a maximum of 2,100 total waiver minutes to use for professional development for districts that provide operational and instructional minutes. For the 2026-2027 school calendar, the Board must approve of administration seeking a waiver from TEA, and TEA approving the waiver for the District. The *Staff Development Minutes Waiver*, once available in TEAL should be applicable for one year only.

Each district may choose how to apply their approved *Staff Development Minutes Waiver*. Schools may choose to offer early release, late start, all day staff development, or a combination. However, the total waiver minutes for staff development shall not exceed 2,100 minutes per year.

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. Effective with the 2018-2019 school year, the *Staff Development Minutes Waiver* may not be used prior to the first day of student instruction or after the last day of student instruction. On staff development days when students are in attendance part of the day, in order to receive full ADA funding, the district or open-enrollment charter school must provide at least 120 minutes of student instruction. *Instructional* minutes are defined in the SAAH as the portion of the school day in which instruction takes place along with other exceptions. In addition to the 120 minutes of student instruction, any staff development waiver minutes reported must reflect actual staff development minutes provided.

Fiscal Note: None