

District of Innovation

Bastrop Independent District

February 21, 2017

What is District of Innovation?

- ▶ During the 84th Legislative Session, House Bill 1842 (also known as the “Districts of Innovation” bill) was passed by the Legislature, giving traditional independent schools most of the flexibilities available to the state’s open enrollment charter schools.
- ▶ An innovation plan allows a district to exempt themselves from many of the Texas Education Code (TEC) requirements, thus gaining greater local control.
- ▶ To be eligible to apply for this designation, a district must have “Met Standard” on the state’s accountability system.
- ▶ The developed innovation plan is expected to be unique to each school district, allowing for local values, needs, and goals to be incorporated into the plan.

Timeline and input received for DOI

- ▶ **January 10, 2017** - Meeting with the Teacher Organization.
- ▶ **January 12, 2017** - Presented information to the Board of Trustees.
- ▶ **February 2, 2017** - Meeting with the District's Leadership Team.
- ▶ **February 9, 2017** - Meeting with the District Performance Committee (DPC).
- ▶ **February 15, 2017** - Second mtg. with the Teacher Organization Committee.
- ▶ **February 21, 2017** - Bastrop Board of Trustees considers Adoption of a Resolution.
- ▶ **February 21, 2017** - Bastrop Board of Trustees holds a Public Hearing.
- ▶ **February 21, 2017** - Bastrop Board of Trustees appoints the innovation committee to develop the local innovation plan.

How do we become an Innovation District?

- ▶ Process begins either with a board of trustees resolution or by signed petition from a majority of your district-level advisory committee.
- ▶ Read and take action on resolution to initiate process of exploring the option of designating Bastrop ISD as a District of Innovation.

How do we become an Innovation District?

Next Step:

- ▶ Board conducts a public hearing to consider developing an innovation plan and within 30 days of the public hearing Board must formally decide to pursue or decline the opportunity.

- ▶ Board of Trustees Public Hearing

How do we become an Innovation District?

- ▶ At the conclusion of the Public Hearing the Board of Trustees may:
 - ▶ Decline to pursue designation of the District as a DOI; or
 - ▶ Appoint a committee to develop a local innovation plan in accordance with Education Code.

Next Steps

- ▶ Board appointed Innovation Planning Committee writes a plan that:
 - ▶ Provides for a comprehensive educational program for the District, which 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
 - identifies 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.

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Questions / Comments