

GENERAL WAIVER REQUEST

GW-1 (Rev. 10-2-09)

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lr/wr/>

First Time Waiver: **x**

Renewal Waiver:

Send Original plus one copy to:
 Waiver Office, California Department of Education
 1430 N Street, Suite 5602
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Send Electronic copy in **Word** and
 back-up material to: waiver@cde.ca.gov

CD CODE						
1	6	6	3	8	9	1

Local educational agency: Corcoran Jt Unified School District		Contact name and Title: Steve Brown Director of Educational Services		Contact person's e-mail address: sbrown@corcoranunified.com
Address: 1520 Patterson Ave	(City) Corcoran	(State) Ca	(ZIP) 93212	Phone (and extension, if necessary): 559-992-8888 Ext 1231 Fax Number: 559-992-3957
Period of request: (month/day/year) From: July 1,2010 To: June 30 th ,2014		Local board approval date: (Required) 2/15/11		Date of public hearing: (Required) 2/15/11

LEGAL CRITERIA

1. Under the general waiver authority of *Education Code* 33050-33053, the particular *Education Code* or *California Code of Regulations* section(s) to be waived (number): 52055.740 (C) i ii Circle One: (EC)
 Topic of the waiver: QEIA Class Size Reduction

2. If this is a renewal of a previously approved waiver, please list Waiver Number: _____ and date of SBE Approval _____
 Renewals of waivers must be submitted two months before the active waiver expires.

3. Collective bargaining unit information. Does the district have any employee bargaining units? No Yes If yes, please complete required information below:

Bargaining unit(s) consulted on date(s):

Name of bargaining unit and representative(s) consulted:

The position(s) of the bargaining unit(s): Neutral Support Oppose (*Please specify why*)

Comments (if appropriate):

4. Public hearing requirement: A public hearing is not simply a board meeting, but a properly noticed public hearing held during a board meeting at which time the public may testify on the waiver proposal. Distribution of local board agenda does not constitute notice of a public hearing. Acceptable ways to advertise include: (1) print a notice that includes the time, date, location, and subject of the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation; or (2) in small school districts, post a formal notice at each school and three public places in the district.

How was the required public hearing advertised?

Notice in a newspaper Notice posted at each school Other: *website*

5. Advisory committee or school site councils. Please identify the council(s) or committee that reviewed this waiver:

Date the committee/council reviewed the waiver request:

Were there any objection(s)? No Yes (*If there were objections please specify*)

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6. *Education Code* or *California Code of Regulations* section to be waived. If the request is to waive a portion of a section, type the text of the pertinent sentence of the law, or those exact phrases requested to be waived (use a **strike out key**).

52055.740 (C) For classes in English language arts, reading, mathematics, science, or history and social science courses in grades 4 to 12, inclusive, an average classroom size that is the lesser of clause (i) or (ii), as follows:

- (i) ~~At least five pupils fewer per classroom than was the average in 2006-07.~~
- (ii) An average of 25 pupils per classroom.

7. Desired outcome/rationale. Describe briefly the circumstances that brought about the request and why the waiver is necessary to achieve improved student performance and/or streamline or facilitate local agency operations. If more space is needed, please attach additional pages.

Corcoran High School has seen many positive changes due to its involvement in the QEIA Program. Funding has allowed the school to add young, energetic, experienced and innovative staff members who have helped in creating a positive, academic cultural change on the campus. As a result, the school has seen dramatic increases in academic achievement including high growth rates in the number of students passing the California High School Exit Exam in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics classes and a 49 point increase in the school Academic Performance Index (API) with an 83 point increase in API among English Learner students since the inception of the Program.

The number of students in 9th grade English/Language Arts and Mathematics classes was artificially low in our baseline year due to the requirements of Morgan Hart class size reduction used in core areas. Without the requirements of Morgan Hart, we would have had an average of 25-27 students per class, as was reflected in the sophomore and junior classes.

The artificial adjustment for 9th grade students resulted in targeted class sizes of 17.2 students. This would create a burden of staffing for an isolated, small, rural high school. We request a larger 9th grade target number that is similar to the 10th grade classes which would have been more reflective of our class size had the requirements of Morgan Hart not been in place during the baseline year.

Continued on attached:

8. Demographic Information:

Corcoran Jt Unified School District has a student population of 3,355 students in Grades pre-K thru 12 and is located in a rural area in Kings County. Our district has 6 schools: Pre -K-1, 2-3,4-5, 6-8 middle, 9-12 high, Continuation/adult. Our ethnic breakdown: Hispanic 86% , White 8.3% , African American 3.6%, other 2.1%

Is this waiver associated with an apportionment related audit penalty? (per EC 41344) No x Yes
(If yes, please attach explanation or copy of audit finding)

Has there been a Categorical Program Monitoring (CPM) finding on this issue? No x Yes
(If yes, please attach explanation or copy of CPM finding)

District or County Certification – I hereby certify that the information provided on this application is correct and complete.

Signature of Superintendent or Designee:	Title:	Date:
FOR CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION USE ONLY		
Staff Name (<i>type or print</i>):	Staff Signature:	Date:
Unit Manager (<i>type or print</i>):	Unit Manager Signature:	Date:
Division Director (<i>type or print</i>):	Division Director Signature:	Date:
Deputy (<i>type or print</i>):	Deputy Signature:	Date:

7. Continued:

We are also requesting to approve a change in the target numbers for 10th, 11th and 12th grades. This request is due to enrollment fluctuations that have occurred over the past few years at Corcoran High School. These fluctuations come from the geographical isolation of our rural school and the limited options for students in the attendance area. We are a unified school district with only one high school and the nearest comprehensive high school is 20 miles from Corcoran. Consequently, CBEDS enrollments sometimes fluctuate significantly while staffing numbers normally remain constant to create stability and consistency for the students.

The high school has experienced a significant increase in enrollment during the involvement in the QEIA Program, yet the school district has decreased in enrollment over the same period. This coupled with the significant decreases in funding has made the initial student class size targets unattainable. We have explored other options such as moving K-8 Multiple Subject teachers. This is not possible because they cannot be moved up to teach core high school classes due to highly qualified teacher credential requirements. If other high schools were in the district, obviously staffing issues could be resolved in an easier fashion.

Corcoran High School is requesting a waiver on meeting the current targeted class sizes with a request to modify our class size targets in 9th grade to 24. Corcoran High School is also requesting a waiver on meeting the current targeted class sizes for grades 10&12 to: 10th grade 24 students, and 12th grade 21. For 11th grade we request no change from original target: 22.3.

These targeted class sizes would allow Corcoran High to reduce the class sizes from their 2006-2007 numbers while meeting the demands of fluctuating CBEDS enrollment coupled with the geographical constraints of our district.

Additional Data

QEIA Targets based on 2006-07 Averages

Grade	2006-07 Average	2010-11 Qeia Target	Projected 2010-2011
9 th	22.2	17.2	20.2
10 th	25.8	20.8	23.3
11 th	27.3	22.3	21.5
12 th	23.5	18.5	20.6

CBEDS CHS Enrollment

2006-2007	884
2007-2008	876
2008-2009	942
2009-2010	924
2010-2011	956