



Illinois State Board of Education

100 North First Street, S-404
Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001

APPLICATION FOR WAIVER OR MODIFICATION OF STATE BOARD RULES AND/OR SCHOOL CODE MANDATES

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

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 2-3.25g of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/2-3.25g]. The completed application must be submitted by **certified** mail, return receipt requested, to the above address. Please use the instructions on the 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 Modification of School Code Modification of ISBE Rule

2. APPLICANT NAME Bethalto School District #8	CONTACT PERSON Dr. Jill Griffin	
NAME OF SUPERINTENDENT/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Dr. Jill Griffin	CONTACT TELEPHONE (Include Area Code and Extension) 618377-7200	
APPLICANT ADDRESS (Street, City, State, Zip Code) 101 School Street	CONTACT FAX (Include Area Code) 618-551-7628	CONTACT E-MAIL jgriffin@bethalto.org
COUNTY Madison	May we contact your e-mail address? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 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.

4. Attach a narrative identifying and justifying the specific request.

- For proposed waivers and modifications of rules or of the School Code 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).
- 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).
- 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 is for: Initial Waiver/Modification Renewal of Previously Approved Waiver/Modification
 This application requests waiver/modification for 5 years (from 2020-2021 school year through 2024-2025 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 25th, 2019.
 (Date)

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 25th, 2019.
 (Date)

Date

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

INSTRUCTIONS: Please use the following as a checklist in assembling your application package. Incomplete applications will not be considered until all required documentation is received. All applicants must hold a public hearing prior to submission of the application.

- A. **Public Hearing:** Each eligible applicant (see item 2 below) must hold a public hearing, providing for a time to take testimony about the request that is separate from the time when any other business is being conducted or testimony on other matters is being heard. The public hearing may be held during a regular board meeting.
- B. **Required Notices of Public Hearing:** Provide the following notices to inform the public and others of the hearing date. Each must state the time, date, location and general subject matter of the hearing.
- **All applicants:** Publish a notice on the applicant's website at least 14 days in advance of the hearing. Applicants requesting an **increased fee for driver's education (105 ILCS 5/27-24.2)** must also publish the proposed amount of the fee as part of the website notice and as part of the notice placed in a newspaper of general circulation.
 - **School districts:** Publish a notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the applicant's area at least 7 days in advance of the hearing.
 - **Joint agreements, ISCs or regional superintendents:** Publish a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in each school district that is a member of the joint agreement or that is served by the educational service region or intermediate service center, provided that a notice in a newspaper generally circulated in more than one school district shall be considered sufficient notice to all of the affected districts.
 - **All applicants:** Provide a written notice to the applicant's exclusive bargaining agent(s) affected by the request at least 7 days in advance of the hearing; this notice must also state that testimony will be taken from staff.
 - **All applicants:** Provide a written advance notice to the applicant's state legislators affected by the request.

Item 1. Indicate the **type of action** sought under this application:

- ISBE approval of waivers or modifications of ISBE rules and of modifications of School Code mandates to allow an applicant to meet the intent of the rule or mandate in a more effective, efficient or economical manner or when necessary to stimulate innovation or to improve student performance; or
- General Assembly approval of waivers of School Code mandates to allow an applicant to meet the intent of the rule or mandate in a more effective, efficient or economical manner or when necessary to stimulate innovation or to improve student performance.

Waivers are not permitted from ISBE rules or School Code mandates pertaining to special education, educator licensure, teacher tenure and seniority, compliance with the Every Student Succeeds Act, or township treasurers (Sections 5-1 and 5-2.1 of the School Code). Waivers of mandates pertaining to the use of student performance data and performance categories for teacher and principal evaluations are not permitted after September 1, 2014.

Item 2. Eligible applicants are school districts, independent authorities established pursuant to Section 2-3.25f of the School Code, joint agreements made up of school districts, and Regional Superintendents of Schools and Intermediate Service Centers on behalf of schools and programs operated by them.

Item 3. The **exact language of, or citation to,** the rule(s) or mandate(s) involved may be obtained by contacting the Legislative Affairs Department by mail at 100 North First Street, S-404, Springfield, Illinois, 62777-0001 or by telephone at (217) 782-6510.

Item 4. Identify the rationale for the specific waiver and/or modification sought.

(4)(a) For requests to meet the intent of the rule or mandate in a **more effective, efficient, or economical manner**, provide a narrative description which sets forth:

- i) the intent of the rule or mandate to be achieved;
- ii) the manner in which the applicant will meet that intent; and
- iii) how the manner proposed by the applicant will be more effective, efficient or economical.
- iv) In those instances where the applicant proposes a more economical manner, provide a fiscal analysis showing current expenditures related to the request and the projected savings that would result if the request is granted.

