

Renewing Texas District of Innovation Designation

Local Innovation Committee
02/10/2021 Innovation:
Lessons Lear



HB 1842 District of Innovation-- Why is this important?

“For years, Texas school board members and administrators have complained about the ever-increasing number of state mandates and prescriptive laws and bemoaned the continual erosion of local control. Now there is a realistic process for districts to do something about this. Take advantage. Investigate the possibilities and potential of becoming a district of innovation.”

James B. Crow

Executive Director, TASB



Potential benefits of being a District of Innovation include:

- **Local control**
- **Customization**
- **Autonomy**
- **Flexibility**



Why is this important for ISDs?

- “Charter” like flexibility- First time Texas legislature provided this to public school districts
- Use it or lose it- We want more flexibility and if we do not take advantage of the process, we will lose this important privilege.



§102.1303. Eligibility

- (a) A district is eligible for designation as an innovation district if the district's most recent performance rating under the Texas Education Code (TEC), §39.054, **is at least acceptable performance**, as indicated in the applicable year's academic accountability manual adopted under §97.1001 of this title (relating to Accountability Rating System).
- (b) A board of trustees may not vote on the final approval of the innovation plan if the district is assigned **either a final or preliminary rating below acceptable performance**, as indicated in the applicable year's academic accountability manual adopted under §97.1001 of this title. In the event the preliminary rating is changed, the board of trustees may then vote to become an innovation district.





Required Steps

- Board adopts resolution to develop Local Innovation Plan
- Board approves Local Innovation Committee members
- Committee develops Local Innovation Plan
- Notification to TEA of intention to vote on proposed Plan
- Final Plan posted on District website
- District Improvement Team (aka DEIC) holds public meeting and votes on Plan (majority required for approval)
- Board votes on Plan (2/3 of **membership** required)



EPISD Local Innovation Committee

Make Up

Twenty-One Members total
Interim Superintendent -7 members
Trustees -2 members each

What your Committee must be able to Do

Sec. 12A.003. LOCAL INNOVATION PLAN. (a) A local innovation plan must be developed for a school district before the district may be designated as a district of innovation.

(b) A local innovation plan must:

- (1) provide for a comprehensive educational program for the district, which program may include:
 - (A) innovative curriculum, instructional methods, and provisions regarding community participation, campus governance, and parental involvement;
 - (B) modifications to the school day or year;
 - (C) provisions regarding the district budget and sustainable program funding;
 - (D) accountability and assessment measures that exceed the requirements of state and federal law; and
 - (E) any other innovations prescribed by the board of trustees; and
- (2) identify requirements imposed by this code that inhibit the goals of the plan and from which the district should be exempted on adoption of the plan, subject to Section [12A.004](#).

Added by Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1046 (H.B. [1842](#)), Sec. 4, eff. June 19, 2015.



2015 EPISD Resolution Wording

Resolution to Initiate the Process of Designation as a District of Innovation

WHEREAS, the El Paso ISD Board of Trustees is committed to our vision that education will become our community's highest priority and El Paso ISD graduates will be its most productive contributing members; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 1842 provides Texas public school districts the opportunity to be designated as Districts of Innovation; and

WHEREAS, the El Paso ISD Board of Trustees wishes to support innovation and local initiatives to improve educational outcomes for the benefit of our students and our community; and

WHEREAS, the El Paso ISD Board of Trustees believes we may be able to achieve our vision more quickly by increasing local control over District operations; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 1842 requires districts seeking to be designated as Districts of Innovation to develop a Local Innovation Plan providing for a comprehensive educational program and identifying the requirements imposed by the Texas Education Code that inhibit the goals of the Local Innovation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the El Paso ISD Board of Trustees does not desire the District to be exempted from any existing laws relating to teacher contracts or teacher benefits, except to the extent the District may be able to withdraw from participation in TRS Active-Care;

WHEREAS, the El Paso ISD Board of Trustees believes that any Local Innovation Plan, if ultimately adopted, should be developed in collaboration with the community and District stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, before considering the creation of a Local Innovation Plan, the El Paso ISD Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing to receive feedback from the community and District stakeholders.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the El Paso ISD Board of Trustees on December 15, 2015 initiates the process of exploring and considering designation of the District as a District of Innovation under House Bill 1842.



