

BOARD AGENDA ITEM
Board of Trustees Meeting July 21, 2016

Consider Approval of Low Attendance Days Waiver

SUMMARY:

This item requests approval to apply for a low attendance day waiver from the Texas Education Agency (TEA). As allowed by TEA, “districts or campuses can request a waiver to excuse any instructional day(s) from ADA and FSP funding calculations that have attendance at least 10 percentage points below the last school year’s average attendance due to inclement weather, health, or safety-related issues. As indicated in the documents attached, Billy Ryan High School recognized an 81.88% attendance rate on February 5, 2016. This low attendance day is 12.84% below the overall average attendance rate for the prior school year at Billy Ryan High School.

Low attendance at Billy Ryan High School on February 5, 2016, was related to the late afternoon lockdown of the high school campus on February 4, 2016. On February 4, 2016, officers responded to the school in the 5100 block of East McKinney Street after a 911 call was received stating a person with a gun had entered a classroom on the campus. The lockdown was released later the same afternoon; however, several students did not return to campus on February 5, 2016, while the Denton Police Department completed their investigation and assured the public the call was a hoax and students were safe to return to campus.

BOARD GOAL:

Vision – In pursuit of excellence, the district will:

- Develop and maintain a culture where learning remains our first priority
- Develop a budget focused on student and professional learning

Climate – In pursuit of excellence, the district will:

- Encourage and nourish a safe learning and compassionate working environment which ensures open and transparent communication and is supportive, cooperative, and ethical

Parent and Community Involvement – In pursuit of excellence, the district will:

- Foster a positive and welcoming environment that encourages parent and community partnerships to achieve success for all our students
- Provide support services and promote health, wellness and safety for students and families

Growth, Change & Fiscal Responsibility – In pursuit of excellence, the district will:

- Create and continuously modify strategies to mitigate increasing stresses on our children, our schools and our community
- Provide leadership and/or oversight to ensure District meets all fiscal, legal, and regulatory requirements

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

No previous Board action for the 2015-2016 school year.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The ADA/ADM Statistics Report for Billy Ryan High School for the 2014 – 2015 school year reflects a 94.72% average daily attendance rate.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

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

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Consideration of the low attendance rate recognized on February 5, 2016, may have a fiscal impact if the waiver is not submitted allowing the 81.88% daily attendance of this day to be calculated as an instruction day in ADA and FSP funding calculations.

BENEFIT OF ACTION:

Approval of this action allows the District to submit a low attendance day waiver for February 5, 2016, to excuse this day from instructional days in calculating ADA and FSP funding.

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:

Without consent of approval to submit the low attendance day for Billy Ryan High School on February 5, 2016, the average daily attendance for this day will be utilized in determining ADA and FSP funding calculations.

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends the Board approves the low attendance day waiver request to be submitted for consideration to the Texas Education Agency.

STAFF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

Gwendolyn M. Perkins, Area Superintendent for Academic Programs

ATTACHMENT:

ADA/ADM Statistics Report for Billy Ryan High School for the date range August 25, 2014 – June 4, 2015

ADA/ADM Statistics Report for Billy Ryan High School for the date range of February 5, 2016

APPROVAL:

Signature of Staff Member Proposing Recommendation: Gwendolyn M. Perkins_____

Signature of Divisional Assistant Superintendent: _____

Signature of Superintendent: _____