

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
BEEVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Date: June 16, 2008

**Subject: Evaluation of Waivers
 School Year 2008-2009**

Submitted By: Mrs. Jones

CONSENT AGENDA

Information: BISD had five waivers this school year. A brief description/evaluation of each is listed below:

1. Staff Development: Three additional days of staff development was approved which lowered the number of instructional days for students to 177 days.

Evaluation:

Each staff development session was evaluated. The ratings and comments were very positive as a whole. Individual evaluations for campus staff development are detailed in the Campus Improvement Plan Evaluations.

3. Modified Schedule for TAKS days for AC Jones and LRC students was allowed. The arrangement allowed the students to test in classrooms versus testing in the auditorium or gym.

Evaluation:

TAKS results were mixed. However, with the complexity of administering all of the tests to so many different groups of students, the flexibility of late entry for students greatly helped AC Jones and LRC with administering the TAKS tests. Preliminary passing rates for BISD ninth grade students on TAKS were as follows: Mathematics 42%; Reading 80%. Preliminary passing rates for BISD tenth grade students on TAKS were as follows: Mathematics 60%; English Language Arts 86%; Science 57%; Social Studies 85%. Preliminary passing rates for BISD eleventh grade students on TAKS were as follows: Mathematics 76%; English Language Arts 92%; Science 81%; Social Studies 97%. Out of these 10 tests, 9 of them showed improvement over last year. These results include TAKS and TAKS Accommodated tests.

4. Six early release dates were allowed. They were on September 17, October 31, December 19, February 6, May 6 and May 29.

Evaluation:

All of the early release days were valuable to the staff of BISD. The early release days at the end of each semester were extremely valued by the teachers. It allowed the teachers to complete necessary work to complete the semester, such as permanent records and final semester grades for students. The other four days allowed teachers to work on their campus with the grade level or department to improve instruction.

5. Pregnancy Related Services (PRS) were allowed to be given to small groups of students who gathered at school versus individual one-on-one services being given in the homes of the mothers.

Evaluation:

Serving students in need of Pregnancy Related Services at school allows the district to use a half time teacher to provide these services. As much as possible, the teacher served students in small group settings. This school year, the average number of hours in small group settings was 14 hours per week. The teacher made 159 visits to PRS students during the year. This number includes both 1 and 2 hour PRS instructional home visits. These visits consisted of 80 home visits and 79 campus visits with PRS students before students are scheduled to return to regular classes. The maximum number of students served in a week was 5.

6. Alternative Education Program Attendance is a waiver to allow the academic recovery program at the Learning Resource Center to take student attendance at flexible hours,

Evaluation:

1. Students that attend the Learning Resource Center are not the typical, average student; they are primarily non-traditional individuals, who perform better in a non-traditional, flexible academic environment that also provides flexibility in the attendance schedule.
2. The Learning Resource Center's Campus Improvement Plan reflects the need to create individual student academic schedules that take into consideration the student's academic, family, and health needs.
3. Full time students must attend school for 240 minutes per day in order to be counted present for the day. Student attendance is based on the actual number of hours / minutes a student is in attendance. The students are required to use a time clock to clock in and clock out in order to maintain accurate documentation of attendance on a daily basis.
4. As indicated by the district attendance summary of individual campus attendance rates for each six weeks period, The LRC showed slight improvement as compared to the previous year's data, 88.4 2006-2007, 90% 2007-2008, 89.3% 2008-2009.
5. The average number of class credit earned per student while at the LRC was 6 which reflects an increase when compared to last year's data of 5.8. This school year LRC had 70 students that completed their academic course work, and of those 70, 36 students met all criteria for graduation.

ITEMS ADDRESSED:

Evaluation of Waivers

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approval of Evaluation of Waivers

BUDGETARY INFORMATION:

None