(4)(b) Requests necessary for **stimulating innovation or improving student performance** must include the specific plan for improved student performance and school improvement upon which the request is based that describes how the applicant will determine success.

(4)(c) Requests for waivers of the **administrative expenditure limitation** established in Section 17-1.5 of the School Code can be submitted **only** when circumstances for exceeding the cap are beyond the control of the district, and the district has exhausted all available and reasonable remedies to comply with the limitation. ISBE is required to recommend that the General Assembly disapprove any request for a waiver of the administrative expenditure limitation not meeting these requirements

Item 5. Describe the testimony provided, including:

- number of people attending the public hearing;
- number speaking in favor of and against the request;
- comments made during the hearing; and
- whether any written comments were provided.

Item 6. Waivers and modifications are limited to five years with the exception of waivers of the administrative expenditure limitation which are limited to the year in which emergency relief is needed (i.e., one year only).

Item 7. Attach copies of the following: (a) **website posting**, which must be dated in order to verify that it was posted at least 14 days in advance of the public hearing; (b) **newspaper notice**; and (c) **written notice to the collective bargaining agent**, each of which must be dated in order to verify that each was provided at least 7 days in advance of the public hearing; and (d) **written advance notice to the state legislators representing the applicant's territory**.

Item 8. Indicate the **date of the public hearing**. Applicants with governing boards must hold a public hearing and provide for a separate time to take testimony about the request. The superintendent's/executive director's/ regional superintendent's signature on this application attests to the applicant's compliance with all hearing and notice requirements.

Submission. Applications must be postmarked not later than 15 calendar days following approval by the local board in the case of districts, joint agreements and ISCs, or by the regional superintendent of schools and be submitted by certified mail, return receipt requested, to:

**Illinois State Board of Education
Legislative Affairs Department
Attn: Waiver Coordinator
100 North 1st Street, S-404
Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001**

All complete applications for the waiver or modification of ISBE rules or for the modification of School Code mandates shall be deemed approved and effective 46 calendar days after the date of receipt by ISBE unless disapproved in writing. Receipt by ISBE shall be determined by the date of receipt shown on the return receipt form, except that material not properly addressed shall bear the date of receipt when the materials were provided to the Legislative Affairs Department.

Disapproval of an application upon which the ISBE must act shall be sent by certified mail to the applicant no later than 45 calendar days after receipt of the application. Applicants may appeal the ISBE's denial of an application by sending a written appeal to the address above by certified mail within 30 calendar days of receipt of the written denial.

Complete waiver applications and any appeals of ISBE action shall be submitted to the General Assembly for consideration in March and October of each year (for application deadlines, see <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/waivers.aspx>).



Bethalto Community Unit School District #8

101 School Street, Bethalto, Illinois 62010
Phone: (618) 377-7200 - Fax: (618) 551-7628
www.bethalto.org

Dr. Jill Griffin, *Superintendent of Schools*

Dr. Barrett Deist
*Assistant Superintendent of
Finance & Operations, CSBO*
Dr. Kelly McClain
*Director of Curriculum, Instruction
& Assessment*
Mrs. Jennifer Weber
Coordinator of Special Education

Bethalto CUSD #8 Modification of School Code 105 ILCS 5/10-20.12(a)

The Bethalto CUSD #8 Board of Education seeks a modification of Section 5/10-20.12(a) which would permit the District proposed waiver application to allow non-resident students whose parents are full-time employees of the Bethalto CUSD #8 to attend its schools free of charge. The Board of Education reserves the right to admit non-resident children of full-time employees when it can be done without prejudice to the rights of resident pupils. In lieu of per capita tuition the District seeks to count students for purposes of enrollment in order to maintain compliance with evidence-based funding.

The purpose of the request is to recruit and retain staff which can facilitate improved student performance by increasing overall job performance of employees. An employee's vested interests in the instructional program would become of personal benefit as well. The employee's child/children would be advantaged by the merits of their individual efforts. The benefits of a conscientious employee's contribution to an educational institution is undoubtedly enhanced and highlighted when his or her family members are impacted directly. With this waiver, full-time working parents who are employees of the District would be afforded a common purpose by coupling their professional and personal lives and becoming personally invested in the school community.

