

GENERAL WAIVER COVER SHEET
CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
JANUARY 2004 AGENDA
Item No. W-2

<p>TITLE: Wasco Union High School District requests a waiver of Title 5, Code of California Regulations (CCR), Section 1032(d)(5) which would in effect allow Wasco Union High School to receive a valid API for the 2002-2203 base and growth targets with “less than 85%” of students taking the World History and U.S. History portion of the California Standards Test.</p> <p>CDSIS: 10-11-2003</p>	<p><u> X </u> ACTION <u> </u> INFORMATION <u> </u> CONSENT</p>
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RECOMMENDATION:

The Department recommends:

- Approval
 Denial Per *Education Code* (EC) Section 33051(a)(1), the educational needs of the pupils are not adequately addressed.

Summary of Previous State Board of Education Discussion and Action:

Senate Bill 1X, the Public Schools Accountability Act (PSAA), established a system of accountability for public schools in California. The cornerstone of the system of accountability is the Academic Performance Index (API), which summarizes test results across grades and content areas. In 2001 the State Board of Education approved CCR, Section 1032(d), which states:

“A school’s API shall be considered invalid under the following circumstances:

5) In any content area tested pursuant to EC sections 60642 and 60642.5 and included in the API, the school’s proportion of the number of test-takers in that (content area compared with the total number of test-takers is less than 85 percent. There shall be no rounding in determining the proportion of test-takers in each content area (i.e., 84.99 percent is not 85 percent).”

Summary of Key Issue(s):

The Public Schools Accountability Act (PSAA) was based on educational needs of students, particularly that of improving student achievement. Increases or decreases in student achievement at a school are measured through the API. The Title 5 Regulation that the Wasco UHSD is asking to waive was specifically adopted by the State Board of Education (SBE) to protect the educational needs of the pupils by ensuring the validity of the API. This regulation requires that the Department of Education invalidate a school’s API if the participation rate in any required content area test falls below 85%. The regulation was adopted to ensure that the

API would be a valid measure of student achievement by requiring a minimum level of participation in each test included in a school's API.

The Wasco UHSD is requesting that Wasco High School receive a 2003 Growth API, even though the school failed to meet the 85% criterion in the 10th and 11th Grade California Standards Tests in History-Social Science. The district notes that many students at the school, as a common practice, take history classes in the summer rather than during the regular school year. The district further contends that staff mistakenly believed that History-Social Science standards tests were end-of-course tests rather than tests required of all students enrolled in 10th and 11th grades. This, according to the district, accounted for the failure of the school to test 85% of its students in either of these tests.

The Department of Education recommends denial of this appeal. The district should have been aware of the requirement to test all students, not just those enrolled in a particular class. In the material furnished to all districts, including the 2003 California Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR), District Coordinator Manual and the Site Coordinator Manual. Attached are copies of the documents, highlighted to indicate that the instructions were as follows:

Grade 10 and 11—all students

California Standards Tests

- **History-Social Science**

This was in contrast to standards tests in science and math, which were to be administered to students completing particular standards-based courses. Example:

Grade 9-11-- students completing standards based science courses between 202 summer school and the end of 2002-03 school year

California Science Standards Test for the last courses completed

- **Biology/Life Science**
- **Chemistry**
- **Earth Science...etc...**

The school's failure to receive a 2003 growth API has serious consequences. Wasco High School has advanced to year 3 of Program Improvement because it did not meet the API component of Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

Bargaining unit(s) consulted on: 10/28/03

Position of bargaining unit (choose only one):

Neutral Support Oppose

Name of bargaining unit representative:

Public hearing identified by (choose one or more):

posting in a newspaper posting at each school other

(specify) _____

Public hearing held on: 11/13/03

Local board approval date: 11/13/03

Advisory committee(s) consulted:

Objections raised (choose one): None Objections are attached on separate sheet

Date consulted: 10/28/03

Effective dates of request: 2002-2003

Background Information: Waiver request forms and attachments:

- 2003 CSTR, **District Coordinator Manual (See Page 1 of 3)**
- 2003 CSTR, **Site Coordinator Manual (See Page 2 of 4)**