

Trinidad ISD District of Innovation Plan

Trinidad ISD will utilize 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 always been allowed. We feel this is a great opportunity for our local district to tailor plans based on the needs of our students and community.

This plan will be in effect for the 2017-2018 school year through the 2021-2022 school year. This plan may be amended at any time by the committee with approval of the Board of Trustees.

Trinidad ISD Board of Trustees

Eric Airheart,	President
Ricky Stanfield,	Vice President
Brain Snider,	Secretary
Billy Hornbuckle,	Member
Bill Tart,	Member
Mike Airheart,	Member
Stephanie Ramsey,	Member

The following district of Innovation Committee was appointed by the Trinidad ISD Board of Trustees

District Innovation Team

Corey Jenkins	Superintendent of School
Matt Mizell	Principal of School
Leslie Parker	Student Services Coordinator
Tina Sawtelle	Middle School
Linda Hornbuckle	High School
Andrea Hubbard	Parent
Elaine Greenhaw	PEIMS Coordinator
Brandon Looney	Business Manager
Deanna Tart	High School
Julie Tackitt	High School
Robbie Pate	Elementary School
Melody Robinson	Elementary School
Judith Loven	High School

District of Innovation Timeline:

February 16, 2017 District Administration met to discuss preliminary thoughts on Trinidad ISD becoming a District of Innovation

February 16, 2017 District Administration met with proposed committee to discuss preliminary thoughts on Trinidad ISD becoming a District of Innovation and their willingness to serve if approved for final committee.

February 20, 2017 Trinidad ISD Board of Trustees approved a resolution of consideration for designation as a District of Innovation

February 20, 2017 A public hearing was held to explain and consider the development of a Local District of Innovation Plan for Trinidad ISD

February 20, 2017 Trinidad ISD Board of Trustees appointed and approved the TISD District of Innovation Committee

February 21, 2017 District of Innovation Committee met to develop the Trinidad ISD Local District of Innovation Plan

February 22, 2017 Plan was presented to Trinidad ISD SBDMC and approved by majority vote in order to consider and approve the final plan at the next board meeting

February 23, 2017 Plan was posted on the Trinidad ISD website for the 30 day minimum

March 27, 2017 Trinidad ISD Board of Education approved the Trinidad ISD District of Innovation Final Plan

The District Will Inform TASB of policy changes.

Texas Education Code Exemptions

1. Calendar - School start date

(EB LEGAL) (Texas Ed. Code 25.0811)

Currently, students may not begin school before the 4th Monday of August. For many years this was the rule, however, districts had the option of applying for a waiver to start earlier. The vast majority of districts applied for the waiver and would begin the 3rd Monday, some even going as early as the 2nd Monday. Therefore, several years ago the legislature took away all waivers and dictated that districts may not begin until the 4th Monday, without exceptions.

Proposed

To allow for a calendar that fits the local needs of our community and students, we are recommending the ability to set our start date locally.

- a. No student will begin any earlier than the 2nd Monday of August.
- b. The goal is to improve the district attendance rate and student success through the flexibility in the calendar. Student achievement will also be addressed with consideration for remediation of identified "At-Risk" students. This may occur with identified students attending at a start date consistent with this proposed change, and other students having a start date at a different time, but still within the proposed guidelines of this plan.
- c. This exemption will also allow our school district to balance our semesters.

2. Teacher certification

(DK LEGAL, DK LOCAL, DK EXHIBIT) (Texas Ed. Code 21.003, 21.057)

Currently 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). TEA then approves or denies this request.

Proposed

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

- a. The campus principal may submit to the superintendent a request to allow a certified teacher to teach a subject out of their certified field.
- b. An individual with experience in a CTE field may 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.
- c. The principal must specify in writing the reason for the request and document what credentials the certified teacher/experienced person possesses qualifying this individual to teach this subject.
- d. The superintendent will then submit this action to the Board of Trustees for Board approval prior to the individual beginning any employment. Local teaching certificates will be for one year. The employee will be at-will.
- e. Each school year the district will report to the board and post online a report of all teaching personnel who are teaching a class that is outside their certification.

