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## CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

## GCCISD Board votes to defer 15-percent STAAR rule

The Goose Creek CISD Board of Trustees voted Thursday, March 8 to waive the implementation of the 15-percent grading requirement for the upcoming State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) tests for the 2011-12 school year.

The grading requirement pertains to high school students taking end-of-course exams. In addition to requiring that students pass the exams in order to graduate, the exams were also slated to count as 15 percent of a student's final grade in the course.

The rule could essentially cause a student who had an otherwise passing grade in a course to receive a failing grade because of the performance on STAAR, and force the student to retake the subject either in summer school or during the next school year, the release stated.

Texas Commissioner of Education Robert Scott announced Feb. 18 that he was modifying the implementation of the STAAR test to let schools postpone making the exam count toward ninth-graders' final grades for the 2011-12 school year.

STAAR includes tests for grades three to eight. And in high school, tests will be given at the end of the following courses: Algebra I and II; geometry; biology; chemistry; physics; English I, II and III; world geography; world history and U.S. history.

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Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District 4544 Interstate 10 East Baytown, Texas 77521 281,420,4800

Mailing Address Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District Baytown, Texas 77522 281.420.4800

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