



Devine Independent School District Board of Trustees Agenda Document

Meeting Date: June 15, 2026

Agenda Item: Staff Development Waiver

Background Information:

The Staff Development Minutes Waiver allows districts to substitute up to 2,100 instructional minutes per year with professional development designed to improve student achievement. Districts may use these minutes through early releases, late starts, staff development days, or a combination of these options. Waiver minutes may only be used during the student instructional year and cannot be applied before the first day or after the last day of student instruction. On partial student attendance days, districts must provide at least 120 minutes of student instruction to receive full ADA funding, and any waiver minutes reported must reflect actual staff development time provided.

Administrative Consideration:

The Staff Development Minutes Waiver proposal was reviewed and supported by the District Educational Improvement Council (DEIC) at its meeting on May 21, 2026. DEIC recommended that waiver days be paired with staff workdays to provide employees with additional planning and preparation time. On the proposed waiver days, 300 minutes will be designated for professional development, with the remainder of the day reserved for staff work time.

The academic calendar was reviewed by district administration and the Superintendent to identify the most effective opportunities for staff development. Professional development conducted during these waiver periods will focus on instructional improvement and school safety initiatives.

Administration recommends utilizing 300 waiver minutes on the following staff development/workdays:

- August 28, 2026
- September 18, 2026
- October 30, 2026
- January 4, 2027
- February 12, 2027
- March 15, 2027

Administration also recommends the following early-release days for students, which would include 300 minutes of student instruction and 150 minutes of professional development waiver time:

- December 17, 2026
- May 27, 2027

These proposed dates would provide a total of 2,100 Staff Development Waiver minutes for the 2026–2027 school year.

Budgetary Consideration:

None

Supporting Documents:

2026-2027 Instructional Calendar with suggested waiver days

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board approve the Staff Development Waiver

Respectfully Submitted by:


Dr. Todd Grandjean
Superintendent of Schools