

A DISTRICT PLAN FOR INNOVATION & LOCAL CONTROL 2017-2022

Approved by the
TISD Board of Trustees

June 13th, 2017



TISD PLAN FOR LOCAL CONTROL

Districts of Innovation may be exempt from state statutes to:

The 84th Texas Legislature passed House Bill 1842 in the of Spring 2015, providing public school districts the opportunity to become Districts of Innovation. To qualify, an eligible school district must adopt a five-year innovation plan according to the Texas Education Code.

- Take greater local control in decision-making about the educational and instructional model for students;
- Have increased autonomy from state mandates that govern educational programming; and
- Be empowered to innovate and plan differently . to think and dream outside the box

Why is Tatum ISD seeking the state's official designation as a District of Innovation?

The Tatum ISD Board of Trustees resolved in April 2017 to seek designation as a District of Innovation.

- This plan supports exemplary practices and local decision-making processes to improve student learning.
- The board approved a District of Innovation Committee to represent teachers, parents and campus administrators.

This plan will:

- Determine a flexible start date.

TIMELINE

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- April 5th District Improvement Team Meeting
 - April 11th Board of Trustees approved resolution to develop an innovation plan
 - April 18th Board of Trustees approved the District of Innovation Committee
 - April 24th DOI Committee Meeting
 - May 1st DOI Committee Meeting
 - June 2nd District Leadership Team Meeting
 - June 13th Board Adoption of final DOI Plan

District of Innovation Plan

I. Start Date of School Year (TEC 25.0811)

Reasoning

Tatum ISD emphasizes the importance of an innovative learning environment, college and career readiness, along with leadership and social and emotional development. TEC 25.0811 inhibits these goals by prohibiting the District from beginning instruction before the fourth Monday in August. Flexibility to begin instruction earlier in the calendar year will enable the District to improve active learning by balancing the amount of instructional time in the semesters, which will allow teachers to better pace and deliver instruction before and after the winter break. In addition, by having the flexibility to start and end the school year earlier, students will be able to enroll in college courses that start in early June, thereby increasing college and career readiness.

Proposed Plan

Tatum ISD will use this flexibility to begin the school year with students arriving no sooner than the second Monday in August. This will allow local flexibility in scheduling a calendar that meets the needs of the community and the students we serve.