

Tioga ISD
DISTRICT OF INNOVATION
Current School Year 2016 – 2017
Plan to Begin August of 2017
Plan Last Updated April 17, 2017

Introduction

Tioga ISD is utilizing HB 1842, of the 84th Legislative Session, in order to have more local control in certain areas. HB 1842 allows a traditional public school to have some of the same local flexibility that public charter schools have enjoyed. This is a great opportunity for our district to tailor plans based on the needs of the Tioga students and community. This plan will be in effect from 2017-2022. The plan may be amended during this time period with approval of the Board of Trustees. The plan specifically encompasses TEC 11.252 in regards to District-Level Planning and Decision Making.

Innovation Committee Members

Charles Holloway	Superintendent
Josh Ballinger	Asst. Superintendent
Jana Smith	TES Principal
Erica Waller	THS Principal
Kurt Hall	TISD Community Member
Rick Staples	TISD Advisory Member
Christi Crowe	THS Teacher
Jody Deleon	THS Parent
Amber Schneider	TMS Teacher
Trina Colteryhan	TMS Parent
Ammie Scott	TES Teacher
Ryan Walters	TES Parent

District of Innovation Timeline

November 17, 2016

*Initial meeting with administrative staff to discuss District of Innovation.

November 21, 2016

7:00pm, Regular Board Meeting

*Board of Trustees approve resolution to hold a public hearing to discuss the possibility of using HB 1842 to become a District of Innovation.

December 19, 2016

7:00pm, Regular Board Meeting

*Public Hearing to explain and discuss the possibility of becoming a District of Innovation.

January 17, 2017

7:00pm, Regular Board Meeting

*Approve a motion to pursue developing a District of Innovation plan, parameters, and members for the District of Innovation committee.

February 22, 2017

6:30pm District of Innovation committee meeting to develop plan (All Members Present).

February 27, 2017

7:00pm, Regular Board Meeting

*Public Board Action to discuss goals of proposed Innovation Plan

March 17, 2017

*Post to the District's Website the DOI Plan for 30 Days

March 20, 2017

7:00pm, Regular Board Meeting

* Public Board Action to look over goals of proposed Innovation Plan without approval

March 21, 2017

*Notify Commissioner of Education of the Board's intention to vote on adoption of proposed plan on April 17, 2017.

March 29, 2017

6:30pm District of Innovation committee meeting to critique DOI plan and School Calendar.

April 17, 2017

7:00pm, Regular Board Meeting

*Approve the District of Innovation Plan

April 18, 2017

*Notify Commissioner of Education of District of Innovation Plan approval.

INNOVATIONS

1. School Start Date (EB Legal, Local) (TEC 25.0811)

Under current Texas law, a school district may not begin instruction for students for a school year before the fourth Monday in August.

Proposed Innovation Strategy

Innovation strategy would be to annually determine the school start date that is best for our community. This would give flexibility to balance the number of days in each semester, provide more instructional days before state assessment is given, and more properly align classes to college courses. Tioga ISD is an Early College High School Campus.

2. Probationary Contracts (DCA Legal) (TEC 21.102)

Under current Texas Law, newly hired teachers, counselors, librarians, or nurses who have been employed in public education for five of the previous eight years are limited to a one year probationary contract. This requires employment decisions to be made before the school year ends, and before state assessment results are available.

Proposed Innovation Strategy

Innovation Strategy would be for teachers, counselors, librarians, or nurses new to the district that have been employed as a teacher in public education for at least five of the eight previous years, a probationary contract may be issued for up to two years from the first day of employment.

3. Teacher and Principal Evaluation (DNA LEGAL, DNA LOCAL) (TEC 21.203) (TEC 21.352) (TEC 21.3541)

The state of Texas previously used the Professional Development and Appraisal System (PDAS) teacher appraisal system since 1997. The state has issued a new

teacher appraisal system for 2016-2017, that is called the Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System (T-TESS).

Proposed Innovation Strategy

A committee of administrators and teachers would have the option to develop a teacher evaluation system that would be a combination of PDAS, T-TESS, and other best practices to develop a local instrument and/or process that fits the needs and goals of TISD.

- a. Tioga ISD will utilize a locally developed teacher and principal evaluation tool.
- b. This instrument will be developed with input from administration, campus administration, and teachers. It will use staff input, PDAS, T-TESS, T-PESS, and any other relevant best practice.
- c. All teachers will have an annual summative conference to discuss the year and to set classroom goals and a staff development plan.
- d. Principals will continue to be evaluated annually on a locally developed plan.
- e. These locally developed plans should reflect the strengths, areas of concern, and goals for Tioga ISD.

4. Teacher Certification (DK LEGAL, DK LOCAL, DK EXHIBIT) (TEC 21.003)

In the event a district cannot locate a certified teacher for a position or a teacher is teaching a subject outside of their certification, the district must submit a request to the Texas Education Agency. TEA then approves or denies this request.

Proposed Innovation Strategy

In order to best serve TISD students, decisions on certification will be handled locally.

- a. The campus principal may submit to the superintendent a request to allow a certified teacher to teach one subject out of their certified field. The principal must specify in writing the reason for the request and document what credentials the certified teacher possesses which qualify this individual to teach this subject.
- b. An individual with experience in a CTE field could be eligible to teach a vocational skill or course through a local teaching certificate. The principal will submit the request to the superintendent with all the individual's credentials. The superintendent will then approve the request if they feel the individual could be an asset to students. The superintendent will then report this action to the Board

of Trustees prior to the individual beginning any employment. Local teaching certificates will be for one year. The employee will be at-will.

c. This will allow more flexibility in our scheduling and more options for our students in class offerings.