Dear Superintendent Twadell:

On November 25, 2013, the Illinois State Board of Education received your request for a modification of Section 27-24.2 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-27-24.2).

It has been determined that your request is a waiver of that School Code mandate. Since it is complete, it will be sent in the Spring 2014 report to the General Assembly for its consideration. The Spring 2014 Waiver Report will be delivered to the General Assembly in late February of 2014.

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Winnie Tuthill
Rules and Waivers Division
wtuthill@isbe.net
telephone: (217) 782-5270
fax: (217) 524-3911
APPLICATION FOR WAIVER OR MODIFICATION OF STATE BOARD RULES AND/OR SCHOOL CODE MANDATES

Instructions: This application is to be used for seeking a waiver or modification of State Board of Education rules or of School Code mandates in accordance with Section 2-3.259 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/2-3.259]. The completed application must be submitted by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the above address. Please use the instructions on reverse side when completing this application. Please note that action on incomplete applications will be delayed until all required documentation is received.

1. The application is for: (Check appropriate box(es) below.)
   - [ ] Waiver of School Code
   - [ ] Waiver of ISBE Rule
   - [x] Modification of School Code
   - [ ] Modification of ISBE Rule

2. APPLICANT NAME
   Adlai E. Stevenson High School District 125
   NAME OF SUPERINTENDENT/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
   Eric Twadell
   APPLICANT ADDRESS (Street, City, State, Zip Code)
   2 Stevenson Drive Lincolnshire, IL 60069
   COUNTY
   Lake
   [ ] May we contact your e-mail address?
     [ ] Yes [ ] No

3. Provide citation or language of the rule(s) or School Code mandate(s) which are the subject of this application. If you are requesting a modification, display it here, using strike through or underlining.

5/27-24

4. Attach a narrative identifying and justifying the specific request.
   a. For proposed waivers and modifications of rules or modifications of School Code mandates that are based upon meeting the intent of the rule or mandate in a more effective, efficient or economical manner, a narrative description must provide all of the required information (see Item 4(a) on the reverse side).
   b. All proposed waivers/modifications requested to stimulate innovation or improve student performance, including all proposed waivers of School Code mandates, shall provide the specific plan for improved student performance and school improvement upon which the request is being based and how the applicant will determine success (see Item 4(b) on the reverse side).
   c. Applications requesting waivers from Section 17-1.5 of the School Code must include the amount, nature, and reason for the requested relief and all remedies that have been exhausted by the district to comply with the administrative expenditure limitation.

5. Public Testimony:
   Attach a description of the testimony provided, to include the information enumerated in item 5 on the reverse side.

6. This application requests waiver/modification for 5 years (from 2014-15 school year through 2019-20 school year).
   (See Item 6 on reverse side for limits on the duration of waivers/modifications.)

7. Attach a copy of each public notice required. Any request not meeting the requirements will be returned as ineligible for consideration.

8. Compliance with Notice and Hearing Requirements
   I certify that a hearing concerning this application and any associated plan for improved student performance was held on November 18, 2013 and, for those applicants requesting waivers or modifications of the daily physical education requirement, that the regular board meeting(s) were held on ___ of that month.
   I further certify that the applicant has met all the notification and hearing requirements enumerated in items A and B on reverse side and that the board of education/board of directors of the applicant identified above approved this application on November 18, 2013.

Signature of Applicant
(i.e. District Superintendent/Executive Director/Regional Superintendent)

ISBE 33-77 (12/12)
Adlai E. Stevenson High School District 125
Application for Waiver or Modification of State Board Rules and/or School Code Mandates

4a. Narrative Identifying and Justifying the Specific Request

Adlai E. Stevenson High School is seeking a modification of the Illinois School Code ILCS 5/27-24 whereby the fee for Driver Education is changed from “not to exceed $250” to “not to exceed $570”. This request is based on fulfilling the intent of the Driver Education mandate in a more cost effective manner.

The intent of the Code is to provide a quality program of instruction for students related to the operation of motor vehicles. The Code requires that “the course of instruction given in grades 10 through 12 shall include an emphasis on the development of knowledge, attitudes, habits, and skills necessary for the safe operation of motor vehicles…” District 125’s one semester course in Driver Education is an integrated two-phase program, which fully complies with the intent of the Code. Students receive a “minimum of 30 clock hours of classroom instruction and a minimum of 6 clock hours of individual behind-the-wheel instruction…”.

The District meets the intent of the Code by continuing the above-described quality Driver Education Program, but will do so in a more cost effective manner by increasing the registration fee to not exceed $570. The fee for a student who is unable to pay for the course shall be waived.

The $250 fee limitation does not recognize the extraordinarily high costs associated with District 125’s two-phase program. The net cost per student for the 2012-13 school year was $502.94. This net cost includes both the current registration fee of $300 and the State of Illinois reimbursement to the District.

The high cost of the Driver Education program is primarily due to the behind the wheel phase of the course. The student/teacher ratio is 3:1 in order to satisfy the quality of instruction provided by this mandate. In contrast, the student/teacher ratio for other disciplines is 14:1. It is this higher ratio and the fact that Driver Education teachers are certified members of the District’s bargaining unit, which attribute to the higher cost.

In conclusion, District 125 believes its current Driver Education program offers a high quality learning experience for students. In an effort to make the program more cost effective in comparison to other classes and maintain the high quality of instruction, the District requests permission to set the District’s current registration fee higher than the Code, “not to exceed $570”. This would ensure the Driver Education program is funded at a level more comparable to other courses. Provisions will be made for student(s) unable to pay the fee.
4b. Student Performance and Success

The proposed waiver modification would allow the district to retain quality instructors, continue to send instructors to high quality professional development, and provide opportunities for instructors to collaborate on “best practices” used to enhance student learning. Furthermore, the District is able to still do this at a lower cost when compared to private Driver Education Programs. Student performance will be measured using a standards-based grading model where student achievement is tied to specific skills required to operate a motor vehicle. The final summative assessment will be the number of students who pass the course and ultimately attain their driver’s license.

4c. Amount, Nature, and Reason for the Requested Relief

**Driver’s Education**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY12</th>
<th>FY13</th>
<th>Est FY14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Fees</td>
<td>77,430</td>
<td>58,850</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Grant</td>
<td>61,696</td>
<td>66,740</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td>139,126</td>
<td>125,590</td>
<td>120,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>239,796</td>
<td>247,615</td>
<td>258,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benefits</td>
<td>32,204</td>
<td>32,333</td>
<td>33,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Repair/Maint</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>1,314</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>946</td>
<td>1,700</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>275,248</td>
<td>281,332</td>
<td>294,200</td>
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</table>

Number of students enrolled

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY12</th>
<th>FY13</th>
<th>Est FY14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>311</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>308</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cost Per Student (less income) 437.69 505.66 565.58

Adam’s Driving school (Advanta)  565 575 590

Top Driver (Gold Program)  570 570 570

5a. Members of the community

1 community member, 1 reporter

5b. Oral comments on modification

None

5c. Written comments on modification

None