2020 EPISD Resolution Wording

WHEREAS Chapter 12A of the Texas Education Code provides Texas public school districts the opportunity to be designated as Districts of Innovation.

WHEREAS Texas Education Code 12A.001 provides that a district is eligible for designation as a district of innovation if the district's most recent performance rating under Section 39.054 reflects at least acceptable performance, and that consideration of designation as a district of innovation may be initiated by a resolution adopted by the board of trustees of the district.

WHEREAS the El Paso Independent School District's most recent performance rating under Education Code 39.054 reflects at least acceptable performance.

WHEREAS El Paso Independent School District first achieved its designation as a District of Innovation after adopting a Local Innovation Plan at its May 17, 2016 meeting of the Board of Trustees. The District gave Notice of that adoption to the Commissioner of Education on May 20, 2016.

WHEREAS Chapter 12A of the Texas Education Code requires districts seeking renew their designation as Districts of Innovation by developing a Local Innovation Plan providing for a comprehensive educational program and identifying the requirements imposed by the Texas Education Code that inhibit the goals of the Local Innovation Plan.

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees does not desire the District to be exempted from any existing laws relating to teacher contracts or teacher benefits, except to the extent that the Texas Education Code 22.004 (i) precludes the District from providing alternative group health coverage available to its employees under this section after the date on which the program of coverages provided under Chapter 1579, Insurance Code, is implemented "program" (TRS ActiveCare) established by 1579 of the Insurance Code.

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees believes that any Local Innovation Plan, if ultimately adopted, should be developed in collaboration with the community and District stakeholders.

WHEREAS before considering the creation of a Local Innovation Plan, the Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing to receive feedback from the community and District stakeholders.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of El Paso Independent School District by adoption of this Resolution initiates the process under Texas Education Code Chapter 12A to renew its designation as a District of Innovation.

Adopted this _____ day of December 2020, by the Board of Trustees.



Current EPISD DOI Plan

Exemptions from the Texas Education Code:

- Minimum Attendance for Class Credit or Final Grade (90% Rule)
- First Day of Instruction
- Teacher Certification for Dual Credit and Career and Technical Education Instructors
- Designation of Campus Behavior Coordinator
- Teacher and Administrator Appraisals
- Preclusion from providing alternative Uniform Group Coverage (By amendment)



§102.1309. Prohibited Exemptions.

(a) An innovation district may not be exempted from the following sections of the Texas Education Code (TEC) and the rules adopted thereunder:

(1) a state or federal requirement, imposed by statute or rule, applicable to an open-enrollment charter school operating under the TEC, Chapter 12, Subchapter D, including, but not limited to, the requirements listed in the TEC, §12.104(b), and:

- (A) TEC, Chapter 22, Subchapter B;
- (B) TEC, Chapter 25, Subchapter A, §§25.001, 25.002, 25.0021, 25.0031, and 25.004;
- (C) TEC, Chapter 28, §§28.002, 28.0021, 28.0023, 28.005, 28.0051, 28.006, 28.016, 28.0211, 28.0213, 28.0217, 28.025, 28.0254, 28.0255, 28.0258, 28.0259, and 28.026;
- (D) TEC, Chapter 29, Subchapter G;
- (E) TEC, Chapter 30, Subchapter A;
- (F) TEC, §30.104;
- (G) TEC, Chapter 34;
- (H) TEC, Chapter 37, §§37.006(l), 37.007(e), 37.011, 37.012, 37.013, and 37.020; and
- (I) TEC, Chapter 39;



§102.1309. Prohibited Exemptions Continued:

- (2) TEC, Chapter 11, Subchapters A, C, D, and E, except that a district may be exempt from the TEC, §11.1511(b)(5) and (14) and §11.162;
- (3) TEC, Chapter 13;
- (4) TEC, Chapter 41;
- (5) TEC, Chapter 42;
- (6) TEC, Chapter 44, §§44.0011, 44.002, 44.003, 44.004, 44.0041, 44.005, 44.0051, 44.006, 44.007, 44.0071, 44.008, 44.009, 44.011, 44.0312, 44.032, 44.051, 44.052, 44.053, and 44.054;
- (7) TEC, Chapter 45, §§45.003, 45.0031, 45.005, 45.105, 45.106, 45.202, 45.203; and
- (8) TEC, Chapter 46.

