

Consider Approval of Revisions to UCISD District of Innovation Designation

1. Background:

A District of Innovation is a concept passed by the 84th Legislative Session in House Bill 1842 that gives traditional school districts most of the flexibilities available to Texas' open enrollment charter schools. UCISD is a District of Innovation as our DOI plan was adopted June 20, 2022. This proposed revision will give the District the option to use a "First Offender Contract" with students found to possess, use, sell, give, or deliver to another person an e-cigarette device (tobacco only) as opposed to the mandatory DAEP placement according to TEC 37.006.

TEC Code Requiring Exemption:

Texas Education Code §37.006 as it applies to the placement of a student in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) if the student is found to possess, use, sell, give, or deliver to another person an e-cigarette device. Currently, a school administrator must assign a student found with a vape or e-cigarette device 1-3 days of in-school suspension, assignment to a program to address addiction issues, and recommend the student for DAEP placement.

Benefit of Exemption for Uvalde CISD:

Passage of this amendment grants administrators the flexibility to work with students, who are first time offenders, and teach them through a First Offender Contract which requires counseling, substance abuse education, parent involvement, and community service, to be completed in a set amount of time in exchange for the DAEP placement. If the contract is broken, the placement will be required to be completed. The use of e-cigarettes or vaping that are not controlled substances may receive this option as outlined in the Code of Conduct. All violations involving controlled substances will receive a DAEP placement as is required by law. However, students and their parents will have the option to complete a First Offender Contract for a reduced amount of placement time at DAEP. This option is applicable for first time offenders only.

1. Process:

If approved, the above exemption will be added to the UCISD DOI Plan.

2. Fiscal Impact:

None

3. Recommendation:

The superintendent recommends that the Board approve the revision of the UCISD District of Innovation Designation Plan.

4. Action Required:

Board Action Required

5. Contact Person:

Ashley Chohlis, Superintendent