Illinois State Board of Education Waiver Renewal Requests

Public Hearing November 18, 2015



Overview of Waiver Renewals

- Supplemental General State Aid Waiver expires 2016, must be approved by ISBE. This waiver allows us to distribute SGSA funds in a way that matches 20th day CPS enrollment data. Without the waiver, we would have to distribute SGSA funds based on prior year data, with no adjustment for current year enrollment
- Food Services RFP expired 2015, must be approved by the General Assembly (GA). This waiver would allow us to hold a RFP for food services allowing us to get better pricing.
- 3. Restructured Day/School Improvement Day expires 2017, must be approved by GA. This waiver allows CPS to have flexibility in planning its school calendar by allowing us to bank instructional time and have full days of school improvement days that count as days of student attendance.



SGSA Waiver

CPS' current process for allocating SGSA funds is more equitable

- We use the most current and accurate counts of students eligible for free/reduced meals to ensure that SGSA funds are following the student.

<u>CPS' current process for allocating SGSA funds is more inclusive</u>

- New and expanding schools are not penalized because they do not have prior year counts.
- Under the procedure in administrative rules, new schools would not receive SGSA in its first year even if they have students qualifying for free/reduced meals.



Food Service Procurement Waiver

- Section 34-21.3 of the Illinois School Code only allows for food services to be procured as a request for bid.
- The USDA federal regulations allow school districts to procure the expertise of a management or vended meal company using a request for bid <u>or a request for proposal process</u>.
- Industry trends and innovations (wellness, new products, and program delivery methods) can be encouraged and accommodated with a request for proposal.
- To allow the Board to issue a request for proposal for food service management or vended meals services as provided for in the USDA regulations.
- CPS saved over \$35,000,000 over the last three years due to this waiver.



School Improvement Waiver

- The School Improvement (Restructured Day) waiver impacts Section 18-8.05 of the School Code.
- It allows the district to schedule up to 4 school improvement in-service days as a full day of student attendance provided that the district "bank" instructional minutes above the state required minutes across the other days of the year.
- The district has utilized this waiver since 2012. The waiver will end on June 2017, requiring CPS to renew.
- The school improvement waiver would allow the district:
 - Flexibility in planning the school calendar
 - Provide up to 4 full days of in-service under Section 18-8.05 of the School Code

