

Board Office Use: <b>Legislative File Info.</b>	
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Introduction Date	May 14, 2014
Enactment Number	14-0721
Enactment Date	5-14-14



OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Schools, Thriving Students

# Memo

**To** Board of Education

**From** Dr. Gary Yee, Superintendent  
Maria Santos, Deputy Superintendent

**Board Meeting Date** May 14, 2014

**Subject** **RESOLUTION NO. 1314-1120 - AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT TO PARTICIPATE, WITH SIX OTHER CALIFORNIA SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND THE CALIFORNIA OFFICE TO REFORM EDUCATION (CORE), IN SUBMITTING A JOINT REQUEST TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO EXTEND A WAIVER OF FEDERAL NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND (NCLB) RULES**

**Action Requested** **Approval Of Resolution No. 1314-1120 - Authorizing The District To Participate, With Six Other California School Districts And The California Office To Reform Education (Core), In Submitting A Joint Request To The U.S. Department Of Education To Extend A Waiver Of Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Rules**

**Background**

In August 2013, the United States Department of Education ("DOE") granted eight California school districts including, Oakland, a one year waiver from No Child Left Behind ("NCLB"), in exchange for locally developed plans to prepare all students for college and career, focus aid for the neediest students, and support effective teaching and leadership. The eight districts submitted a joint request to DOE for waivers as part of the California Office to Reform Education (CORE). The CORE waivers released Oakland from six NCLB requirements and their associated regulatory, administrative and reporting requirements, and released Title I set asides expenditures previously designated for Supplemental Education Services in the amount of \$3,400,000 to support the implementation of the CORE Waiver in Oakland. The CORE waiver is based on three key principles that support school reform:

- Principle 1: College- and Career-Ready Expectations for All Students;
- Principle 2: Differentiated Recognition, Accountability, and Support; and
- Principle 3: Supporting Effective Instructional Leadership.

CORE and seven of the eight original districts, namely Oakland Unified, Fresno Unified, Long Beach Unified, Los Angeles Unified, San Francisco



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Unified, Sanger Unified, and Santa Ana Unified now are collectively requesting DOE to extend the waiver.

**Discussion**

The most significant bases for the extension which was filed on May 1, 2014 by CORE on behalf of the seven districts, including OUSD, are: 1) to give the districts an extra year to reach full implementation of the new Educator Effectiveness Evaluation System, such that if the waiver is granted, the timeline for implementation of the new evaluation system changes from the 2015-16 school year to 2016-17, with the educator evaluation system being piloted in the 2015-16 school year; and 2) delaying the implementation of some of the School Quality Improvement Index, which measures a number of factors in evaluating the progress of schools and students, including nonacademic factors such as school culture and how well schools are building students' social-emotional skills.

**Recommendation**

**Approval Of Resolution No. 1314-1120 - Authorizing The District To Participate, With Six Other California School Districts And The California Office To Reform Education (Core), In Submitting A Joint Request To The U.S. Department Of Education To Extend A Waiver Of Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Rules**

**Fiscal Impact**

TBD

**Attachments**

- **RESOLUTION NO. 1314-1120**
- **Core Waiver Application Approved in August 2013 by U.S. Department of Education**

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**RESOLUTION 1314-1120**

**AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT, TO PARTICIPATE WITH SIX OTHER CALIFORNIA SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND THE CALIFORNIA OFFICE TO REFORM EDUCATION (CORE) IN SUBMITTING A JOINT REQUEST TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO EXTEND A WAIVER OF FEDERAL NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND (NCLB) RULES AND APPROVAL OF THE SCHOOL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT INDEX FOR FEDERAL SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY PURPOSES BEYOND THE 2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR**

**WHEREAS**, in August 2013, the United States Department of Education ("DOE") granted eight California school districts including, Oakland Unified, Fresno Unified, Long Beach Unified, Los Angeles Unified, Sacramento City Unified, San Francisco Unified, Sanger Unified, and Santa Ana Unified, a one year waiver from No Child Left Behind ("NCLB"), in exchange for locally developed plans to prepare all students for college and career, focus aid for the neediest students, and support effective teaching and leadership;

**WHEREAS**, these eight districts submitted a joint request to DOE for waivers as part of the California Office to Reform Education (CORE);

**WHEREAS**, the CORE waivers releases the CORE districts from six NCLB requirements and their associated regulatory, administrative and reporting requirements;

**WHEREAS**, the CORE waivers are authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965, section 9401, as amended;

