

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**EQUIVALENCY APPLICATION**

**N.J.A.C. 6A:5**

COUNTY: UNION

COUNTY CODE: 39

SCHOOL DISTRICT: TOWNSHIP OF UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DISTRICT CODE: 5290

“EQUIVALENCY” means approval to achieve the intent of a specific rule through an alternate means that is different from, yet judged to be comparable to or as effective as, those prescribed within the rule.

- 1. List the Administrative Code citation(s) that necessitates the proposed equivalency. As the Department cannot approve an equivalency to 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)).**

6A:10-4.4 (D)

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

The Township of Union Public Schools intends to complete the observations following the state regulation of 60 minutes within two (2) observations. The district is a large district with total of seven hundred and thirty seven (737) certified staff. Five hundred sixty seven (567) are tenured, one hundred and seventy (170) are non-tenured and two (2) are currently listed on requiring an additional observation resulting from a CAP classification. The approval of the equivalency application would allow district administrators to reduce the number of formal observations without compromising the number of minutes of observations for each identified teacher.

- 3. Describe why an equivalency is necessary to accomplish the desired or measurable result(s). Describe the proposed equivalent.**

The proposed equivalency would allow all tenured, tenured effective and highly effective teachers to be observed two (2) times per school year with the time requirement of sixty minutes (60) met between both observations. It is also proposed that those teachers also receive an informal walkthrough with either a verbal conference or written documentation during the school year. This change would resulting in three (3) opportunities per identified teacher to be observed by a school administrator.

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

The proposal was presented to the administrative association and teachers association to solicit feedback. The members of the respective associations were polled by the association and their comments provided to the district. The proposal was then discussed in a board work session and with the full board at the October 13, 2015 meeting. At that time the public was provided the opportunity to make comment on the proposed equivalency application

5. List the date the district board of education adopted a resolution supporting the proposed equivalency: \_\_\_\_\_.

I, Gregory Tatum , certify that the information presented in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Gregory Tatum  
CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

October 20, 2015  
DATE