

NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WAIVER APPLICATION
N.J.A.C. 6A:5

COUNTY: HUNTERDON ID CODE # 19
DISTRICT: FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP ID CODE # 1600

“WAIVER” means approval to avoid compliance either with the specific procedures or the substantive requirements of a specific rule for reasons that are judged educationally, organizationally and fiscally sound.

1. List the administrative code citation(s) which necessitate the proposed waiver.

ACHIEVE NJ and TEACH NJ 18A:6 117-129 and 6A:10 specifically regulations which require districts to observe tenured teachers three times per school year. Franklin Township School is asking for a waiver that allows us to reduce the number of required observations of tenured staff from three to two for the 2013-14 school year and allowing one of the observations to be unannounced.

2. Describe what the district intends to accomplish that is currently prevented or disallowed by an existing rule.

We are attempting to make the new teacher evaluation law and regulations a meaningful growth model rather than a compliance process. We have established a process in compliance with the law which utilizes a system to facilitate teacher improvement. We have found that the process of the pre and post meetings are time consuming but valuable and have found that because of the new requirements of three observations for all staff we are having difficulty spending adequate time with non-tenured staff and staff requiring additional attention.

3. Briefly describe why a waiver is necessary to accomplish the desired or measurable results.

By allowing the district to reduce the number of observations of tenured teachers (from 3 to 2 and allowing one to be unannounced) for the 2013-14 school year, the district will be able to concentrate on the non-tenured staff and still have increased observations of tenured staff that existed prior to the new law. It will also allow us the time to revisit classrooms of teachers who need support and closer supervision to improve their teaching.

4. Describe the process for informing the community, parents, boards of education members, administration, and staff in the development of the proposal through input and public comment.

The district has included review by members of the Board of Education, the leadership of the Teachers Association, DEAC and SciP in discussion about the waiver. The resolution will be presented to the board and voted on in public session and the information will be included on the district website.

5. List the date that the local board of education adopted the resolution for the proposed waiver.

February 24, 2014

I, Carol A. Fredericks, certify that the information presented in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

SIGNATURE

DATE