

Board Meeting Agenda Item Executive Summary

Supt.'s Office Use Only

Board Meeting 4-15-08

Agenda Action

Item No. I. 3.

Board Meeting Date:	April 2, 2008
Submitted By:	Sandi Anusavice
Item Description:	Waiver Request for Mebane Middle School

Purpose and Explanation:

Mebane Middle School requests a waiver to Article IX, 12 (c) of the collective bargaining agreement to implement a flexible block schedule. The faculty and the School Advisory Council have approved the waiver.

The faculty, SAC, and the administration at Mebane Middle School understand that the flexible block schedule may only be implemented if they are able to do so while meeting the class size requirements within their earned allocation.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the waiver as requested provided the school can meet class size mandates within their earned allocation.

BUDGETARY IMPACT

Funding Source (Description):	Amount:
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Staff Attorney Review & Approval <i>(For Contracts Only)</i>	Date: _____ Initial: _____	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Yes: _____ No: _____
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SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY

WAIVER REQUEST TO LOCAL BOARD POLICY OR TEACHER CONTRACT

School: A.L. Mebane Middle School Date Submitted: March 14, 2008

1. This is a waiver request for:

_____ School Board Policy Number _____

Teacher Contract Reference Article 9, Section 12c
(teacher contract waivers must have advance approval by ACEA attached to this form)

2. What goal/objective does the waiver support?

It is the mission of the faculty and staff of A.L. Mebane Middle School to develop in each student through the application of innovative practices and engaging curriculum - the knowledge, academic skills, self-esteem and self-discipline to be successful in school and life.

3. Describe the waiver request.

This request is to implement a flexible block schedule at A.L. Mebane Middle School. This schedule has proven to be successful in the past Mebane has flourished with this schedule and the small learning communities. We have been an "A" or "B" school. Students, parents, teachers, staff, and SAC strongly support this waiver request.

4. Describe district level consultation regarding this waiver.

I consulted with Dr. Sandra Anusavice Date: February 29, 2008

The result of consultation was: We are requesting a waiver based on our ability to meet class size reduction mandate within earned teacher allocations.

5. Has this waiver request been granted previously? Yes

If so, list dates of previous implementation: August 15, 2001 & August 16, 2002

Evaluation results from previous implementation: Mebane has followed Article 9/ Section 12c of the Instructional Contract with its implementation of a flexible block schedule.

6. Date this waiver was included as an agenda item on an advertised school advisory council meeting? March 6, 2008

7. Do the minutes of the meeting indicate consensus of the school advisory council in favor of the waiver? Yes

8. Describe how the school will evaluate the effectiveness of the waiver this year.

Mebane has implemented a Progress Monitoring (THINKLink) online assessment tool to evaluate, quarterly, the effectiveness of the flexible block schedule. Teachers have agreed that this tool that assesses skills in Reading, Math, and Science has helped in the pacing through lesson planning. The assessment data is shared with students as well to keep them abreast of their academic progress and areas of need.

8. (continued). Teacher teams meet weekly to plan and evaluate data. Small learning communities at all grade levels plan lessons and implement across curriculums.

9. Does the waiver require funds beyond the school level? Yes () No (X)
If so, how will funds be provided?

10. What is the potential impact of this waiver on other schools and other district activities? With whom have you explored these implications? There is very little impact of this waiver on other schools. Mebane has one major feeder school (Alachua Elementary). There are students that move into our zone. Our course offerings of core courses and gifted courses are based on the needs of our students.

We have discussed this issue with district staff and other middle school principals.

Principal: Veita J. Carter Date: 3-14-08
Veita J. Carter, Principal

SAC Chair: Margaret M. Baumann Date: 3-14-08
Margaret M. Baumann, SAC Chairperson

(WAIVER Request due to District OSI and ACEA office by April 15)