

# HAYS CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Date: June 29, 2026

Agenda Item: K.6

Board Goal: Student Achievement

Subject: Consideration and possible approval of the submission of the application for the Texas Education Agency waiver for Foreign Exchange Students for the 2027-2028, 2028-2029, and 2029-2030 School Years.

Administrator Responsible/Position: Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer  
Stephanie Norris, Director of Grants and Federal Programs

**A. Purpose of Agenda Item:**

Action needed                       Information only                       Receive input

**B. Authority for This Action:**

Local Policy:                       Law or Rule                       N/A  
TEC §25.001(e)

**C. Goal or Need Addressed:** This waiver allows the district to limit the number of Foreign Exchange students to six students per year per comprehensive high school.

**D. Summary:**

- Previous board action relating to this item:** This waiver has been previously approved by the Hays CISD Board of Trustees and the TEA beginning in 2012 through the most recent approval in 2025 that extended the waiver through the end of 2026-2027 school year.
- Future action anticipated:** This waiver application will need to be reviewed every 2 years to determine whether it continues to be necessary to pursue for Hays CISD.
- Background information:** Pursuant to TEC §25.001(e) this expedited waiver allows the district to limit the number of foreign exchange students to a number that is not less than five per high school. The Hays CISD Guidance and Counseling Department requests to apply for a waiver to limit the number of foreign exchange students to six students per year per comprehensive high school. The local Board of Trustees must approve the waiver before the application is submitted to TEA. Historically, HCISD has limited this number of foreign exchange students in our high schools so that we could accommodate the application requests. These students enroll classified as Juniors and do not graduate due to STAAR EOC requirements and completing graduation plans. Our campuses work hard to ensure they are involved in school activities. Many of these students can have issues with the assimilation to a new culture and a new home environment. Therefore, the case management of these students should be a manageable number. Six has been a successful number in the past.

**E. Comments Received:**

Cabinet     DLT                       FBOC                       Teacher Org. Reps.     Other:

**F. Administrative Recommendation:** The administration recommends the board approve the application for Foreign Exchange Student waiver for the 2027-2028, 2028-2029, and 2029-2030 school years.

**Advantages and benefits of this proposal:** This waiver allows campuses to limit the number of foreign exchange students, allowing campuses to provide adequate services to meet the need of all students.

**Expected results in terms of student benefit/achievement:** All students will receive the counseling and guidance support they need to be successful.

**Effect of this action on other parts of the system:** This action supports both the instructional and counseling/guidance supports provided at the comprehensive high schools.

**Consequences of not approving this recommendation:** Not approving this recommendation may reduce the quality of services provided to students on impacted campuses.

**G. Fiscal Impact and Cost:** No cost

**Reasons for rejecting alternatives:** Not limiting the number of foreign exchange students may result in an impact to student services.

**H. Monitoring and Reporting Time Line:**

**Person responsible for evaluating this decision or action:** Marivel Sedillo

**Evaluation method and time line:** Director of Counseling and Guidance will annually review the impact of foreign exchange students on campus services.

**Next report to the board:** Report upon request or in the Spring of 2029 when this waiver would need to be reviewed for renewal.

**I. Suggested Motion:**

I move that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the submission of the Texas Education Agency Waiver application for Foreign Exchange Students for the 2027-2028, 2028-2029, and 2029-2030 school years, as presented.