**WHEREAS**, the CORE waivers were granted directly to the districts participating in CORE, and not to the CORE organization;

**WHEREAS**, the approved CORE waivers release Title I set asides expenditures previously designated for Supplemental Education Services in the amount of \$3,400,000 to support the implementation of the CORE Waiver in support of the students of Oakland;

**WHEREAS**, The CORE waiver is based on three key principles that support school reform:

- Principle 1: College- and Career-Ready Expectations for All Students;
- Principle 2: Differentiated Recognition, Accountability, and Support; and
- Principle 3: Supporting Effective Instructional Leadership;

**WHEREAS**, central to the CORE Waiver is a holistic school performance system with tailored support for schools called the School Quality Improvement Index;

**WHEREAS**, Goals of the CORE School Quality Improvement Index are:

- Establish a holistic school performance system that values multiple measures of student success across academic, social-emotional, and culture-climate domains
- Provide schools, teachers, and administrators clear, in-depth feedback on areas of strength and those in need of improvement to improve outcomes for students
- Create a collective ownership structure within schools, districts, and the CORE network in which teacher, staff, and administrator collaboration and shared responsibility for student outcomes are primary drivers of accountability
- Increase and restore student, parent, and community confidence in all CORE network schools;

**WHEREAS**, CORE seeks to apply these goals to the differentiated accountability, recognition and support framework required through the NCLB waiver;

**WHEREAS**, the CORE districts, including Oakland Unified, original commitments were:

- Implement Common Core Standards in the 2013-2014 School Year and Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) assessments, starting in 2014-2015
- Participate in the School Quality Improvement System, which includes a CORE-designed holistic accountability model and school designations (e.g., Reward, Focus, and Priority schools)
- Track, submit, and release school-level academic, social-emotional, and culture and climate information
- Develop guidelines for the teacher and principal evaluation system by the start of the 2013-2014 school year
- Implement by 2015-2016 (and pilot by 2014-2015) a teacher and principal evaluation system that differentiates performances into four tiers and includes student growth as a significant factor
- Partner with other CORE District peers to support and monitor waiver activity implementation
- Ensure Priority or Focus schools or other schools needing improvement will participate in pairing process with a Reward or exemplar school;

**WHEREAS**, CORE and seven of the CORE districts, namely Oakland Unified, Fresno Unified, Long Beach Unified, Los Angeles Unified, San Francisco Unified, Sanger Unified, and Santa Ana Unified are collectively requesting of DOE extension of the waiver;

**WHEREAS**, the most significant bases for the extension which was filed on May 1, 2014 by CORE on behalf of the seven districts, including Oakland Unified, are: 1) to give the districts an extra year to reach full implementation of the new Educator Effectiveness Evaluation System, such that if the waiver is granted, the timeline for implementation of the new evaluation system changes from the 2015-16 school year to 2016-17, with, the educator evaluation system being piloted in the 2015-16 school year; and 2) delaying the implementation of some of the School Quality Improvement Index, which measures a number of factors in evaluating the progress of schools and students, including nonacademic factors such as school culture and how well schools are building students' social-emotional skills;

**WHEREAS**, more specifically, requested extension and the amendments to the School Quality Improvement Index is necessary because the Districts do not have new academic performance information for the 2013-14 school year (due to the enactment of AB 484). Thus, under the extension, the 2014-15 school year will be a learning year with the first release of Common Core-aligned exam results and 2015-16 will be the first year with comprehensive School Quality Improvement Index data,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Board authorizes the District To Participate, With Six Other California School District and the California Office To Refer Education (CORE), In Submitting A Joint Request To the U.S. Department of Education To Extend A Waiver of Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Rules and Approval of the School Quality Improvement Index for Federal School Accountability Purposes Beyond the 2014-15 School Year.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Education the Oakland Unified School District, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014, by the following vote:

**AYES:** Jody London, Jumoke Hinton Hodge, Anne Washington, Roseann Torres, Christopher Dobbins, Vice President James Harris and President David Kakishiba

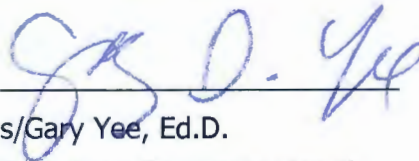
**NOES:** None

**ABSTAINED:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Dr. Gary Yee, Superintendent and Secretary of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District, Alameda County, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly approved and adopted by the Board of Education of said District at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014, with a copy of such Resolution being on file in the Office of the Board of Education of said District.



s/Gary Yee, Ed.D.

Secretary, Governing Board

Oakland Unified School District

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