



CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MAY 2004 AGENDA

Federal Waiver

<p>SUBJECT</p> <p>Request by North Monterey County Unified School District to waive No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB); Title IV, Part A, Section 4115 (a)(1)(c) to use Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities funds to support the cost of Community of Caring, a K-12 program that emphasizes student focus on the values of trust, caring, respect, responsibility and family.</p> <p>Waiver Number: Fed-01-2004</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action</p>
	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent</p>

RECOMMENDATION

Approval Approval with conditions Denial

The district must submit a report to the Safe and Healthy Kids Program Office no later than May 2005 describing the progress made by Fordham University in evaluating the *Community of Caring* program. The district must submit a report to the Safe and Healthy Kids Program Office no later than May 2006 describing the progress made by Fordham University in submitting the results of the evaluation to (1) the National Registry of Effective Programs, (2) the University of Colorado's Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, or (3) the California Healthy Kids Resource Center, for possible designation as a Model, Blueprint, or Validated Program. The district must be willing to take part in a formal evaluation if requested. The district must also evaluate its own comprehensive prevention program in accordance with the district's approved Local Educational Agency Plan.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

State Board Policy 03-01 contains guidelines for approval of applications for waiver of the NCLB requirements that Title IV funds be used for "science-based" prevention programs. This is the first waiver submission for the *Community of Caring* program.

SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

This application requests a waiver so that the LEA may use the "promising" prevention program *Community of Caring* rather than a "science-based" prevention program as required by Title IV of NCLB. Per State Board Policy 03-01, there are three conditions which must be satisfied before approval of the use of a "promising" prevention program rather than an already-established science-based program. Each of those conditions is listed in bold below.

Is the program innovative?

Does the program demonstrate substantial likelihood of success?

These two conditions, for innovation and substantial likelihood of success, are

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satisfied because the program has already been designated as “promising” by the United States Department of Education, Expert Panel. Policy 03-01 lists the Expert Panel as one of the nationwide research groups that may recognize a new program as “science-based.”

Is there a plan and timeline for submitting the program for review and recognition? This condition requires that the plan be reviewed by one of the nationwide research groups identified in policy 03-01. This waiver request meets these criteria, because the producer of the program is already participating in a study by Fordham University, which will determine the effectiveness of the program within the next two years. Dr. Ann Higgins-D’Alessandro of Fordham University is conducting all of the current research of Community of Caring. This research will be submitted for publication by peer review. Once the initial research has been completed in the summer of 2004, Community of Caring will submit the appropriate documentation to Colorado Blueprints and the National Registry for Effective Programs. North Monterey County Unified School District will be required to submit progress information on their Annual Report in May 2004 and May 2005. Following through on this commitment to evaluation is therefore a condition for approval of the waiver.

SUMMARY

The Department recommends that this waiver request be approved as it meets each of the three criteria identified in the State Board waiver policy regarding the federal statute.

Authority for Waiver: Federal Waiver Authority: NCLB, Title IV, Part A, Section 4551(a)(3)

Local board approval date(s): November 13, 2003

Period of request: 11/1/03 to 6/30/05

FISCAL ANALYSIS (AS APPROPRIATE)

Programmatic change—no fiscal impact.

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.