



College Station Independent School District

Success...each life...each day...each hour

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Clark Ealy, Superintendent

From: Greg McIntyre, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Date: August 13, 2014

Subject: Board policies EIC (Local) and EIF (Local)

Agenda Item: H-4

Board Priority/
District Goal: Priority A, B, and C: Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

Background

Policy EIF (LEGAL)

On January 31, 2014, the State Board of Education approved final rules for the new foundation graduation program as provided by HB 5. As a result, school districts across the state began planning for its effects on course and endorsement options, including how students on the current graduation programs—the Minimum, Recommended, and Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Programs—will be affected during the transition to the new foundation program. Beginning with students who enter grade 9 in the 2014–15 school year, the foundation program will replace the current graduation programs. Current high school students also have the option of graduating under the foundation program. For the next three school years (through the 2016–17 school year), districts will need to manage up to six different graduation program options. TASB Policy Update 99 contained the necessary revisions to EIF (LEGAL) and it was adopted at the May 14, 2014 CSISD Board meeting.

EIF (LOCAL) policy considerations

In early March, TASB Policy Service sent the district a brief electronic survey to gather information about the district's decisions regarding the foundation graduation program that must be included in board-adopted policy, such as whether the district will require additional credits for graduation and whether students may substitute certain courses and activities for physical education and fine arts credits. From the survey responses, the district's policy consultant developed and sent a draft of EIF(LOCAL) for board adoption, separate from Update 99.

The draft version of EIF (LOCAL) was discussed by the Board during the July 15, 2014 workshop.

EIC (LOCAL) policy considerations

TASB Policy Service also sent a survey to districts to assist with revisions to EIC (LOCAL) to encompass graduation requirements for the foundation program. It is important to review EIC (LOCAL) to ensure it reflects current district practice and board-level decisions regarding the district's class rank practices. TASB Policy and Legal Services recommend that changes in class rank practices be made prospectively rather than during a student's high school career.

The draft version of EIC (LOCAL) was discussed by the Board during the July 15, 2014 workshop.

Recommendation

It is recommended the CSISD Board of Trustees approve policies EIC (Local) and EIF (Local) as presented.

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