

Iowa Park CISD

District of Innovation



Iowa Park Consolidated Independent School District

District of Innovation Timeline

Tuesday, December 13, 2016	<p>9:00 District Leadership Team Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial meeting to discuss preliminary thoughts on becoming a District of Innovation.
Tuesday, January 3, 2017	<p>9:00 District Leadership Team Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss possible members for District-Level Advisory Committee (DAC) and possible areas of innovation.
Tuesday, January 10, 2017	<p>9:00 District Leadership Team Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss possible members for District-Level Advisory Committee (DAC) and possible areas of innovation.
Thursday, January 19, 2017	<p>7:00 School Board Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board approved resolution to hold a public hearing to discuss the possibility of using HB 1842 to become a District of Innovation. Public Hearing to explain and discuss the possibility of using HB 1842 to become a District of Innovation. Approve a motion to pursue local District of Innovation Plan. Approve the members of the District-Level Advisory Committee (DAC)
Wednesday, January 25, 2017	<p>3:00 District-Level Advisory Committee (DAC) Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial meeting to discuss purpose of HB 1842 and begin planning.
Wednesday, February 1, 2017	<p>3:00 District-Level Advisory Committee (DAC) Meeting and Public Hearing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conclude planning of District Innovation Plan.
Thursday, February 2, 2017	<p>Post proposed Iowa Park CISD District of Innovation Plan on the district website for 30 period.</p>
Thursday, February 2, 2017	<p>Notify Commissioner of Education of intent to vote on the adoption of the proposed District of Innovation Plan.</p>
Thursday, March 9, 2017	<p>7:00 School Board Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board of Trustees to approve the District of Innovation Plan
Friday, March 10, 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send notification to Commissioner of Education of Board's approval of District of Innovation Plan. Update all policy changes with TASB.

Iowa Park Consolidated Independent School District

District of Innovation Plan

2017-2018

Introduction

The 84th Texas Legislature passed HB 1842 allowing eligible Texas school districts to be designated as Districts of Innovation. Districts of Innovation are able to gain local control and obtain exemptions from certain operations of the Texas Education Code (TEC). Iowa Park CISD believes this local innovation plan will allow our Board of Trustees and district staff to make decisions based on the needs of our students, teachers, parents, and community members. In accordance with TEC § 12A.006, this local innovation plan shall remain in effect for a period of five years (2017-2018 through 2021-2022) unless terminated by the commissioner pursuant to TEC § 12.A.008.

District of Innovation Team Members

Jodi Schlaud	Curriculum and Instructional Technology Coordinator
Janet Bowling	Student Services Coordinator
Steve Fairchild	Board of Trustees
Amie Schultz	Iowa Park Community Member
James Kennedy	Kidwell Elementary Principal
Hillary Scott	Kidwell Elementary Teacher
Tracy Young	Kidwell Elementary Teacher
Stephanie Cummings	Kidwell Elementary Parent
Brandi Swenson	Bradford Elementary Principal
Jennifer Crawford	Bradford Elementary Teacher
Christy Tucker	Bradford Elementary Teacher
Amber Sales	Bradford Elementary Parent
Darla Bidy	WF George Middle School Principal
Francie Stanford	WF George Middle School Teacher
Jennifer Morgan	WF George Middle School Teacher
Stephanie Bounds	WF George Middle School Parent
Leah Russell	Iowa Park High School Principal
Kelly Jo Scott	Iowa Park High School Teacher
Kim Kennedy	Iowa Park High School Teacher
Tiffany Diaz	Iowa Park High School Parent

Aligned Educational Program

The IPCISD District of Innovation Plan is guided by and aligned with the Board's Mission and Strategic Goals for the District.

IPCISD Board Mission

The Mission of the Iowa Park CISD is to ensure our students the best educational experience of any North Texas school district. We will provide a well-rounded school experience in a safe environment that will prepare our graduates to attain their life goals.

IPCISD District Goals

1. Provide a safe and secure learning environment featuring state-of-the-art technology that enhances communication, instruction, learning, and safety
2. Provide for the efficient and effective operation of each campus, district facilities, and grounds
3. Support the actions of the administration and professional staff as they develop a curriculum and effective instructional strategies that prepare students to be successful in their academic and occupational endeavors
4. Respond to the personnel needs of the district and develop a process for ongoing accountability for personnel employed by the district
5. Support all campuses for involving the parents and community members as participants in the education of Iowa Park students

Innovations

1. School Start Date

(EB LEGAL) (TEC § 25.0811)

Aligned

The Strategic Plan emphasizes the importance of effective instructional strategies and opportunities for students in core courses, career and technology courses, and dual credit courses. (3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4)

Currently

TEC § 25.0811 states a school district may not begin student instruction before the 4th Monday of August.

Proposed

To allow for a calendar that fits the local needs of our community, more closely balances instructional days for the first and second semesters, and aligns with our college programs, we would like to consider determining a start date that is before the fourth Monday of August.

2. Teacher Certification

(DK LEGAL, DK LOCAL, DK EXHIBIT) (DBA LEGAL, DBA LOCAL)
(TEC § 21.003)

Aligned

The Strategic Plan emphasizes the importance of effective instructional strategies and opportunities for students in core courses, career and technology courses, and dual credit courses. In that emphasis, the board is focused on recruiting the most knowledgeable and qualified personnel to educate our students. (3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 4.3)

Currently

TEC § 21.003 states a person may not be employed as a teacher by a school district unless the person holds an appropriate certificate or permit issued by the appropriate state agency.

Proposed

In order to best serve IPCISD students, decisions on certification will be handled locally.

- a. An individual with experience in a Career and Technology Education (CTE) field could be eligible to teach a vocational skill or course through a local CTE teaching certificate. The principal will submit the request to the superintendent with all of the credentials of the individual. The superintendent will then approve or deny whether the individual could be an asset to IPCISD students. The superintendent will then report to the Board of Trustees prior to the start of employment of the individual. Local CTE teaching certificates will be for one year.
- b. The campus principal may submit to the superintendent a request to allow a certified teacher to teach one subject out of his or her certified field. The principal must specify in writing the reason for the request and document what credentials the certified teacher possesses which qualify this individual to teach the subject. The approval process will be on an annual basis.

These exemptions will allow for more flexibility in scheduling and more options for class offerings.

3. Probationary Contracts

(DCA LEGAL) (TEC § 21.102)

Aligned

The Strategic Plan emphasizes the importance of having the best teachers for our students. In Strategic Plan Goal #4, the board focuses on personnel needs of the district and developing a process for ongoing accountability for personnel employed by the district.

Currently

TEC § 21.102 states a probationary contract may not exceed one year for a person who has been employed as a teacher in public education for at least five of the eight years preceding employment with a district.

Proposed

IPCISD would like the ability to renew the probationary contract one additional year for a maximum of two years for teachers who are new to the district and who have been employed as a teacher in public education for at least five of eight years preceding employment by the District.