

No. _____



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC Request for Expedited State Waiver Application for Modified Schedule for March and May 2008

SUBMITTED BY: Juanita Lozano, Executive Director **OF:** Instruction – Secondary Ed.

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: September 19, 2007

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the United ISD Board of Trustees approve the Expedited State Waiver Application for Modified Schedule/TAKS Testing Days Waiver. The dates being requested are: March 4, 2008, April 29, 30, May 1, 2008, and May 2, 2008.

RATIONALE:

This waiver allows the district to modify the schedule of classes on TAKS testing days during the current school year to reduce interruptions during testing periods. This waiver must be submitted yearly for approval.

BUDGETARY INFORMATION

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

**TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY
STATE WAIVERS**

APPLICATION FOR EXPEDITED AND GENERAL STATE WAIVERS

General Instructions. For Expedited Waivers, please complete Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4. For General State Waivers, please complete Sections 1, 2, 3, 6, and 7. **Bolded** items in Section 2 and Section 3 must be completed. Please direct questions to the State Waiver Unit at (512) 463-9630 or www.tea.state.tx.us/waivers.

SECTION 1. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION FOR ALL WAIVERS.

District Name: United County/District No. 240 - 903
Address: 201 Lindenwood Telephone No. (956) - 473 - 6219
City, State, Zip Laredo, Texas 78045 Fax No. (956) - 728 - 8691
Contact Person: Juanita Lozano Telephone No. (956) - 473 - 2022

SECTION 2. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION FOR ALL WAIVERS.

Superintendent: Mr. Roberto J. Santos _____
Typed Name Signature
Board President: Mr. John Bruce _____
Typed Name Signature
Date Board Approval: September 19, 2007
Board Vote – For Against Abstain Absent

SECTION 3. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION FOR ALL WAIVERS.

Comments of appropriate Site-Based Decision Making Committee: Approved September 18, 2007

SBDM Committee Chairperson Signature _____

SECTION 4. EXPEDITED WAIVERS. PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

Staff Development Waiver, pursuant to Texas Education Code (TEC) §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. Please state the number of days requested. _____

Please check the years requested: 2006-2007 2007-2008 2008-2009

Reading/English Language Arts; Mathematics; Science; and/or Social Studies Staff Development Waiver, pursuant to TEC §25.081. This waiver allows the district or charter school to conduct additional staff training for reading/english language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies strategies aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills in lieu of a maximum of two days of student instruction.

Please check no more than two subject areas for only one day each:

Reading/English Language Arts Mathematics Science Social Studies

Please check the years requested: 2006-2007 2007-2008 2008-2009

Staff Development through Participation in Eligible Conferences Waiver, pursuant to TEC §25.081. This waiver allows the district or charter school to send staff to eligible conferences for staff development to improve student performance in lieu of one day of student instruction.

Please check the years requested: 2006-2007 2007-2008 2008-2009

Early Release Waiver, pursuant to TEC §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.

Please state the number of days requested. _____

Please check the years requested: 2006-2007 2007-2008 2008-2009

Modified Schedule/TAKS Testing Days Waiver, pursuant to TEC §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.

SECTION 4. EXPEDITED WAIVERS.

Textbooks for Photojournalism, Astronomy, (AP) Environmental Science, and (AP) Human Geography, pursuant to TEC §7.056. This waiver allows the district or charter school reimbursement for the purchase of non-state adopted textbooks used in Photojournalism, Astronomy, (AP) Environmental Science, and (AP) Human Geography courses for which no textbooks were adopted by the state. Reimbursement is equal to the state maximum cost or the cost of the textbook, whichever is lower.

Please check the years requested: 2006-2007 2007-2008 2008-2009

Textbooks under Proclamation 2001 and Proclamation 2002 in Business Education, Technology Education/Industrial Technology Education, Trade and Industrial Education, Languages Other Than English, and Fine Arts, pursuant to TEC §7.056. This waiver allows the district or charter school reimbursement for the purchase of non-state adopted textbook used in Business Education, Technology Education/Industrial Technology Education, Trade and Industrial Education, Languages Other Than English, and Fine Arts courses for which no textbooks were adopted by the state. Reimbursement is equal to the state maximum cost or the cost in the textbook, whichever is lower.

Please check the years requested: 2006-2007 2007-2008 2008-2009

Foreign Exchange Student Waiver, pursuant to TEC §25.001(e). This waiver allows the district to limit the number of foreign exchange students to __ (state number of students) per district. The waiver will be issued if it is determined that admission of a foreign exchange student will (check all that apply):

- (1) create a financial or staffing hardship for the district;
- (2) diminish the district's ability to provide high quality educational services for the district's domestic students; or
- (3) require domestic students to compete with foreign exchange students for educational resources.

Please check the years requested: 2006-2007 2007-2008 2008-2009

SECTION 5. GENERAL WAIVER.

Disciplinary Alternative Education Programs, pursuant to TEC 37.008(g). This waiver allows the district to use more than 18% of the district's SCE allotment to provide basic services for disciplinary alternative education programs established under Section 37.008. The school district is required to state the reason for needing to exceed the 18% limit and to report the number of students in each grade level, by demographic subgroup, not making satisfactory progress under the state's assessment system. This waiver is granted for one year and the waiver must be renewed in writing prior to the start of the school year through the Texas Education Agency waiver office for each subsequent year, in accordance with TEA policies and deadlines for filing. Please state the total percentage of the district's SCE allotment that is being requested to provide basic services at the DAEP. _____

SECTION 6. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION FOR GENERAL WAIVERS.

Please check one:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Course Requirement | <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy Related Services On-Campus CEHI |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disciplinary Alternative Education Campus | <input type="checkbox"/> Study of Electronic Courses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Specify _____ | |

SECTION 7. COMPLETE THIS SECTION FOR ALL WAIVERS OTHER THAN EXPEDITED WAIVERS. PLEASE USE SEPARATE PAGE.

1. Give a brief narrative description of the requested waiver.
2. Does the district or campus plan reflect the need for this waiver? If yes, what is the specific objective impacted by the waiver?
3. Cite the Texas Education Code or the Texas Administration Code that the district or campus wishes to waive?
4. Describe the plan to be implemented, if the waiver is granted.
5. How will granting this waiver help achieve the district or campus's objective?
6. Please explain how the school district or campus will evaluate the impact of the waiver towards meeting the district or campus's goal.
7. Please specify the school years for which the waiver is requested, to a maximum of three years.

2006-2007 2007-2008 2008-2009

All applications should be mailed or faxed. The fax number is (512) 475-3666.

State Waiver Unit
Texas Education Agency
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701-1494
Phone (512) 463-9630