

College Station Independent School District

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



MEMORANDUM

To: Mike Martindale, Superintendent *mm*
From: Dr. Penny Tramel, Chief Academic Officer *P.T.*
Date: June 2, 2020
Subject: Waiver to use Alternate K and 7th Grade Reading Instruments due to COVID-19
Agenda Item: H-2

BACKGROUND

TEC, §28.006(b) requires the commissioner to adopt a multidimensional assessment tool that includes a reading instrument and tests at least three developmental skills, including literacy, for use in diagnosing the reading development and comprehension of kindergarten students. In a TEA Instruments Guidance document released on May 28, it is confirmed the commissioner has adopted TX-KEA (CLI).

TEC, §28.006(c-1) requires each school district to administer at the beginning of the seventh grade a reading instrument adopted by the commissioner to each student whose performance on the grade 6 STAAR reading assessment did not demonstrate reading proficiency. The commissioner has adopted the following: • Istation's Indicators of Progress, Advanced Reading (ISIP-AR) • Reading Analysis and Prescription System (RAPS 360) • Texas Middle School Fluency Assessment (TMFSA) • Woodcock Johnson III Diagnostic Reading Battery (WJ III DRB).

Our teachers are not trained on these instruments and are already required to complete 18 hours of mandatory state training. We are seeking a waiver to administer the MAP assessment to our kindergarten and seventh grade students. The district administers the MAP assessment three times a year to K-8 students to monitor student growth. These assessments help guide instruction and would allow for our students to have to take fewer assessments at the beginning of the year.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the CSISD Board of Trustees approve CSISD applying for a waiver to use an alternate Kindergarten and 7th grade reading instrument due to COVID-19.