
BOARD:	Action
SUBJECT:	District of Innovation Local Innovation Plan Amendment
BOARD POLICY:	AF (Legal)
DISTRICT GOAL:	Brazosport ISD will provide a rigorous and relevant learning experience to ensure that every student will B*FutureReady; Brazosport ISD learning environments will be safe and conducive to learning. Brazosport ISD will recruit, develop, and retain highly effective staff
FISCAL NOTE:	None

Background Information:

- In May of 2017, the Board of Trustees adopted the current Local Innovation Plan, making BISD a District of Innovation (DOI).
- The district renewed that plan in 2022, and it will expire in May of 2027.
- A school district can amend their Local Innovation Plan at any time with the majority approval of the District Educational Improvement Council and a two-thirds vote of the Board of Trustees.
- If approved, the amendments will be in place for the remaining period that the plan is in effect.
- There are three innovations that need to be discontinued due to changes in legislation, and four proposed innovations, all recently approved by the DEIC for board consideration and decision.

Administrative Considerations:

- Exemptions to discontinue
 - Texas Education Code (TEC) §21.0032, added by HB 2 of the 89th Legislature (2025), restricts school districts from using Districts of Innovation (DOI) plans to exempt teachers in foundation curriculum courses (English, math, science, social studies) from certification requirements. The Teacher Certification Exemption needs to be discontinued.

- o TEC 12A.004 prohibits including exemptions to the Texas Education Code related to finance. The Optional Flexible School Day Program falls under Texas Education Code Chapter 25 and is, therefore, not eligible for exemption. The Optional Flexible School Day Exemption has been discontinued. However, the district can and will continue to apply each year to continue the program following the guidelines of TEC Chapter 25.
- o TEC 12A.004 prohibits exempting under Chapter 37 Discipline. The Discipline Exemption has to be discontinued.
- Proposed new exemptions
 - o **Campus and District Planning Requirements** - The list of required items to be included in the district and campus improvement plans renders the plans as compliance documents and not improvement plans. The proposed flexibility would remove the prescriptive lists of requirements for District and Campus Improvement Plans. The district and each campus will create improvement plans in alignment with the district vision, mission, beliefs, and board-approved goals for the purposes of improving student outcomes and addressing problems and root causes identified through the comprehensive needs assessment process. Therefore, the district is proposing to exempt TEC 11.251 Planning and Decision-Making Process.
 - o **Grievance Policy** - Senate Bill 12 requires districts to change their current local policies on grievances in a variety of ways, including increasing the number of days in which an appeal can be filed, heard, and considered, and by adding the additional level of an appeal to the Superintendent before appealing to the Board. The new timelines increase the grievance process from a maximum of 60 days to a maximum of 90 days. Additionally, the grievant can add additional claims to their grievance throughout the process. The district's current Grievance Policy has worked to support efficient resolution of grievances. Therefore, the district is proposing to be exempt from TEC 26A.001(a), (b)(3), (c) Grievance Policy and 26A.002 Timelines for Filing and Appealing.
 - o **Required Disclosure Regarding Instructional Plan** - Texas Education Code 26.062 requires a school district to adopt a policy that mandates the posting of instructional plans and course syllabi on the district's website each semester. Maintaining and providing each instructional plan or syllabus on the District's website prior to the semester beginning creates a significant administrative burden. District teachers already provide instructional information to parents and issue syllabi to students within the first few days of the school year. The district will be exempted from the requirements of TEC 29.002 that require the District to post instructional plans or syllabi on its website and to provide such documents to parents prior to the beginning of the semester. The District will ensure that parents are informed of the instruction being provided to their students in a timely manner and will provide additional information if parents request it.
 - o **Staff Development** - TEC §21.451 requires campus staff development to be predominantly campus-based and related to accomplishing campus performance objectives. As the district moves toward the implementation of math and RLA High Quality Instructional Materials, district-level training may become predominant as teachers receive needed training and follow-up to support rapidly improved student

outcomes. Included in TEC §21.451 is a long list of required and recommended professional development that may or may not address identified student and staff needs. The district needs the flexibility to review the list of required and recommended training options to identify what aligns best with the identified needs of both staff and students as identified in the campuses' and the district's Comprehensive Needs Assessments.

- It is the administrations' recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve amending the Local Innovation Plan to discontinue the three obsolete exemptions and to add the four proposed exemptions.

Communication Deployment:

- Board Meeting minutes
- District website
- Notification of the Commissioner of Education
- Press release

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Respectfully submitted,

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