3. Length of School day

(EB LEGAL) (Texas Ed. Code 25.081) State Law currently requires that all school days must be 420 minutes long each day in order to count for ADA calculations and funding purposes, and accumulate instructional minutes towards the 75,600 minutes required annually. It requires a school district to file a waiver to exempt the 420 minute rule. Each district can request 6 waivers per school year.

Proposed

- a. Exemption from the 420-minute day requirement would allow Trinidad ISD the flexibility needed to alter the school day schedule on selected days whenever it was locally determined as necessary or beneficial to the district and its stakeholders.

- b. Exempting completely from the 420 minute requirement would give a significant amount of local control over scheduling (above and beyond the 6 day maximum as needed) without the fear of diminishing state funding or losing credit for instructional time that might cause the district to fall out of compliance with annual minute requirements. This would allow the district the flexibility to schedule non-instructional days into the schedule to allow for teacher professional development and data inventories.
- c. Trinidad ISD does not have any intention to shorten the school day on a regular basis, or without specific purpose. To the greatest extent possible, early release days would be planned ahead of time and noted in the district calendar, which is approved by the Trinidad ISD Board of Trustees and published to all stakeholders in advance of the school year.

4. Probationary Contracts

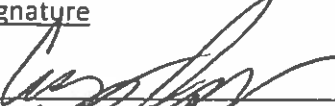






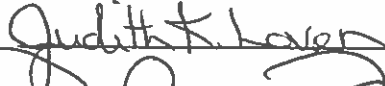

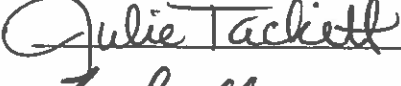



(DCA LEGAL) (Texas Ed. Code 21.102) State Law currently requires that a probationary contract not exceed one year for a teacher new to the district if they have been employed as a teacher in public education for at least five of the eight preceding years before employment with the district.

Proposed

Trinidad ISD would like to have the ability to renew the probationary contract for one additional year for all teachers that are new to the district who have been employed as a teacher in public education for at least five of eight years preceding employment by the district.

Signature Page






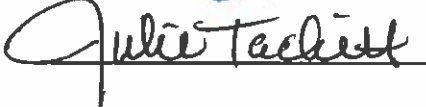
Trinidad ISD District of Innovation Committee Members

<u>Signature</u>		<u>Check Y or N for Agree or Disagree</u>
	Corey Jenkins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Matthew Mizell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Elaine Greenhaw	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Andrea Hubbard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Brandon Looney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Leslie Parker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Linda Hornbuckle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Judith Loven	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Deanna Tart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Julie Tackitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Tina Sawtelle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Melody Robinson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Robbie Pate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N

By signing and checking, I acknowledge my membership as a committee member and my vote to the contents of this locally developed District of Innovation Plan for Trinidad Independent School District.

Site-base Decision Making Committee's Signature Page

Trinidad ISD Site-base Committee Members

<u>Signature</u>		<u>Check Y or N for Agree or Disagree</u>
	Corey Jenkins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Matthew Mizell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Robbie Pate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Stacy Peevy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Sheri Cross	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	Julie Tackitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N

By signing, I acknowledge that I have read the board of education's resolution, and Trinidad's proposed District of Innovation Plan, and the check indicates my vote.

RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER DESIGNATION AS DISTRICT OF INNOVATION

WHEREAS 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; and

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Trinidad School District by adoption of this resolution initiates the process under Education Code Chapter 12A to become a District of Innovation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after this resolution is signed by the Board, a public hearing shall be held within 30 days to consider whether the District should develop a local innovation plan for the designation of the District as a district of innovation and that within 30 days of the public hearing the Board of Trustees of Trinidad School District shall appoint an innovation plan committee to develop a local innovation plan or decline to pursue designation as a district of innovation.

Adopted this 20th day of February, 2017, by the Board of Trustees.



Presiding Officer



Secretary