

Senate Bill 9

Fingerprinting Requirements

Presented to Plano ISD Board of Trustees
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SB 9 Fingerprinting Requirements

Overview

- ❖ Texas Education Agency, State Board of Educator Certification, Department of Public Safety and sole vendor L-1 responsible for implementation, in conjunction with local school districts
- ❖ Severe lack of consistent information to school districts to date resulting in very gradual learning process for all districts
- ❖ As of 1/1/08, requires fingerprinting for all non-certified persons being hired by Texas school districts (includes FANS, Transportation, non-teaching professionals, nurses, PASAR, SLP's, etc.)
- ❖ Estimated cost of approximately \$32K

- ❖ Must have submitted prints prior to starting work
- ❖ Does not currently include substitutes, certified teachers or assistants, or other current employees (fingerprinting will be required at a later date prior to September 2011)
- ❖ Note that new teachers have been required to be fingerprinted since October 2003 as a part of the certification process

For each non-certified person being recommended for hire:

- ❖ PISD uploads information to SBEC in prescribed format
- ❖ Several days later SBEC sends a “FAST” pass
- ❖ PISD contacts person and makes arrangements to get FAST pass to them (this must be presented at the fingerprinting appointment)
- ❖ PISD schedules an appointment with the sole vendor, L-1 (closest sites are in McKinney, Denton, and Dallas)
- ❖ PISD pays for appointment (\$52.20 each)
- ❖ Once PISD receives proof that the prints have been submitted, hire can be completed
- ❖ Throughout the process, PISD is staying in close contact with applicant
- ❖ Continued employment assumes no unacceptable “hits” on the person’s record

- ❖ New employees may not report to work until they have submitted their fingerprints
- ❖ Existing PISD criminal history background process remains unchanged
- ❖ Unlikely that there will be surprise “hits” on records given criminal histories already completed
- ❖ This is a challenge that all Texas school districts are facing at the current time
- ❖ PISD is working closely with our attorneys, TEA, SBEC, DPS, and L-1 to resolve problems and questions and initiate solutions to the challenges we have identified.
- ❖ We are in the process of purchasing a fingerprinting machine that is compatible with the prescribed processes and systems
- ❖ While PISD will still pay \$52.50 per person up front, we will be reimbursed \$5.95 for each one we print vs. sending to L-1 plus it will help tremendously with scheduling and travel

- ❖ TEA has stated that each district will be notified sometime between now and September 2011 regarding fingerprinting of all other employees
- ❖ Only 2-3 weeks notice will be given
- ❖ We are currently working with Technology to set up and test reports that will be compliant with the new requirements
- ❖ These employees will have 80 days to submit fingerprints or will no longer be eligible to work for the district
- ❖ There are also requirements for employees of district contractors to be fingerprinted
- ❖ PISD is in process of obtaining appropriate documentation from contractors
- ❖ Some volunteers are also subject to SB 9