

Grandview-Hopkins ISD District of Innovation Plan

2019-2024

Background

House Bill 1842, passed during the 84th Legislative Session, permits Texas public school districts to become Districts of Innovation and to obtain exemption from certain provisions of the Texas Education Code. On March 19, 2019, the Grandview-Hopkins ISD passed a Resolution to initiate the process to become a District of Innovation.

On April 19, 2019, the Board of Trustees of Grandview-Hopkins ISD held a public hearing and approved the appointment of a District of Innovation Committee.

Term

The term of the Plan is for five years. The plan will begin with the 2019-20 school year and conclude at the end of the 2023-24 school year unless terminated by the Board of Trustees. The effectiveness of the plan will be monitored and any changes to the plan will be recommended to the board before June 1 of each school year.

Committee

Kent Hargis	Superintendent	_____
Judith Ingle	Teacher	_____
Megan Story	Teacher	_____
Deborah Davis	Teacher	_____
Lesley Bolz	Teacher	_____
Marianne Hebard	Teacher	_____
Angel Wheeler	Teacher	_____
Cindy Brown	Administrative Assistant	_____
LuAnn Albus	Instructional Aide	_____
Tamera Sperry	Instructional Aide and Bus Driver	_____
JoAnna Kuehler	Instructional Aide and Bus Driver	_____
Rosa Garcia	Custodian	_____

Innovations

1. School Calendar (TEC ~25.0811) (TEC ~25.0812); Board Policies (EB LEGAL) (EB LOCAL)

Currently, section 25.0811 of the Texas Education Code states that a school district may not begin instruction before the fourth Monday in August. Section 25.0812 states that a school district may not schedule the last day of school before May 15.

The Plan allows Grandview-Hopkins ISD flexibility in the school calendar start and end dates. It also allows the District to use the minutes earned within the District to provide additional flexibility in the instructional calendar. This flexibility allows the District to determine locally, on an annual basis, what start and end dates best meet the needs of the district.

Also, because Grandview-Hopkins is a k-6 district that shares students and works to coordinate our instructional calendar with neighboring districts, becoming a District of Innovation will allow flexibility to adopt an instruction calendar that aligns with neighboring districts, all of whom are currently Districts of Innovation.

2. Teacher Contract Days (TEC 21.401b(DCB Legal), DCB Local)

TEC 25.081 changed instructional time for students from 180 days to 75,600 minutes. Current education law in Chapter 21 requires a teacher who is on a 10-month contract to work an equivalent of 187 days.

In an attempt to align teacher work days to the 75,600 minutes required of students, Grandview-Hopkins ISD may reduce the required service days from 187 work days to 182 days with no decrease in pay or effect on salaries.

3. Length of School Day (EC Legal) (TEC 25.082)

A school day, as stated in the Student Attendance and Accounting Handbook 3.8.1, must be at least 420 minutes including recess and intermission.

The plan gives the District the flexibility to reach the annual goal of 75,600 minutes without being limited by the 420 instructional minutes and seven hour day requirement of the statutory provisions listed above. The district may alter the length of an instructional day on a limited basis when it is locally determined as necessary or beneficial to the district. The exemption will give the district local control over scheduling and will give the district flexibility to work non-instructional days into the calendar for staff development and training.

Timeline of Events

March 19, 2019	Board of Trustees adopts the resolution to initiate process to become District of Innovation
April 9, 2019	Public Hearing to consider moving forward with DOI Plan
April 9, 2019	District of Innovation Committee appointed by Board of Trustees
April 16, 2019	District of Innovation Committee Meeting to discuss moving forward with writing plan
April 23, 2019	Committee meets to develop District of Innovation Plan
-----	Post District of Innovation Plan on website for at least 30 days
-----	Board Notified Commissioner of Education of intent to vote to approve plan
-----	Board Approves Plan
-----	Post DOI Plan for duration of plan time frame