ALEDO ISD BOARD MEETING TEMPLATE

MEETING DATE: November 16, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: District of Innovation Amendments and Revision to Board Policy FDA (Local)

PRESENTER: Kim Raymond, Deputy Superintendent

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
The District of Innovation concept, created by the 84th Texas Legislature, provides eligible Texas public school districts flexibility from certain provisions of the Texas Education Code through a locally adopted innovation plan. This local control allows districts to address local needs and support district priorities.

Aledo ISD seeks to maintain appropriate local flexibility while ensuring its District of Innovation Plan remains compliant with current state law. Districts have the authority to amend their District of Innovation (DOI) Plan outside of the renewal period. Any proposed amendments must be approved by a majority vote of the District-Wide Effectiveness Improvement Committee (DWEIC). DWEIC met on November 11, 2026 and approved the amended plan by majority vote.

The proposed amendments are summarized below:

- Removing the District's existing exemption from Texas Education Code §37.0012 regarding Campus Behavior Coordinators to bring the District's DOI Plan into compliance with changes in law resulting from HB 6.
    - During the 89th Texas Legislature, House Bill 6 expanded the provisions that a District of Innovation may not exempt itself from to include all of Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code. This prohibition applies beginning with the 2025–2026 school year regardless of when a district's innovation plan was adopted or renewed. TEA has advised districts with existing Chapter 37 exemptions to prepare to bring their plans into compliance with the statutory change. As a result, Aledo ISD can no longer utilize its DOI exemption from TEC §37.0012, and the administration recommends formally removing the following provision from the District's current plan.
        - Under the current statute, each campus must designate a single

individual to serve as the Campus Behavior Coordinator (CBC). Additional staff members may assist with the coordinator's responsibilities, so the District can continue to utilize a collaborative approach to supporting student behavior; however, one individual must now be formally designated as the CBC and is responsible for ensuring the applicable requirements of Chapter 37, Subchapter A are appropriately implemented.

- Implementing a limited local transfer opportunity which will be reflected in a proposed change to Aledo ISD Board Policy FDA — Admissions: Interdistrict Transfers (Local) for qualifying service members.
    - Texas Education Code §25.0345 provides that, upon the request of a qualifying service member who is the parent of or stands in parental relation to a student, a school district's Board of Trustees or its designee shall transfer the student to another district campus or to another school district under an agreement under TEC §25.035. The statute further provides that the transfer is to the campus or school district selected by the service member. Aledo ISD currently has no agreements with other school districts to allow such transfers between districts.
    - Though Aledo ISD does not have any agreements with other school districts to allow transfers under TEC §25.035, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) has interpreted that fact to not be relevant to the legal requirement to permit the transfer. It is apparent that TEA believes that the transfers must occur, even without the agreement referenced in the statute.
    - Aledo ISD continues to manage significant financial constraints while also addressing enrollment, staffing, and classroom capacity. Requiring the District to accept an unrestricted number of students who reside outside Aledo ISD, and potentially allowing those families to select a particular campus, could create additional staffing, facility, and financial obligations that are difficult to anticipate and appropriately budget.
    - The District's concern is maintaining the ability to appropriately plan enrollment, staffing, campus capacity, and resources. At the same time, the administration recognizes and appreciates the sacrifice of servicemembers and the impact on families that deployment and mobility associated with service has on members of the United States Armed Forces and the Texas National Guard. Therefore, rather than simply closing Aledo ISD to these transfers, administration is considering a limited local transfer opportunity which will be reflected in

a proposed change to Aledo ISD Board Policy FDA — Admissions: Interdistrict Transfers (Local). Such transfers would be granted on an annual basis and would be limited to 10 families per year, and students allowed transfers would have to meet attendance, discipline, and student-conduct expectations established in the DOI Plan and Board Policy FDA (Local).

- The proposed DOI Plan provides that the students of service members who reside within Aledo ISD boundaries will be assigned to campuses in accordance with established attendance boundaries and enrollment procedures.

The Administration plans to bring the final draft of the DOI Plan and the revisions to Board Policy FDA (Local) for consideration at the December 1, 2026 Regular Board meeting.

FISCAL INFORMATION:
Approval of this item has no known impact on the 2026-2027 budget.

ATTACHMENTS:
Draft Revised Aledo ISD District of Innovation Plan
Draft Revised Board Policy FDA (Local)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION:
None, communication item only.