Wayside Schools
Procedures for Public Notification and Opportunities for Public Comment

GG. General Education Provisions Act (GEPA), as amended, is applicable to all federal programs funded or administered through or by the US Department of Education. The general Application submitted by an LEA shall set forth these assurances: #6. Availability of Information: That any application, evaluation, periodic program plan or report relating to each program will be made readily available to parents and other members of the general public.

All federal grants include provisions and assurances that a grant recipient agrees to comply with when accepting a grant award. The documents describing the provisions and assurance associated with a federal grant monitored by the Texas Education Agency are linked to each eGrant application listed on the TEA Grant Opportunities page. All school districts and charters who apply for and receive funds through the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) grants annually indicate their assurance they will comply with the grant provisions and assurances. ESSA assurances include the following commitment: That “before the application was submitted, the applicant afforded a reasonable opportunity for public comment on the application and has considered such comment.” (ESSA Provisions and Assurances (state.tx.us) p.43, I; 2021-2022 Federal Special Education Program Specific Provisions (state.tx.us) p5, J).

Specific federal grants such as the ARP ESSER III also include provisions and assurances as described in the Program-Specific Provisions and Assurances. The ARP ESSER III grant includes the expectation that the LEA “engaged in meaningful consultation with stakeholders and gave the public an opportunity to provide input in the development of its plan for the uses of ARP ESSER III funds.” (ESSER III Program Specific Assurances (state.tx.us), p.5, R-U). Further, the Provisions and Assurances describe the specific groups who must be included in the outreach for comment.

This document outlines the manner in which Wayside Schools will meet these requirements.

The notice of intent to participate in a federal grant is provided to the school community on a posted agenda and during the open portion of the scheduled school board meeting. Members of the public are invited to make comments to the board.

Additionally, Wayside Schools may solicit additional public comment using methods such as website postings and announcements, surveys sent out to stakeholders, student surveys, campus-based meetings, focus-group meetings, community group meetings or small group meetings.

The Wayside Schools leadership may use additional methods to provide public notice of grant participation and solicit and receive public comment as grant guidance and time constraints required.

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