

Approval of General Waiver for Pregnancy Related Services On-Campus CEHI

February 9, 2010

SUMMARY:

This item requests approval of the Board for a Waiver for Pregnancy Related Services On-Campus Compensatory Education Homebound Instruction. This waiver would allow us to provide homebound instruction at Fred Moore High School to students who are four weeks post partum when our students on CEHI exceed six (6) or those who are unable to have instruction provided in their home but have a release from their physician to come to FMHS for homebound instruction.

BOARD GOAL: Board Goal 1b. We are committed to providing equitable and outstanding opportunities for every student on every campus.

Board Goal 11c. We establish a high expectation level for success for all student, staff, parents, and community.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

The Board approved this General Waiver for On-Campus CEHI for the years 2006 through 2009, but the waiver has now expired and I am submitting a new application.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

As our teen parent program expands, so does our need for homebound services. With one full time homebound instructor serving the needs of our students, having the option of the teacher providing instruction for up to four (4) students at a time, instead of one on one instruction, allows us to effectively serve students, utilize the FMHS campus and the parent education teacher, without having to hire a substitute.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

The Teen Parent Program has a growing population and increased need for homebound instruction. Prenatal students, with a physicians statement of need, can be served throughout their pregnancy and students who are postpartum are served six (6) weeks, unless the student has a C-section or delivers a baby with health complications, and then their homebound, again with documentation from the physician, can be extended for an additional four (4) weeks. The average length of homebound instruction is ten (10) weeks, but we generally provide homebound instruction to 6-8 students per year, for an entire semester, due to pregnancy complications documented by their physician.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Students on homebound receive weighted ADA and for the most part experience excellent attendance, due to the diligence of our homebound instructor and the teen parent social workers. Utilizing the waiver will mean we do not have to hire a substitute to assist the full time homebound instructor with her caseload, but can better utilize the full time Compensatory Education Homebound Instructor, as well as the parent education instructor, at FMHS.

BENEFIT OF ACTION:

The benefit of approving the waiver providing an additional option of homebound instruction to those students who are four weeks postpartum and or those students who cannot be served in their home environment because they do not have an adult who can be present while services are received or the home environment is not suitable for home instruction. The end result is students who remain integrated in the school environment, earning credits, and increasing their potential to graduate from high school.

PROCEDURAL AND REPORTING IMPLICATIONS:

Documentation to the campuses and TEA will remain the same.

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED:

None

ALTERNATIVES:

If the waiver is not approved, I will need to hire a substitute teacher certified 6-12.

OTHER COMMENTS:

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: I am asking that the Board approve my request for a Waiver from TEA for Pregnancy Related Services On-Campus CEHI at FMHS, for those students who are four weeks postpartum or unable to receive homebound services in their home environment.

STAFF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

-Barb Haflich Coordinator of Teen Parent Program

ATTACHMENT:

A narrative for section 3 and section 6 is attached.

APPROVAL:

Signature of Staff Member Proposing Recommendation: _____

Signature of Divisional Assistant Superintendent: _____

Signature of Superintendent: _____