

**GENERAL WAIVER COVER SHEET**  
**CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**JULY 2003 AGENDA**  
**Item No. W-2**

<p><b>TITLE:</b> Request by <b>Moorpark Unified School District</b> to waive <i>Education Code (EC)</i> Section 37202, equity length of time requirement to allow a full day kindergarten program at <b>Walnut Canyon, Peach Hill, Campus Canyon, and Flory Schools.</b></p> <p><b>CDSIS:</b> 42-5-2003</p>	<p><u>  <b>X</b>  </u> <b>ACTION</b></p> <p><u>      </u> <b>INFORMATION</b></p> <p><u>      </u> <b>PUBLIC HEARING</b></p> <p><u>      </u> <b>CONSENT</b></p>
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**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Department recommends approval of this waiver for two years minus one day with the condition that the district provide an evaluation of the full day kindergarten program 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 Issue(s):**

The **Moorpark Unified School District** is requesting a waiver of *EC* Section 37202, the equity length of time requirement, in order to institute a full-day kindergarten program at four of their six elementary schools, **Walnut Canyon, Peach Hill, Campus Canyon and Flory Schools**, as a pilot program for increasing kindergarten instructional time. While **Walnut Canyon, Peach Hill and Campus Canyon Elementary Schools** already serve kindergarten pupils, **Flory Elementary** serves fourth through sixth grade pupils but beginning in 2004-2005 will begin a kindergarten class and also wants to have a full day kindergarten program to be included as part of the waiver request.

Moorpark Unified is requesting to increase the kindergarten instructional time to 300 minutes, Monday through Thursday and 220 minutes on Friday, which is the same schedule as the first grade students. The district wants to increase the instructional time to provide an instructional improvement strategy for those kindergarten pupils. The schools in the pilot program have slightly lower API scores than the other schools in the district. The district will use funds from the “Targeted Instructional Improvement Grant,” (TIIP, formerly the “Voluntary Desegregation Program”), to help pay for additional instructional aide time. Funds for this program are to be used “to provide instructional improvement for the lowest achieving pupils in the district.” The Teacher’s Union has given the district full support for this effort. The district also has a transfer policy to allow parents that want their children to attend one of the extended day kindergartens to be able to do so. The local board has passed a resolution to support the full day kindergarten pilot, according to *EC* Sections 8970-8974 and the district will provide an integrated age appropriate curriculum.

Therefore, the department recommends approval of this waiver for two years minus one day with the condition that the district provide an evaluation of the full day kindergarten before a renewal is considered.

Bargaining unit(s) consulted on: June 2002, August 2002 and January 2003

Position of bargaining unit (choose only one):

Neutral                                       Support                                       Oppose

Name of bargaining unit representative: Linda Anderson

Public hearing identified by (choose one or more):

posting in a newspaper     posting at each school     other (specify)

Public hearing held on: May 13, 2003

Local board approval date: May 13, 2003

Advisory committee(s) consulted: All School Site Councils

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

Date consulted: January 29, 2003

Effective dates of request: 08/01/03 – 07/30/05

**Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate):**

No impact.

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**Background Information:**

Waiver request forms and supporting documents are attached to this summary.