(b) In addition to the prohibited exemptions specified in subsection (a) of this section, an innovation district may not be exempted from:

- (1) a requirement of a grant or other state program in which the district voluntarily participates;
- (2) duties that the statute applies to the execution of that power if a district chooses to implement an authorized power that is optional under the terms of the statute; and
- (3) requirements imposed by provisions outside the TEC, including requirements under the Texas Government Code, Chapter 822.



Prohibited Exemptions (*What the statute really means.....*):

No exemptions from:

Elected boards of trustees

Powers and duties of school boards, superintendents, and principals

PIEMS

Criminal history record checks and educator misconduct reporting

Curriculum and graduation requirements

Bilingual education

Special Education

Prekindergarten

Academic accountability, including student assessments

Financial accountability and related reporting

Reporting of improper relationships between employees and students

Open meetings

Public records

Certain purchasing requirements and conflicts of interest

Nepotism

Civil immunity under Texas Education Code, chapter 22, subchapter B

Other state and federal laws outside of the Texas Education Code



Most Frequent Exemptions

First Day of Instruction (§25.0811)

A school district may not begin instruction for students for a school year before the fourth Monday in August.

Certification Required (§21.003)

A person may not be employed as a teacher, teacher intern or teacher trainee, librarian, educational aide, administrator, educational diagnostician, or school counselor by a school district unless the person holds an appropriate certificate or permit issued as provided by Subchapter B [certification of educators].

Class Size (§25.112)

A school district may not enroll more than 22 students in a kindergarten, first, second, third, or fourth grade class.

Notice of Class Size (§25.113)

A campus or district that is granted an exception under Section 25.112(d) from class size limits shall provide written notice of the exception to the parent of or person standing in parental relation to each student affected by the exception.

Student/Teacher Ratios (§25.111)

Each school district must employ a sufficient number of teachers certified under Subchapter B, Chapter 21, to maintain an average ratio of not less than one teacher for each 20 students in average daily attendance.



El Paso ISD

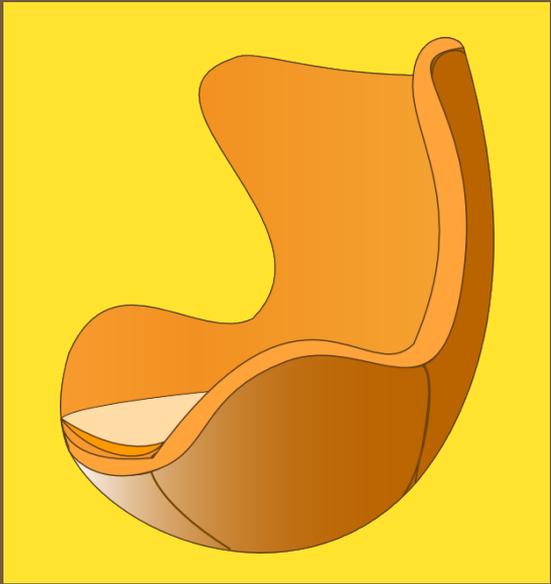
Strategic Priorities

Innovation Committee

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

EL PASO INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT







Many things to celebrate!

- 1 to 1 district
- Math Innovation Zone
- New Tech Network & Active Learning
- Social Emotional Learning
- Dual Language
- Small Learning Communities – Transformation Zone
- Pre K





More things to come!

- Teacher / Leadership pipeline
- Culturally Responsive Teaching
- Establishing a common language on what it means to learn to read
- P-TECH Early Colleges



Board Goals

- **Early Childhood Literacy Board Outcome**

The percent of 3rd grade students that score meets grade level or above on STAAR Reading will increase from 46% to 60% by June 2024.

