

New Jersey Department of Education

Waiver Application

County Hunterdon

County Code # 19

School District Readington Township

District Code # 4350

“Waiver” means approval to avoid compliance with either a specific procedure(s) or a specific rule’s substantive requirements for reasons that are judged educationally, organizationally and fiscally sound.

1. List the specific Administrative Code citation(s) that necessitates the proposed waiver. As **the Department cannot waive an entire chapter, subchapter or section** (e.g., N.J.A.C. 6A:5, N.J.A.C. 6A:5-1 or N.J.A.C. 6A:5-1.1, respectively), all applications must include a citation at least at the subsection level (e.g., N.J.A.C. 6A:5-1.1(a)). Do *not* include a statutory citation (N.J.S.A. or N.J.S.) as the Department does not have the authority to waive state law.

The New Jersey Administrative Code 6A:26-6.4 educational facilities planning standard requires that preschool classrooms are 950 square feet, or at minimum 750 square feet of direct instructional space. Five of the district’s Preschool Expansion Aide (“PEA”) funded classes offsite through a partnership agreement are less than 950 square feet, or minimum of 750 square feet of direct instruction space.

Location	Classroom Size (excludes bathroom, closets, storage and shelving)	PEA Classroom Number
Whitehouse Preparatory School	704 square feet	#4
Whitehouse Preparatory School	702 square feet	#5
Whitehouse Preparatory School	702 square feet	#8
Whitehouse Preparatory School	704 square feet	#9
Berry Patch Early Learning Center	711 square feet	#7

2. Describe what the school district intends to accomplish through the waiver that is currently prevented or disallowed by the existing rule(s).

Readington Township School District is requesting that the above preschool classrooms be approved for a facilities standard waiver for our full day state-funded PEA program.

3. Describe why a waiver is necessary to accomplish the desired or measurable result(s).

The educational facilities expansion waiver for state-funded PEA classroom space is necessary to provide the Readington Township School District preschool students with a full day program in the above classrooms that are less than the square feet per code.

4. Describe how the proposed waiver meets the following three criteria, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:5-1.3(a):
- The spirit and intent of N.J.S.A. 18A, applicable Federal laws and regulations, and N.J.A.C. 6A are served by granting the waiver;
 - The provision of a thorough and efficient education to the school district's students is not compromised as a result of the waiver; and
 - There will be no risk to student health, safety or civil rights by granting the waiver.

The spirit and intent of N.J.S.A. 18A and N.J.A.C. 6A is served by granting the waiver a preschool classroom that is less than the requirement of 950 square feet, or 750 square feet of direct instruction space. The Readington Township School District believes that the provision of a thorough and efficient education to Readington Township School District preschool students would not be compromised by a lack of square footage in the classrooms listed above. The Readington Township School District does not believe that the request for a facilities waiver would present any risk to the health, safety or civil rights of the preschool students in the classrooms.

5. Describe the process, including solicitation of input and public comment, employed to inform the community, parents, district board of education members, administrators and staff during the proposal's development.

The Readington Township School District parents and community members will be provided this information on November 12, 2024, at its public Board of Education meeting.

6. Provide the date the district board of education adopted a resolution supporting the proposed waiver.

The Readington Township Board of Education will adopt a resolution supporting the proposed facilities waiver for preschool classrooms at its November 12, 2024 public Board of Education meeting.

I, Dr. Jonathan Hart, certify the information presented in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Dr. Jonathan Hart
Chief School Administrator

Signature

Date

Please submit the completed application to your executive county superintendent.