



CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MAY 2004 AGENDA

General Waiver

<p>SUBJECT</p> <p>Request by 12 local educational agencies, to waive <i>Education Code</i> (EC) Section 51224.5(b), the requirement that all students graduating in the 2003-04 year be required to complete a course in Algebra I (or equivalent) to be given a diploma of graduation (waivers for 282 seniors). These waivers were received after April 2, 2004 and more may be added in a Last Minute Memorandum</p> <p>Waiver Number: (see attached list of districts)</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action</p>
	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Consent</p>

RECOMMENDATION

Approval Approval with conditions Denial

That the waiver be granted for the 2003-04 year providing districts comply with conditions (excluding the deadline) in the State Board of Education Waiver Policy: Algebra I Graduation Requirement, No. 04-01.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

At the January 2004 State Board of Education (SBE) meeting, a waiver request was considered from the Santa Cruz City Schools pertaining to a provision of law enacted in 2001, that became operative in 2003-04, requiring students to complete Algebra I (or its equivalent¹) as a condition of receiving a high school diploma. In March 2004, the SBE approved a Waiver Policy for Algebra; Number 04-01. This policy now allows the attached waivers meeting certain conditions and reviewed by the Executive Director of the SBE to be presented on the consent calendar.

SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

Attached is a spreadsheet which lists the twelve local educational agencies (LEAs) who have requested the Algebra I Graduation requirement be waived to award diplomas for students who are otherwise qualified students in the Class of 2004, and lack only the completion of Algebra I. **Information on additional waivers will be provided on a Last minute Memorandum.** LEAs have also provided proof that they have notified the students and parents class of 2005 of this requirement and that they understand the SBE does not intend to consider consent waivers of this type in the future.

The list of LEAs includes information about whether or not the LEA knew about the graduation requirement for Algebra, whether or not most seniors were notified of the

¹ *Education Code* Section 51225.4(b) specifies in effect that students must complete the content of Algebra I, which may be in the form of a specific course by that name or a series of integrated mathematics courses (typically also including the content of Geometry and Algebra II). Where these guidelines use the term "Algebra I," the broader meaning just described is intended.

Algebra I General Waiver, Page 2

requirement, the category of students who needed the waiver and the number of seniors for whom a waiver is requested for the 2003-2004 school year.

Each LEA has certified that all students are currently enrolled in a course to meet the standards of Algebra I, and that students are being encouraged to complete the course. If the completion of this course in algebra is the only graduation requirement that is missing, these students will be allowed to receive a diploma for graduation. Information about the reasons these students need the waiver, and a list of approved students by student identifier have been reviewed and are in the CDE Waiver Office.

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

Bargaining unit(s) consulted on date(s): various

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

Neutral Support Oppose

Public hearing held on date(s): Dates provided on each individual waiver.

Local board approval date(s): Dates provided each individual waiver.

Advisory committee(s) consulted: Dates provided each individual waiver.

Period of request: All waivers are for the 2003-2004 school year only

FISCAL ANALYSIS (AS APPROPRIATE)

There is no statewide fiscal impact if these waivers are approved.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Consent Item: Backup materials, waiver request forms and supporting documents are not available for web viewing but are available for inspection in the Waiver Office.

Algebra I Waiver - Summary District Information

District Name	Known of	Prev. Notice	Comply	Seniors	Needing	This Waiver		No. of
Waiver No.	Statute	to most 2004	to all	Reg.	Alt. Ed.	Spec. Ed	Adult Ed.	seniors
		seniors	Conditions					
Murrieta Valley USD	yes	yes	yes			x		23
Waiver No: 90-4-2004								
Placer COE	yes	no	yes		x			5
Waiver No: 88-4-2004								
Rowland USD	yes	yes	yes	x	x	x		26
Waiver No: 99-4-2004								
Santa Clara COE	yes	yes	yes		x			19
Waiver No: 124-4-2004								
							TOTAL	282