Because of the challenges Bethalto CUSD #8 is facing with recruitment and retention of staff, we see the waiver as an opportunity to add additional students to our stagnant enrollment while providing our staff an additional benefit. Often times, the most qualified candidates for positions do not always live within the District's boundaries thereby forcing the logistical separation of families of those hired due to residency issues. Some examples of this are childcare constraints, longer commutes to and from work, as well as a desire to be a part of your work community but feeling tied to your home district community, specifically in the area of extracurricular activities outside the school day. Granting this request would assist the District in recruiting high quality staff by improving the attractiveness of those employment opportunities within the District for non-resident applicants and increasing the pool of highly qualified candidates.

If approved, the impact of this opportunity will be assessed over the five-year period of the waiver through analysis of data and feedback from students, parents, faculty, and residents of the school community as an integral part of the comprehensive school improvement process. In this way, the District would monitor the impact and result of its implementation. Bethalto CUSD #8 expects that with the utilization of this waiver, to assist with recruitment and retention of staff, could directly impact overall job performance and increase student achievement data.

"Achievement for All"

Non-Resident Tuition Waiver -Hearing to Modify IL School Code

November 25, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m.

Call to order: 6:00 p.m.

Number of people in attendance

Board Members: 6

Administrators: 13

Teachers: 13

Non-Certified Staff: 3

Community Members: 12

Public Comment: None.

Superintendent Dr. Jill Griffin presented information regarding the non-resident tuition waiver. She spoke about the number of students of staff members that would be able to attend school in our district if this modification is made. Dr. Griffin shared which area school districts are already granting waivers. She explained the process of modifying school code to those in attendance:

1. Posting the hearing notice on the district website
2. Publish hearing notice in a local newspaper
3. Provide notice to our local bargaining units
4. Provide notice to our legislators
5. Take an accurate account of the hearing at tonight's meeting.

If the Board of Education approves the application, the Superintendent will submit the application packet within 15 days and then it will go to the assembly in the late Winter Session.

Dr. Griffin outlined the benefits to our school district:

- It would help in recruiting/retaining staff
 - Dr. Griffin explained the district's staff shortages in the last few years (teachers, admin, bus drivers)
 - We would require anyone that is a full-time employee to participate
- Having the waiver would aide in creating a sense of investment in the work they are doing
- She pointed out that some districts are imposing a waiver to address declining enrollment. Dr. Griffin suggested the waiver could give a boost to our enrollment numbers.

The district staff was surveyed to see who would be interested in the potential waiver of tuition. It was important for our Board to know that the students are dispersed across multiple grade levels and schools and that it shouldn't impact class sizes.



HOME

BETHALTO COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #8

"The center for life"



BETHALTO SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTINUES TO FIND WAYS TO TELL OUR STORY!

In the spirit of continuous improvement, BCUSD#8 maintains transparent, open communication about the performance of its schools. The state of Illinois has changed the way it reports out on schools across the state and we are working to keep our stakeholders informed of Our Story. Please take the time to review our District Dashboard. You will find information about our district that ranges from student demographics and success to information about our budget. We encourage all our parents and guardians to visit our Dashboard.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - November 25, 2019 6:00 p.m.
 Purpose of Public Hearing

- [NOTICE FOR BID - Comprehensive Crisis Management Solution](#)
- [PUBLIC NOTICE - Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract](#)
- [REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract](#)

[Important Links](#)

[District Calendar](#)

[Drop Rpt-...](#)
[Retirements](#)
[Closed](#)
[Flyer Di...](#)
[Chief...](#)
[Meet...](#)
[Nga...](#)
[Turke...](#)
[Student...](#)
[Final](#)
[11-8-19-20](#)

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF ILLINOIS

MADISON COUNTY } ss

This is to Certify that a notice, a true copy of which is hereto attached, was published in **The Telegraph**, a secular newspaper of general circulation in the County of **Madison** and the State of Illinois, by **The Telegraph**, a corporation existing under the laws of said state and that said notice was published on the 19th day/s of November, 2019.

And this is to Further Certify that said newspaper has been regularly published for weeks prior to the publication of said notice therein, and that the person who signs the name of said company to this certificate is as appears by the records of said company to be its duly authorized agent for such purpose.

Dated this, 19th day of November, 2019.

