



# Pacifica School District

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*Preparing Students for an Evolving World*

www.pacificasd.org

## MEMORANDUM

*Integrated Services and Human Resources*

Meeting of

3/2/16

**TO:** Wendy S. Tukloff, Ed.D., Superintendent  
For Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Ray Avila, Associate Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** Approval Signature for Specific Waiver Request for Resource Specialist Caseload at Cabrillo, Ocean Shore, and Vallemar Schools

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### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the Specific Waiver Request for the Resource Specialist Caseload at Cabrillo, Ocean Shore, and Vallemar Schools for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year.

### Background

The Cabrillo, Ocean Shore and Vallemar Resource Specialist Program (RSP) caseload for the 2015-16 school year has exceeded the maximum caseload count of 28 students per Resource Specialist teacher. Currently the RSP caseload at each school is the following:

***Cabrillo – 31 students***  
***Ocean Shore – 29 students***  
***Vallemar – 29 students***

To be compliant, the waiver will allow for the RSP caseload to increase to 32 students. The RSP teachers at each school site have agreed to sign the waiver and are aware that the RSP caseload could increase to 32 students by the end of the 2015-16 school year.

To prepare for a possible increase of the maximum caseload at Cabrillo, Ocean Shore, and Vallemar Schools, the authorization of a waiver is necessary as per Education Code Section 56101, and California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 3100, resource specialist caseload waiver: "A school district, special education local plan area, county office of education or any other public agency providing special education or related services may request the State Board of Education to grant a waiver of the maximum resource specialist caseload, as set forth in EC Section 56362(c), only if the waiver is necessary or beneficial to either; (1) to the content and implementation of a pupil's individualized educational plan (IEP) and does not abrogate any right provided individuals with exceptional needs by specified law or; (2) to the agency's compliance with specified federal law."

We thank the RSP teachers, Mrs. Janet Nelles, Ms. Natalie Abinante, and Mr. Michael Bobrowicz in agreeing to this waiver and we continue to investigate ways to support our students from the Response to Instruction and Intervention (RTI<sup>2</sup>) model that may lead to diminishing the identification of RSP students.

All RSP caseloads are projected to begin the 2016-2017 school year below the maximum enrollment of 28 students. However, Cabrillo and Ocean Shore schools are projected to have a caseload of 26 students at the beginning of the school year. RSP teacher support will be allocated for these two schools by utilizing existing Ortega and IBL staff as a proactive approach to prepare for caseloads that may exceed the maximum of 28 students. We anticipate the 2016-2017 staffing for the RSP program to be sufficient.