Board of Trustees
Executive Summary of Board Agenda Item

Subject/Title for Agenda Posting: Discuss and Take Appropriate Action to Notify the Commissioner of Education of the Board’s Intention to Vote on the Proposed Local Innovation Plan.

Justification Statement: To Notify the Commissioner of Education of the Board’s intention to vote on the proposed Local Innovation Plan, as required by House Bill 1842, in order to obtain designation as a district of innovation.

Purpose of Agenda Item: X Action ______ Information ______ Discussion ______ Public Relations

To be held in: X Open Session ______ Closed Session

Agenda Format: X Regular Agenda ______ Consent Agenda

Authority for Action: ______ Legal/Local Policy ______ Law or Rule ______ Other

Staff Responsible: Juan F. Cabrera, Superintendent; Cozy Collins, General Counsel

Presenter(s)

Signature of Approval

Superintendent/General Counsel

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLAN OBJECTIVE, GOAL OR NEED ADDRESSED: EPISD will become the district of choice for teachers, staff, students and families.

SUMMARY: The Board will discuss and take appropriate action regarding the Local Innovation Plan drafted and proposed by the Local Innovation Committee appointed by the Board in accordance with House Bill 1842, legislation passed during the 84th Legislative Session permitting Texas public school districts to become districts of innovation and obtain exemption from provisions of the Texas Education Code from which open enrollment charter schools are exempt. On December 15, 2015, the Board passed a Resolution to Initiate the Process of Designation as a District of Innovation in order to increase local control over District operations and to support innovation and local initiatives to improve educational outcomes for the benefit of students and the community.

On January 19, 2016, the Board appointed a twenty-one member Local Innovation Committee comprised of diverse leaders representing a cross-section of the District’s various stakeholders, including teachers, principals, parents, community members, and administrators. The Local Innovation Committee held public meetings on February 4, 11, 18, 23, and March 3, 2016, to discuss and draft the Local Innovation Plan. In addition, the Committee sought and considered input on the Local Innovation Plan through a survey distributed to teachers, principals, administrators, other District employees, parents, high school students, and community members.

In order to obtain designation as a district of innovation, the Board must notify the Commissioner of Education of its intention to vote on the adoption of the proposed plan. In addition, after notifying the Commissioner of the Board’s intention to vote on the proposed plan and prior to voting to adopt the proposed plan: (1) the plan must be available on the District’s Internet website for at least 30 days, and (2) the District-wide Educational Improvement Council (DEIC) must approve the proposed plan by a majority vote. If the Board votes to notify the Commissioner of its intention to vote on the adoption of the proposed plan, the plan will be placed on the District’s Internet website from March 16, 2016 until April 19, 2016. The Committee intends to recommend that the Board adopt the proposed plan at its regularly scheduled meeting on April 19, 2016. In order to obtain designation as a district of innovation, the DEIC must vote to approve the proposed plan by a majority vote of the DEIC committee members, and the Board must adopt the proposed plan by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of the Board.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION/MOTION: To notify the Commissioner of Education of the Board’s intention to vote on adoption of the proposed Local Innovation Plan, as recommended.
FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACCOUNT NO(S): N/A

FISCAL IMPACT AND COST:
- Immediate: N/A
- Future/Ongoing: N/A

IMPACT ON OTHER FUNCTIONS/OPERATIONS: N/A

CONSEQUENCES OF NONAPPROVAL: N/A

IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE: Upon approval.

COMMENTS RECEIVED, IF ANY: N/A

Background Materials: X Included in Packet X To be Distributed at Meeting

Number of Pages: ___