- *Early Childhood Literacy Progress Measure*

The percent of Kinder through 2nd grade students scoring at Tier 1 overall in iStation/ISIP reading will increase from 53% to 63% by June 2024.

- **Early Childhood Math Board Outcome Goal**

The percent of 3rd grade students that score meets grade level or above on STAAR Math will increase from 48% to 60% by June 2024.

- *Early Childhood Literacy Progress Measure*

The percent of Kinder - 2nd grade students scoring at Tier 1 overall in iStation/ISIP math will increase from 58% to 69% by June 2024.

- **CCMR Board Outcome Goal**

The percentage of graduates that meet the criteria for CCMR will increase from 62% to 90% by August 2024.

- *CCMR Progress Measure*

Increase the number of students meeting TSI criteria in both reading and math from 43% to 70% by August 2024

- *CCMR Progress Measure 2*

Increase the percent of students successfully completing an industry certification from 4% to 14% by August 2024.



EPISD 2020

STRONG FOUNDATION

We leverage a strong foundation and continuous improvement processes to ensure quality learning in every classroom every day.

FOCUS AREAS

In order to meet established student learning goals, through EPISD 2020, We are...

STUDENT LEARNING GOALS

Supporting EPISD students as they become...

VISION

The El Paso Independent School District will be a premier educational institution, source of pride and innovation, and the cornerstone of emerging economic opportunities producing a twenty-first century workforce.



MISSION

The El Paso Independent School District graduates every student prepared for higher learning and careers to empower them as knowledgeable and engaged citizens, innovators, and drivers of a robust, bicultural economy.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES

- Board and Superintendent Goals
- District Improvement Plan
- Campus Improvement Plans
- Department Goals and Plans



Providing Engaging & Challenging Learning



Building Strong Supports



Modernizing Learning Environments



Critical, Knowledgeable & Creative Thinkers



Informed Problem Solvers



Effective Bilingual Communicators



Responsible Leaders & Productive Citizens



Socially & Emotionally Intelligent Individuals

EPISD 2023

Strong Foundation

We leverage a strong foundation and continuous improvement processes to ensure quality learning in every classroom every day.

Vision

EPISD will be a premier educational institution, source of pride and innovation, and the cornerstone of emerging economic opportunities producing a future-ready workforce.



Mission

The El Paso Independent School District graduates every student prepared for higher learning and careers to empower them as knowledgeable and engaged citizens, innovators, and drivers of a robust, bicultural economy.

Continuous Improvement Process

- Board and Superintendent Goals
- District Improvement Plan
- Campus Improvement Plans
- Department Goals and Plans

Student Learning Goals

Supporting EPISD students as they become:



Critical, Knowledgeable & Creative Thinkers



Informed Problem Solvers



Effective Bilingual Communicators



Responsible Leaders & Productive Citizens



Socially & Emotionally Intelligent Individuals

Essential Question:

If we are to continue to provide great seats in every classroom to all students, what are the waivers that will enable us to do so without engaging in disruptive innovation?



EPISD Timeline



KEY:

- Blue = Board Meeting
- Yellow = LIC meetings
- Green = Website posting
- Orange = DEIC meeting



12/08/2020 Board adopts Resolution/holds public hearing/votes to develop Local Innovation Plan

January 2021 Board approves/announces members of Local Innovation Committee

January – March 2021 Committee develops Plan with comprehensive educational program & statutory exemptions

April 2021 Board votes to notify TEA of its intention to vote on the proposed Plan

April 2021 Final Plan posted on District's website for 30 days

May 2021 DEIC holds public meeting and votes on Final Plan (majority vote required)

May 2021 Board votes on Final Plan (2/3 vote of the *membership* of the Board is required)

Committee Meeting Dates

12:00-1:30 p.m.

February 10, 2021

February 17, 2021

February 24, 2021

March 3, 2021

March 10, 2021

March 24, 2021

March 31, 2021 (April 7, 2021)



QUESTIONS?

