



# SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 12.1g

**Meeting Date:** June 2, 2011

**Subject:** CAHSEE Waiver for Special Education Students Passing with Modification

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

**Division:** Accountability

**Recommendation:** Approve the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) waiver requests for special education students who have passed the test with modifications.

**Background/Rationale:** The 2009-2010 Budget Act calls for an exemption to the CAHSEE for eligible students beginning with the 2009-2010 school year. Eligible students are students with a disability with an active Individual Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan that indicates the student has satisfied or will satisfy state and local high school graduations on or after July 1, 2009. The district strongly encouraged students to continue taking the CAHSEE and to take advantage of CAHSEE instructional services. Many of our students continued to take advantage of support services and have taken the CAHSEE with accommodations or modifications. California will only permit students with disabilities who have passed the CAHSEE with modifications as identified in their IEP to meet the graduation requirements after local board approval of school site waiver requests. (Education Code 60851, Board Policy 6146.1 High School Graduation Requirements).

Education Code 60851 (c) states that a school district may establish a process for a student with disability to waive the CAHSEE requirement for high school graduation if the student successfully passes the CAHSEE while using modifications on one or both parts of the test and has met all the following requirements:

- 1) Student has an individualized educational program (IEP) that requires the modification to be provided to the student when taking the CAHSEE
- 2) Student is on track to graduate at the time of the waiver request, both in terms of credit and coursework completion
- 3) Student attains the "equivalent of a passing score" on one or both portions of the CAHSEE with modifications

The Board of Education of Sacramento City Unified District approved a waiver process for special education students passing the CAHSEE with modifications on January 19, 2006. The district's approved process established the following steps:

- 1) Special Education student's IEP team meets and formalizes appropriated instructional accommodations and/or modifications for the student
- 2) Student takes the CAHSEE with modifications in English-Language Arts (ELA), Math, or both
- 3) Student earns an equivalent of a passing score in the ELA, Math, or both parts of the CAHSEE with modifications
- 4) School site of the eligible student completes and submits the waiver request to the high school principal
- 5) After the student's academic counselor and high school principal certify that all the requirements for the waiver request are met, the Assessment, Research & Evaluation Office prepares and reviews the waiver packet with the eligible student's principal
- 6) The petition for waiver is prepared and presented to the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education for approval

Currently, the school sites of American Legion High School, C.K. McClatchy High School, Hiram Johnson High School, John F. Kennedy High School, Luther Burbank High School, and Rosemont High School have identified these students with disabilities who have met all prescribed requirements and are eligible for this CAHSEE waiver.

**Financial Considerations:** N/A

**Documents Attached:** CAHSEE Waiver Requests to follow

**Estimated Time of Presentation:** N/A

**Submitted by:** Becky Bryant, Director, Special Education  
Department

Mao Vang, Director, Assessment, Research, and  
Evaluation

**Approved by:** Mary Shelton, Chief Accountability Officer