



DUNCANVILLE ISD

Writing success stories, one student at a time.

Regular Board Meeting

April 21, 2025

AGENDA SECTION: Information Agenda

SUBJECT: District of Innovation

BOARD POLICY: AF (Local)

STRATEGIC GOAL(S): Strategic Priorities 1, 2, 3, 4

FISCAL NOTE: N/A

PREPARED/PRESENTED BY: Connie Wallace, Chief Communications Officer

Background Information

Passed during the 84th Legislative Session, Texas Education Code, Chapter 12A allows Texas school districts to pursue the designation of 'District of Innovation,' a provision that enables traditional independent school districts to access many of the flexibilities currently available to open-enrollment charter schools. Texas Education Code, Chapter 12A, was also intended to generate greater local control and innovation to better meet the needs of Texas students. Through the development and approval of a 'Local Innovation Plan,' a district may obtain certain exemptions from the Texas Education Code to advance its local strategic priorities.

In 2017, the Duncanville ISD Board of Trustees approved the implementation of six exemptions under the District of Innovation (DOI), which allow flexibility to the minimum attendance for class credit or final grade (90% Rule), the length of instructional day, the uniform school start date (first day of instruction), the campus behavior coordinator, the state certification requirements for teachers and other educators, and the probationary contracts for teachers under 5 of 8 Rule.

In April 2022, the DOI plan was renewed and included the exemption for the Transfer of Students (TEC 25.036).

Duncanville ISD has determined a need to apply for an amendment to its Local Innovation Plan to allow exemptions for additional flexibility. The District's Innovation Plan Amendment Committee met on March 6, 2025, to review the current plan and proposed amendments. Additionally, the Senior Leadership Team reviewed and discussed the proposed amendments on March 18, 2025, and Principals provided input on April 2, 2025. District Administration proposes the following amendments:

- Certification requirements for teachers and other educators.
- Certification requirements for counselors
- Requirement regarding probationary contracts – the "5-of-8" rule.
- Mandatory DAEP placement for vaping/e-cigarette related offenses.
- Requirements regarding minimum attendance for class credit or final grade.
- Requirements regarding class size, class size ratio, and parent notification.
- Requirements regarding the term of the depository contract.

Communication Deployment

Board Meeting Minutes

District Website

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Respectfully submitted,

Dr. T. Lamar Goree
Superintendent