



CISD Board Agenda Item Synopsis

CISD Board Mission: Celina ISD will educate students at the highest levels, empower them to succeed, develop their leadership potential, instill faith-based traditional values, and prepare them to become contributing members of society.

Subject: Innovative Course Approval

Meeting Date: January 20, 2026

Submitted by: Dr. Kyla Prusak, Chief Academic Officer

Goals	
<p>Core Principles Community • Excellence • Innovation Leadership • Stewardship</p> <p>The Learner Experience Love the learner, drive the rigor Responsible for one's own learning Interdependent self-managers</p>	• 1. We will provide and support a safe, civil and collaborative culture.
	✓ • 2. We will continuously provide and support effective teaching in every classroom.
	✓ • 3. We will provide and support a guaranteed and viable curriculum.
	• 4. We will continue to foster a love of reading and commit to continual growth in childhood literacy.
	• 5. We will foster strong numeracy skills and commit to continual growth in math success.
	✓ • 6. We will provide targeted strategies and practices to prepare students for post-secondary education, career readiness, and military participation.
	• 7. We will attract, recruit, develop, and retain high-quality professional staff.

Background Information: Pursuant to Texas Administrative Code §74.27, a school district may offer innovative courses to enable students to master knowledge, skills, and competencies not included in the essential knowledge and skills of the required curriculum. With approval of the local Board of Trustees, a school district may offer any state-approved innovative course. A committee composed of members of Teaching and Learning, Student Services, Special Education and Celina High School worked together to evaluate our current course offerings to ensure we are meeting the needs of our students.

We are continuing with the innovative courses we have in place and are making recommendations to add the following state-approved innovative courses: Making Connections I-IV. These elective courses are for high school students (grades 9-12) with autism spectrum disorder or any related disorders that affect social skills. The courses help students understand their diagnosis, identify their social strengths and challenges, and develop practical strategies for success.

Policy: EHBJ (LEGAL)

Budgetary Impact: NA

Recommendation: The district is seeking action from the Board to approve the District's updated list of state-approved innovative courses, including the addition of the new courses, Making Connections I, II, III & IV.