

COUNSELOR WORK TIME (TEC 33.006 (d – j))

TEC 33.006 subsections (d) – (h) places restrictions on the duties that can be fulfilled by school counselors, requires policy adoption and annual review by the school board, and limits contracting options with counselors in the district.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

- Tidehaven ISD desires to maintain flexibility in its school counseling and guidance program by requesting relief from the requirement of TEC 33.006 (d) that a counselor must spend 80% of the total work time on duties identified by statute.
- In addition, Tidehaven ISD wishes to remove restrictions imposed by subsections (e) – (h) which are related to policy adoption, annual review, and counselor employment contracts.
- Tidehaven ISD believes that these changes will help the district better meet the ever-changing needs of its students by allowing TISD counselors to fulfill other important roles throughout the district, including but not limited to, scheduling and student assessment.
- Tidehaven ISD counselors will continue to focus on the district's counselor program and its goals; however, restrictions which mandate time tracking/logging as required under the 80/20 duty requirement are inefficient use of said counselors' time. The logging/tracking requirement also impedes the district's ability to utilize the counseling staff in a variety of roles which we determine are best suited to serve the needs of the students and the community.

MANDATORY DAEP PLACEMENT FOR VAPING (HB 114)

HB 114 makes offenses involving the possession and/or use of vapes a mandatory DAEP offense. School districts will be required to place all students who are caught in possession of and/or using vapes of any kind in DAEP.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

- Tidehaven ISD requests relief from the requirements of HB 114 as compliance will place an undue burden on the district.
- As a small district, TISD does not have the additional personnel which would be required to supervise and instruct a potential influx of students in DAEP.
- TISD believes only severe misbehaviors should require mandatory placement in DAEP.
- TISD believes a student's disciplinary history, rather than a one-time vaping violation, should determine removal from the classroom and placement in DAEP.
- Relief from the mandates of HB 114 would allow the campus principal, with the approval of the principal, to utilize alternate forms of disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, In School Suspension and completion of an Anti-Vaping program.