

November 18, 2015

APPROVE RENEWAL OF ISBE WAIVERS**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:**

That the Chicago Board of Education (the "Board") approve the renewal applications for three waivers of Illinois State Board of Education ("ISBE") rules and state mandates. The three waivers are: (1) to allow CPS to distribute supplemental general state aid (SGSA) based on its formula for student attendance; (2) to allow CPS more flexibility in procuring food services; and (3) to allow CPS more flexibility in scheduling school improvement days. Upon approval of this Board Report, the renewal waiver applications described below will be forwarded to the ISBE.

PUBLIC HEARING AND NOTICES: A Public Hearing on the renewal waiver applications will be held on November 18, 2015, in accordance with Section 2-3.25g of the Illinois School Code. Notice was posted on the CPS and Board websites and published in a Chicago newspaper and provided to Illinois state legislators who represent Chicago and collective bargaining agents as required by Section 2-3.25g of the Illinois School Code.

DESCRIPTION OF THE RENEWAL WAIVERS:**1. Supplemental General State Aid Waiver**

Section 203.20a of the 23 Illinois Administrative Code requires the school district to use the total number of students receiving free and reduced meals from December 1 of the year preceding the school year as the date to determine the school allocation of SGSA funds. CPS past practice has been to use the schools 20th day of instruction's free and reduced meals count of previous year to determine initial allocation of SGSA funds for current year. A final SGSA allocation is based on the number of eligible students as of 20th day of the current school year. The district holds a waiver that allows CEO or designee to continue the practice of using the 20th day model until the end of this school year. In order to continue this practice, the district needs to renew this waiver for two years.

2. Food Service Procurement

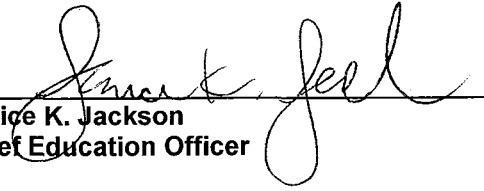
Section 34-21.3 of the Illinois School Code only allows for food services to be procured as a request for bid (RFB). The USDA federal regulations allow school districts to procure the expertise of a management or vended meal company using a request for bid (RFB) or request for proposal (RFP) process. The renewal of this waiver for five years will allow CPS to continue to choose either an RFB or RFP to procure food services.

3. School Improvement Waiver

The school improvement waiver will allow the CEO or designee to schedule school improvement plan activities for teachers in full day sessions rather than half day sessions. Section 18-8.05(F)(2)(d)(2) of the Illinois School Code relates to the calculation of student attendance days and the requirements for accumulating extra student attendance hours during a specified period of time to schedule half day sessions. The waiver would replace a half day session with a full day session and may be counted as a day of student attendance up to four times a school year as long as the required five clock hours of student instruction time is provided to students throughout the school term. The renewal waiver application shall request a five year waiver period, beginning during the 2017 school year and ending after the 2021 school year.

AUTHORIZATION: Authorize the Chief Executive Officer or designee to execute the renewal of the waiver applications described above and submit it to ISBE in accordance with Section 2-3.25g of the School Code.

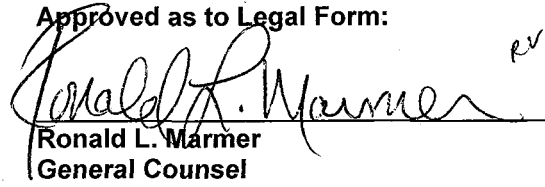
Approved for Consideration:


Janice K. Jackson
Chief Education Officer

Respectfully Submitted:


Forrest Claypool
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

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Ronald L. Marmer
General Counsel