

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title: School-Based Calendar Waivers for Educational Purposes

Type of Executive Summary:

- Action
- Action on First Reading
- Discussion
- Information

Policy Implications:

- Constitution _____
- General Statute # GS 115C-238.50; GS 115C-105.26; GS 115C-84.2
- SBE Policy # _____
- SBE Policy Amendment
- SBE Policy (New)
- APA # _____
- APA Amendment
- APA (New)
- Other _____

Presenter(s): Mr. Rob Hines (Director, LEA Council)

Description:

School-based calendar waiver requests are submitted for State Board Action per GS 115C-84.2. This statute states that the State Board may waive the opening and closing dates specified in the School Calendar Law for educational purposes that may include: 1) a specific school to accommodate a special program offered generally to the student body of that school, 2) a school that primarily serves a special population of students, or 3) a defined program within a school. There are 6 LEAs that have requested waivers.

Resources:

N/A

Input Process:

N/A

Stakeholders:

LEAs, college and public school staff, students, and parents

Timeline For Action:

This item is being presented for Action on First Reading at the November 2008 SBE meeting.

Recommendations:

The State Board is requested to review and approve the calendar waivers for educational purposes.

Audiovisual equipment requested for the presentation:

- Data Projector/Video (Videotape/DVD and/or Computer Data, Internet, Presentations-PowerPoint preferred)
Specify: _____
- Audio Requirements (computer or other, except for PA system which is provided)
Specify: _____
- Document Camera (for transparencies or paper documents – white paper preferred)

 Motion By: _____ Seconded By: _____
 Vote: Yes _____ No _____ Abstain _____
 Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Postponed _____ Revised _____

*Person responsible for SBE agenda materials and SBE policy updates: Susan Auton, 807-3435

**School Calendar Waivers
Educational Purposes
2008-09**

SBE Region	LEA	School	Rationale	Recommendation
2	Wayne County Schools	Wayne Early Middle College High School	This is a middle college high school located on a community college campus. Many students take community college courses and a traditional calendar would prevent the school from accommodating the community college class schedule.	Grant waiver
8	Buncombe County Schools	Buncombe County Early College	This is a middle college high school located on a community college campus. Many students take community college courses and a traditional calendar would prevent the school from accommodating the community college class schedule. Requested open date: August 14, 2009 Requested end date: June 2, 2010	Grant waiver
4	Cumberland County Schools	Cross Creek Early College	This is a middle college high school located on a community college campus. Many students take community college courses and a traditional calendar would prevent the school from accommodating the community college class schedule. Requested open date: August 6, 2009 Requested end date: May 25, 2010	Grant waiver

SBE Region	LEA	School	Rationale	Recommendation
5	Randolph County Schools	Trinity High School Wheatmore High School	Requesting a calendar waiver for two schools to “bank” three instructional days (August 20, 21, and 24, 2009) and permit use of these instructional days later in the semester to facilitate transition to a new school facility (Wheatmore High School) in November 2009. The new school originally was planned for completion in time for opening the new year, but construction delays will require Randolph County to open the year with two schools (Trinity and Wheatmore) operating independently in one facility. They prefer this solution over adding days to the end of the year because they want to maintain the balance of the 90 day semester.	Deny waiver request. The situation, while reasonable, does not fit into any of the strictly legislated situations for which a calendar waiver request may be approved.
7	Wilkes County Schools	Wilkes County Early College High School	This is a middle college high school located on a community college campus. Many students take community college courses and a traditional calendar would prevent the school from accommodating the community college class schedule. Requested open date: August 13, 2009 Requested end date: May 26, 2010	Grant waiver
2	Greene County Schools	Central High School	This is a traditional high school with students taking community college courses via dual enrollment and wishing to share buses with the early college high school. Following the traditional calendar makes scheduling courses at the high school more difficult. Requested open date: August 7, 2009 Requested end date: May 21, 2010	

Innovative program waiver requests			
Exemption(s)	LEAs	Rationale	Recommendation
Allow students at the Early College at Guilford to satisfy the NC graduation requirement for physical science with college level chemistry or physics taught by college professors. No EOC is given.	Guilford County Schools	Allows students to meet rigorous (64 hours) of college coursework at an independent college as 11 th and 12 th graders; students take Honors biology and AP environmental science in grades 9 and 10 in a modular unit that is their “high school” building.on a college campus. OSHA will not allow chemistry or physics labs, thus students must take the courses at Guilford College. College professors do not follow the Standard Course of Study, and students do not receive high school chemistry credit, so they should not have to take an EOC.	<i>Grant exemption</i>