



DATE: June 15, 2022

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Mrs. Carmen Ghysels, Superintendent Chief Learning Officer

SUBJECT: First Read of Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 6112 School Day

PRESENTED BY: Mrs. Carmen Ghysels, Superintendent Chief Learning Officer

ACTION REQUESTED

Information only – Review proposed revisions and provide direction to bring back this board policy to the next Board Meeting for approval.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Policy updated to address effective date of Education Code section 46148 (SB 328) regarding start time of middle and high school day.

Section 46148 requires that the school day for high schools begin no earlier than 8:30 a.m. and the school day for middle schools being no earlier than 8:00 a.m. beginning July 1, 2022. However, these requirements do not apply to rural school districts. In amending this Board Policy, the Board is affirming the District’s status as a “rural school district” which is not subject to the requirements of section 46148.

The District is considered a “rural” school district under several definitions employed by state and federal agencies.

First, for purpose of the U.S. Census, rural areas are considered those geographic areas that are not classified as “urban,” with urban areas being those which have a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile or an area with an urban nucleus of 50,000 or more people. As the District does not meet the threshold to be considered “urban” under either of these criteria, it is considered “rural” by the U.S. Census.

Second, under the federal Rural and Low-Income School (RLIS) Program, a local education agency qualifies as rural if all of the schools served by the agency are designated by the National Center for Education Statistics with a school locale code of 32, 33, 41, 42, or 43. Per the Office of Elementary & Secondary School Master Eligibility List the District is listed as satisfying the RLIS Program rural criteria based on its school locale codes.

Third, based on these same locale codes, the District is considered “rural” under Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, section 1859.2 as adopted by the Department of General Services.

Fourth, the Universal Service Administrative Company, an independent not-for-profit organization, that administers the Universal Service Fund, which includes the E-Rate, Rural Health Care, and other programs designed to serve people living in rural, underserved, and difficult-to-reach areas, designates the District and several of its schools as “rural” including: Donner Trail Elementary; Glenshire Elementary; Kings Beach Elementary; Tahoe Lake Elementary; Truckee Elementary; Alder Creek Middle School; North Tahoe School; North Tahoe High School; Truckee High School; Cold Stream Alternative; and Sierra Continuation High School.

Accordingly, the District is considered “rural” and the mandatory late start times found in section 46148 would not apply. Thus, the revisions to the policy indicate that start times for high schools and middle schools may be set by the Superintendent or designee.

This conclusion is also consistent with the Board’s 2019 decision to maintain school day start times. That decision followed a recommendation by the 26-member TTUSD Committee to Consider Later Starts for Secondary Schools. That recommendation was based on careful evaluation of the benefits and impacts of late start including a survey of over 2,500 parents, students, and staff. This revision would be consistent with that determination.

RESOURCES REQUIRED: N/A

PREPARED BY: Lupita Vazquez, Executive Assistant

Attachment: BP 6112 School Day - Revised