

POLICY 500-20

SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL WAIVERS AND SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL EXCEPTIONS

The Board has established procedures whereby School Community Councils ("SCC"), upon application to the Board, may be granted waivers from specific Board policies or rules and/or may be granted exceptions to specific provisions of labor agreements to which the Board is a signatory. The Department shall administer the procedures and make them widely available to the public.

Requests for waivers from rules not under the direct control of the Board shall be forwarded to the appropriate governmental agency by the Department.

Waivers and exceptions are designed to enhance flexibility in order to facilitate school improvement. Schools are encouraged to explore alternate solutions before seeking waivers or exceptions to collective bargaining agreements.

Schools shall ensure that requests for waivers and exceptions align with their respective school's Academic and Financial Plan and demonstrate how the waiver or exception will improve student learning and increase student achievement.

To facilitate its commitment to School Community Councils and to make the process of obtaining waivers less burdensome and less time-consuming, the Board hereby establishes the category, "Generic Waiver and/or Exception" to which the Board may assign any request.

Generic waivers and/or exceptions have been found by the Board to have sufficient merit or be sufficiently routine so as to justify automatic approval* upon application by a school. The Superintendent shall maintain an up-to-date list of SCC Waivers and SCC Exceptions that have been designated "Generic" by the Board, and shall approve all requests from schools for such waivers or exceptions.*

The Board, for reasons it finds appropriate, may remove the "Generic" designation from a waiver or exception at any time without necessarily affecting the status of schools previously granted such waivers or exceptions under this policy.

All requests for waivers or exceptions not designated by the Board to be "Generic" shall require Board approval.

*In the case of SCC exceptions to the provisions of a labor agreement to which the Board is a signatory, such approval indicates only Board agreement. The exception also requires union agreement.

[Approved: 11/17/2015 (as Board Policy 500.20); amended: 06/21/2016 (renumbered as Board Policy 500-20)]

Former policy 2412 history: approved: 10/07/2004; amended: 05/05/2005; 01/19/2006