



CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 2004 AGENDA

General Waiver

<p>SUBJECT</p> <p>Request by Castro Valley Unified School District to waive <i>Education Code</i> (EC) Section 37202, the equity of length time requirement to allow a full day kindergarten program at two of the district's nine elementary schools, Castro Valley and Marshall Elementary Schools.</p> <p>Waiver Number: 4-7-2004</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Consent</p>
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RECOMMENDATION

Approval Approval with conditions Denial

For one year with the condition that the district submits an evaluation before a renewal is considered.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

The State Board of Education has approved similar waivers in the past.

SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

The Castro Valley Unified School District requests a waiver of EC section 37202, the equity of length time requirement at two of their nine elementary schools, Castro Valley and Marshall Elementary. The district wants to extend the length of kindergarten to improve the educational opportunities for the Title I students after reviewing the achievement data for those particular students. There are three Title I schools in the district and the sites chosen for this pilot are both Title I schools. While most of the schools in the district have API's above 800, Castro Valley Elementary has an API of 768 for 2003. This school also has the highest percentage of free and reduced-price meals and English learners in the district. Clearly, this school would benefit from the longer instructional day.

The two schools chosen for the pilot have the necessary space for extended day kindergartens. Both the unions and the school site councils have been supportive of the plan. The district will offer the kindergarten pupils in the pilot program thirty minutes more of daily instructional time in an effort to increase student academic achievement. The district's board has adopted EC sections 8970-8974 and their resolution is included in the waiver. Their open enrollment policy allows parents to move their children to any school in the district boundary.

Therefore, the department recommends approval of the waiver for one year with the condition that the district submit an evaluation before a renewal is considered.

Authority for Waiver: *Education Code* (EC) Section 33050

Period of request: August 25, 2004 to June 9, 2005

Local board approval date(s): June 24, 2004

Public hearing held on date(s): June 24, 2004

Bargaining unit(s) consulted on date(s): May 13, May 19 and June 3, 2004

Name of bargaining unit/representative(s) consulted: Barbara Siegel, President, CVTA

Position of bargaining unit(s) (choose only one):

Neutral Support Oppose

Comments (if appropriate):

Public hearing advertised by (choose one or more):

posting in a newspaper posting at each school other (specify) Public library and district office

Advisory committee(s) consulted: School site councils and Title I Schools Advisory committees

Objections raised (choose one): None Objections are as follows:

Date(s) consulted: May 25, 2004 at Marshall Elementary, June 1, 2004 Castro Valley Elementary and April 23, 2004 at the Title One Advisory Committees - Various dates for the remainder of the schools, see attached waiver

FISCAL ANALYSIS (AS APPROPRIATE)

The district will absorb will costs incurred.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Action Item: Some documentation is available for web viewing. Waiver forms and other hard copy documents are available for viewing at the Waiver Office or State Board Office.