Cecilia A. Massetti, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Agenda Item 8.7

Board of Education Action Item
October 08, 2019

Topic:
Consideration Renewal of Career and Alternative Education (CAES) Waivers to the state Board of Education.

Background:
School Site Councils (SSC), as required by Title I and the California Department of Education (CDE), are prescribed by California Education Code (Ed Code 52852). In short, the Code requires every school receiving Title I funds to establish a School Site Council. The same Education Code establishes the composition of School Site Councils to include a principal, teachers, other staff, parents, and students (at the high school level). The Education Code calls for parity between school and parent/community representatives and outlines requirements for numbers of each group.

California Department of Education provides a waiver process for schools that cannot meet the Education Code requirements. Specifically, a Local Education Agency (LEA) may request a waiver of Ed Code 52852-- a SSC at each school receiving Title I and the composition of SSCs. A Waiver Request is prepared by the LEA, and approval of the request is sought from the School Site Council (or other advisory committee), the Local Board of Education, and the Superintendent. The bargaining unit is informed of the waiver request for a SSC.

The Waiver Request is sent to CDE, which reviews the request and submits the request to the State Board of Education. At a regularly scheduled State Board meeting, such waiver requests are reviewed and either approved, approved with conditions, or denied.

The Madera County Superintendent of Schools' (MCSOS) Career and Alternative Education Services Division (CAES) requests two SSC waivers

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at this time. The first waiver is requesting one SSC would serve both charter schools: Madera County Independent Academy (MCIA) and Pioneer Technical Center (PTC).

Historically it has been very difficult to establish and maintain SSCs at the charter schools. Thus, we request a waiver to combine the two charter schools into one SSC due to the similarities in student needs, programs, administration, funding, and the small staffs at the individual school sites.

The second waiver is requested for a change in composition of the SSC for Endeavor and Voyager. This SSC would be composed of a principal, one teacher, one other staff and three community members/parents. Typically, a SSC is comprised of a principal, three teachers, one other staff, three parents and three students.

Financial Impact:

No impact

Resource:

Frederick Cogan
Executive Director,
Career & Alternative Education Services

Recommendation:

Approve submission of waiver allowing CAES charter schools to combine SSCs and Endeavor/Voyager to change the composition of the representatives.

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