Signature: Angela Hasamear

Authorized Agent Name: Angela Hasamear

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 8, MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing to receive public comment on a proposed waiver application to request the district to allow non-resident students whose parents are full-time employees of Bethalto CUSD #8 to attend its schools free of charge. The hearing to be conducted by the Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 8, Madison County, Illinois, is scheduled for the 25th day of November, 2019 at six p.m., at the District Office, 101 School Street, Bethalto, Illinois, 62010.
Tad Middleton
Secretary, Board of Education,
Community Unit School District Number 8,
Madison County, Illinois



Bethalto Community Unit School District #8

101 School Street, Bethalto, Illinois 62010
Phone: (618) 377-7200 - Fax: (618) 551-7628
www.bethalto.org

Dr. Jill Griffin, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Barrett Deist
Assistant Superintendent of
Finance & Operations, CSBO

Dr. Kelly McClain
Director of Curriculum, Instruction
& Assessment

Mrs. Jennifer Weber
Coordinator of Special Education

November 14, 2019

(via personal delivery)

Mrs. Brittney Clark
Bethalto Education Association, President
200 School Street
Bethalto, IL 62010

Dear Mrs. Clark,

The Bethalto CUSD #8 Board of Education seeks a modification of Section 5/10-20.12(a) which would permit the District proposed waiver application to allow non-resident students whose parents are full-time employees of the Bethalto CUSD #8 to attend its schools free of charge. The Board of Education reserves the right to admit non-resident children of full-time employees when it can be done without prejudice to the rights of resident pupils. In lieu of per capita tuition the District seeks to count students for purposes of enrollment in order to maintain compliance with evidence-based funding.

The purpose of the request is to recruit and retain staff which can facilitate improved student performance by increasing overall job performance of employees. An employee's vested interests in the instructional program would become of personal benefit as well. We see the waiver as an opportunity to add additional students to our stagnant enrollment while providing our staff an additional benefit. Often times, the most qualified candidates for positions do not always live within the District's boundaries thereby forcing the logistical separation of families of those hired due to residency issues. If approved, the impact of this opportunity will be assessed over the five-year period of the waiver through analysis of data and feedback from students, parents, faculty, and residents of the school community as an integral part of the comprehensive school improvement process.

The Bethalto CUSD#8 Board of Education will meet to conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, November 25, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. to receive public comment on the proposed waiver application. The Public Hearing will be held at Bethalto CUSD#8 Central Office located at 101 School Street, Bethalto, IL 62010.

Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jill Griffin
Superintendent

"Achievement for All"



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Dr. Jill Griffin, *Superintendent of Schools*

Dr. Barrett Deist
*Assistant Superintendent of
Finance & Operations, CSBO*

Dr. Kelly McClain
*Director of Curriculum, Instruction
& Assessment*

Mrs. Jennifer Weber
Coordinator of Special Education

November 14, 2019

(via personal delivery)

Mrs. Kelly Ricci
Bethalto Educational Support
Personnel Association, President
309 Albers Lane
Bethalto, IL 62010

Dear Mrs. Ricci,

The Bethalto CUSD #8 Board of Education seeks a modification of Section 5/10-20.12(a) which would permit the District proposed waiver application to allow non-resident students whose parents are full-time employees of the Bethalto CUSD #8 to attend its schools free of charge. The Board of Education reserves the right to admit non-resident children of full-time employees when it can be done without prejudice to the rights of resident pupils. In lieu of per capita tuition the District seeks to count students for purposes of enrollment in order to maintain compliance with evidence-based funding.

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Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jill Griffin
Superintendent

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Director of Curriculum, Instruction
& Assessment

Mrs. Jennifer Weber
Coordinator of Special Education

November 14, 2019

(via U.S. Mail)

Representative Monica Bristow
263-S Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Representative Bristow,

The Bethalto CUSD #8 Board of Education seeks a modification of Section 5/10-20.12(a) which would permit the District proposed waiver application to allow non-resident students whose parents are full-time employees of the Bethalto CUSD #8 to attend its schools free of charge. The Board of Education reserves the right to admit non-resident children of full-time employees when it can be done without prejudice to the rights of resident pupils. In lieu of per capita tuition the District seeks to count students for purposes of enrollment in order to maintain compliance with evidence-based funding.

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Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jill Griffin
Superintendent

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*Director of Curriculum, Instruction
& Assessment*

Mrs. Jennifer Weber
Coordinator of Special Education

November 14, 2019

(via U.S.Mail)

Senator Rachelle Crowe
311B Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Senator Crowe,

The Bethalto CUSD #8 Board of Education seeks a modification of Section 5/10-20.12(a) which would permit the District proposed waiver application to allow non-resident students whose parents are full-time employees of the Bethalto CUSD #8 to attend its schools free of charge. The Board of Education reserves the right to admit non-resident children of full-time employees when it can be done without prejudice to the rights of resident pupils. In lieu of per capita tuition the District seeks to count students for purposes of enrollment in order to maintain compliance with evidence-based funding.

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Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jill Griffin
Superintendent

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