

# Broward County Public Schools Waiver for Professional Study Days



*Broward County Schools is the largest fully accredited school district in the United States*

School Improvement Waivers are designed to remove barriers to school improvement that have been found in state statute, school board policy, or collective bargaining contract (see School Board Policy #1403). Waivers must be based on sound educational research and evaluation, must be budget neutral to the district, must be supported by stakeholders in the local school community, and must be approved by 66.67% of the faculty. Waivers may be approved for up to five years by the School Board, but the faculty must approve the waiver each year. Waivers must be equitable for all students in a particular student group.

Waiver #	2
School Name:	Taravella, J. P. High
Board Policy/Contract Article:	BTU Contract Article 5 Section U-1
Board Approved:	TBA
Years Approved:	5
Target Area:	Professional Study Days
Waiver Status:	New
Initial Year of Implementation:	2020
District's Strategic Alignment Plan:	Continuous Improvement
Accreditation Standard Alignment:	Teaching and Assessing for Learning

1. **Taravella, J. P. High** is requesting a waiver for **Professional Study Days** for a period of 5 years. **Taravella, J. P. High** will analyze the data and present them to SAC.
2. **Taravella, J. P. High** is requesting 08 **Professional Study Days** per school year for the next 5 years.
3. The **Professional Study Days**

This section to be completed once **Professional Study Days** dates are approved by the School Board and are provided below.

4. This waiver proposal was presented, reviewed, and endorsed by all stakeholders of the local school community at meetings on:

Community Meeting 1:	12/16/2019
Community Meeting 2:	01/07/2020
Community Meeting 3:	01/27/2020

5. The School Advisory Council voted on the **Professional Study Days** Waiver by 100% (minimum of 51%) on 12/16/2019.
6. The Faculty voted on the implementation of **Professional Study Days** by 95% (minimum of 66 2/3%) on 01/31/2020 , according to the voting guidelines in the Broward Teachers Union Contract, Article 15.
7. Write the exact language of the school board policy or contract article that the proposed waiver will supersede.

If, after establishing the activities for the early release days and the planning days, the School Professional Development Team determines that additional professional development time is needed to achieve the goals of the SIP, then the school shall initiate a waiver vote for the additional use of up to a maximum of eight (8) additional hours or teacher planning time for professional development purposes. This waiver vote shall follow the waiver vote process contained in Article 15, but shall not be considered a schedule change vote. The waiver and vote results along with the plan for the use of such additional time shall be forwarded to the BTU and Employee Relations.

8. State the waiver: change, delete, or add to the policy or contract so as to fulfill the requirements of the proposed waiver.

In addition to the six early release days currently scheduled, the District shall provide that the students at J. P. Taravella High School shall be dismissed early for eight additional days during the school year for the purpose of High School Reform. The additional Professional Study Days for the school year will be in the following months: September October November December January February March April We are requesting that this waiver be approved for five years. Additionally, the school will analyze the data each year to determine whether to continue the waiver as is, adjust the number of days requested, or to discontinue the waiver.

9. State the rationale for the proposed waiver. How will the proposed waiver support school improvement? Give background information, history of barrier, etc.

The above referenced Contract Article allows for a limited amount of teacher professional development time: 27 hours on planning and two Early Release Days. JP Taravella High School requires additional professional development time to improve student achievement by focusing on raising academic rigor in teaching and learning through the CARE cycle. Use of additional time on Professional Study Days will allow for the needed planning and collaboration which takes place in authentic Professional Learning Communities. These collegial conversations will foster continuous improvement resulting in improved student achievement.

10. Recognizing that one strategy alone does not affect school-wide achievement, identify and explain the baseline data for the proposed waiver.

As High School educators were required to give up one of their planning periods, the faculty at JPT recognized the need to include more professional development opportunities on-campus. Professional Development sessions have been attended by 100% of the staff and the feedback has been as to the usefulness of PSDs.

11. What reliable research studies, proven strategies, best practices, or similar programs support the probable success of the proposed waiver?

Two of the three District tenants of the Strategic Plan include continuous improvement and high-quality instruction. The SAC and FC at Taravella believe with the PSDs, the faculty will be able to meet the necessary components to fulfill the District's Strategic Plan.

12. **Taravella, J. P. High** will evaluate the effectiveness of the waiver each year. Include current data in alignment to the baseline data to measure the impact of the waiver.

13. Talent Development has reviewed a new Professional Learning Community Design that includes Professional Study Days for 2020 - 2021 for Professional Learning Credits (formerly called Inservice Points) in 2013. The Course Type is .

14. We confirm that the **Professional Study Days** was implemented as described above:

Principal: Mary DeArmas Date: 02/06/2020 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

SAC Chairperson: Daniel Calleja Date: 02/06/2020 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

15. This waiver has been reviewed by:

Broward Teacher's Union Rep: Brent Maffett Date: 02/06/2020 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

16. This waiver has been reviewed by the Office of Strategic Achievement:

OSA Rep: Donna Boruch Date: 02/06/2020 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

This waiver application, with original signatures, is to be kept on file at the school and made available to District personnel upon request.

A scanned version of the completed Professional Study Days Waiver Process, with signatures, and all other required documents are to be uploaded to [http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/schoolimprove/school\\_staff\\_login.asp](http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/schoolimprove/school_staff_login.asp) by February 8, 2013.

The filename to upload is to be: SchoolName\_GradeLevel\_PSD\_WaiverNumber\_Date.pdf, ex. *Abc\_ES\_PSD\_1\_02082013.pdf*

**Last updated on: Wednesday, May 13, 2020**