

Brownsville Independent School District

Introduction	TIMELINE
<p>House Bill 1842, passed during the 84th Legislative Session, permits Texas Public School District to become Districts of Innovation and to obtain exemptions from certain provisions of the Texas Education Code that are available to open charter enrollment schools.</p> <p>On May 2, 2017, the Board of Trustees of the Brownsville ISD passed a resolution #025/16/17 to initiate the process for the Designation as a District of Innovation.</p> <p>On August 14, and September 18, the BISD District Level, District of Innovation Planning Committee (DIPC) met, had an overview, discussion, and input regarding becoming a District of Innovation. (Handout: Minutes)</p> <p>Districts of Innovation provides opportunities for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater local control; • Increased flexibility governing education programming; • Empowerment to innovate and think differently; • Provide classroom teachers the opportunity to deliver more equitable learning experiences for students in the fall and spring semesters. • Align dual credit courses with post secondary institutions such as UT-RGV, and Texas Southmost College. • Fall semester exams prior to Christmas vacations. • More instructional days prior to mandatory state testing. <p>Districts are not exempt from statutes related to curriculum, graduation requirements, nor academic and financial accountability.</p>	<p>5/2/17 Adoption of Resolution</p> <p>On May 2, 2017 the Board of Trustees approved a resolution (#0125/16/17) to initiate a District of Innovation seeking flexibility for the 2018-2019 school year start date for the 2018-2019.</p>
	<p>8/14/17 District Level Committee</p> <p>On August 14, 2017 the District Level, District of Innovation Committee met, had an overview, discussion, and input regarding becoming a District of Innovation.</p>
	<p>9/18/17 District Level Committee</p> <p>On September 18, 2017, we met to review the Proposed District of Innovation Plan.</p>
	<p>10/3/17 Public Hearing</p> <p>On October 3, 2017, Brownsville ISD will hold a Public Hearing to gather input from all stakeholders.</p>
	<p>10/4/17 DEIC Meeting</p> <p>DEIC Committee will review District of Innovation Plan, and vote to determine if the District of Innovation will be submitted to the BISD Board of Trustees.</p>
	<p>10/5/17 District Plan of Innovation Posted</p> <p>If approved, the BISD District Plan of Innovation will be posted on the BISD website for at least 30-days.</p>
	<p>11/7/17 District of Innovation Plan Approved by Board of Trustees.</p> <p>The BISD Board of Trustees will be asked to approve the BISD District of Innovation Plan with a final vote of 2/3 majority. A copy of the approved District of Innovation Plan will be provided to Texas Education Agency for posting on its website.</p>

Brownsville ISD DISTRICT of Innovation Plan

Proposed Exemption

- Flexible Calendar
 - (TEC 25.0811)
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Current Calendar:

Students start school the last Monday of August.

Proposed Calendar:

To allow for a calendar that fits the local needs of our school district, and community, we would like to consider a flexible calendar option, which may include an early start date.

- Students may begin earlier than the fourth Monday of August. This earlier start date will allow the opportunity for a more balanced first and second semester number of days of instruction.
 - Greater local control;
 - Increased flexibility governing education programming;
 - Empowerment to innovate and think differently;
 - Provide classroom teachers the opportunity to deliver more equitable learning experiences for students in the fall and spring semesters.
 - Align dual credit courses with post secondary institutions such as UT-RGV, and Texas Southmost College.
 - Fall semester exams prior to Christmas vacations.
 - More instructional days prior to mandatory state testing.
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