



San Elizario ISD
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MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Trustees
From: Blanca I. Cruz, Associate Superintendent
Subject: District of Innovation Plan – 1st Renewal Approval
Date: January 15, 2025

HISTORY: On August 1, 2024, the District Advisory Committee voted unanimously to approve an amendment to the District of Innovation Plan. The San Elizario ISD Board of Trustees approved the first District of Innovation plan for a five-year term on February 12, 2020. The approved amendment was the removal of the following exemption:

- **TEC § 25.092** – Minimum Attendance for Class Credit or Final Grade (Removed August 1, 2024, by DOI Committee)

Based on this change, all students must meet the 90% attendance requirement to receive class credit or a final grade.

In addition, the section pertaining to Board Goals will also be revised to align with the newly adopted goals.

As per the Texas Education Agency (TEA): “The term of the designation as a district of innovation may not exceed 5 calendar years.” The current District of Innovation Plan will expire on February 12, 2025. Therefore, on December 11, 2024, the District Advisory Committee voted to approve the District of Innovation Plan renewal. In addition, the plan must be posted on the district’s website 30 days before any board action. The proposed plan was posted on the district’s website on December 11, 2024: <https://www.seisd.net/seisd-board/district-of-innovation>

RATIONALE: The renewed plan no longer includes the exemption from TEC § 25.092 (minimum attendance for class credit or final grade). Additionally, during the renewal process, it was determined that the district **will not** be exempt from:

TEC Sec. 21.053. Presentation and recording of certificates. (a) A person who desires to teach in a public school shall present the person’s certification for filing with the employing district before the person’s contract with the district’s board of trustees is binding.

The district does not want to be exempt from 21.053 because certified teachers should present their certificates to the district to be issued a contract under Chapter 21.

The mission of the San Elizario Independent School District is to graduate students with innovative skills for 21st-century careers by focusing on academic and social skills, fostering transformative practices, and building community support through positive relationships between home and school.



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This renewal ensures continued flexibility for innovative instructional decision-making while reinforcing our commitment to high standards and strategic priorities. The strong support from the DAT underscores our district's dedication to advancing educational excellence in San Elizario ISD.

The remaining exemptions are as follows:

1. **TEC Sec. 25.0811** - First Day of Instruction. (No change from the current approved plan)
2. **TEC Sec. 21.003** - Teacher Certification for CTE and Fine Arts. (No change from the current approved plan)
3. **TEC Sec. 25.111, 25.112, 25.113** - Class Size (No change from the currently approved plan)
4. **TEC 37.006** - Allows SEISD's administrative initiatives to guide consequences for e-cigarette SCOC violations and curb student use of e-cigarettes. (No change from the current approved plan)

BUDGET IMPACT: There is no budget impact for this item.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION: The administrative recommendation is to approve the renewed DOI plan as presented.

For Approval? Yes No

If no, please check one: Presentation Report Information

Please check if applicable: Attachment Included

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A Proud Community of Champions – Soaring to Excellence!