

Cedar Hill Independent School District BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting Date: April 4, 2022

Presented by: Dr. Gerald Hudson, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: District of Innovation (DOI) Plan for 2022-23 thru 2026-27

Consent

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Cedar Hill ISD Board of Trustees chose to explore possible exemptions of the Texas Education Code (TEC) through the District of Innovation(DOI) process during the 2016-2017 school year. The Board of Trustees unanimously adopted a DOI plan on April 10, 2017. On February 29, 2020 the board voted to amend the DOI exemptions approved in 2017 allowing for more flexibility in providing our scholars with new opportunities to help us achieve our mission of developing confident students with character, knowledge and skills to maximize their potential and excel in any endeavor they pursue.

The five-year plan implemented beginning the 2017-2018 school year will expire at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. On February 2, 2022, the board was presented with options to include in the renewal of the District of Innovation plan. Following that presentation, per TAC 102.1313(a), the following steps were taken:

- Final version of the proposed plan has been available on the district's
- website for at least 30 days
- The commissioner of education has been notified of the board's intention to vote on adoption of the proposed plan
- A district level committee held a public meeting to consider the final version of the proposed plan and has approved the plan by a majority vote of the committee member

Additional exemptions included in the renewal of the DOI include the following:

1. Filing of Teacher Certification (TEC 21.053) - an exemption that provides flexibility to hire educators regardless of teaching certificate, hard to fill positions, and those with industry expertise by not requiring the certificate be on file in the district.
2. DAEP Requirement of Certified Teachers (TEC 37.9008) - an exemption that allows This exemption would allow CHISD extra flexibility in administration of discipline to students and staffing for DAEP.
3. Student / Teacher Ratios (TEC 25.111) - allows the district to maximize flexibility with class size and gives local control to the district to determine the timing of adding staff.
4. Class Size (TEC 25.112, 25.113) - allows exemptions to the 22:1 ratio allowing the district to set local caps and determine the timing when adding staff.
5. Suspension Without Pay (TEC 21.104(b) & 21.211(b)) - Allows districts to suspend contract employees without pay if properly addressed in the contract in certain limited areas with procedural safeguards in place. (i.e. actions/incidents where commissioner rulings exist; inappropriate conduct with students/staff)

RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends approval of the renewal of the District of Innovation plan as presented.

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED:

Motion to approve the renewal of the District of Innovation plan as presented.

POLICY AUTHORIZATION:

AF Legal

CONTACT PERSON:

Hallema Jackson, Executive Director of Human Resources

FUNDING SOURCE:

General Fund 199

ENCLOSURES:

DOI Presentation provided to the Board of Trustees 2/2/2222