

MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT OF INNOVATION COMMITTEE
EL CAMPO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
October 2, 2017

The District of Innovations Committee for the El Campo Independent School District met at 6:00 pm on October 2, 2017, at Meadow Lane Resource Center, 2620 Meadow Lane, El Campo, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kelly Waters, Dolores Trevino, Greg Anderson, Carolyn Gordon, David Bright, Tana Martin, Cami Berglund, Travis Hogg, Kassie Cerny, Mauri Couey, Debbie Chappell, Jane Radley, Suzanne Brandl, Melissa Guttenberger, Penny Hiltbold, Meredith Martin, Tish McAlister, Laura Motal, LeAnn Pelley, Amy Rod, Alicia Stary, Mark Freeman, Vanessa Rod, Demetric Wells and Gilbert Escamilla.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Amy Araguz, Keith Beal, JJ Croix, Kate Manriquez, Rich DuBroc, James Priesmeyer, Amanda Klatt, Rebecca Crowell, Linda Supak, and Cecil Davis.

MEMBERS NO LONGER ON THE COMMITTEE: Kim Couvillion, Sheri Mollnar, BJ Swenson and Stephanie Jensen.

COMMITTEE WELCOME: The District of Innovation Committee began at approximately 6:03 PM with a welcome from Dolores Trevino.

EL CAMPO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, DISTRICT OF INNOVATION WEB PAGE: Mrs. Trevino shared how to access the District of Innovation information on the ECISD Webpage. It is found under the district tab. Mrs. Trevino then discussed the agenda for the meeting which consisted of breaking out into Subcommittees. She then walked the committee members through the process they would need to follow to create the plan.

VOTING RESULTS: Mrs. Trevino went over the [voting results](#) from the September 22, 2017, DOI Meeting. She showed the committee the TEC codes with the highest votes and explained that these would be the laws being considered for the DOI plan to be presented to the Board.

SUBCOMMITTEE GROUPS: As each committee member arrived at the meeting, they were asked to sit in their Subcommittee group listed [here](#). Mrs. Trevino gave an overview of how the District of Innovation Plan Process would work, and reviewed the handouts in each of the Subcommittee folders:

- [Questions Page](#) – These were the questions asked at the last meeting held on September 22, 2017. Mrs. Trevino asked that the committees review the questions and if they corresponded with their committee group to be sure to consider those when focusing on their plans.
- [District Goals \(Yellow Page\)](#) – innovations that the committee proposed should align with the district goals.
- [TEC Codes \(blue\)](#): Texas Education Code (TEC) codes that correspond with the laws each Subcommittee would be reviewing. The committee members were asked to review each of the laws in the blue packet thoroughly so they may get a better idea of what each law entails.
- [District Policies \(Pink page\)](#) – Each subcommittee was given a list of district policies that pertained to their areas of focus for their group. The District Policy is a more detailed description of the laws. Mrs. Trevino made the committee aware that if they choose to exempt the district from a law, the School Board would then have to revise the policies to align with the innovation plan.

- Sample Innovation Documents from other Districts (white): These are sample District of Innovation documents from other districts. Mrs. Trevino explained that they could look to these for ideas when developing their committee's recommendation for the plan.

CLICK THE LINKS BELOW TO ACCESS THE HANDOUTS IN EACH OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE FOLDERS:

- [Green – Designation of Campus Behavior Coordinators \(TEC 37.0012\)](#)
- [Yellow – Class Size \(TEC 25.112\) & Student Teacher Ratios \(TEC 25.111\)](#)
- [Blue – First Day of Instruction \(TEC 25.0811\) & Last Day of School \(TEC 25.0812\)](#)
- [Orange – Minutes of Instruction \(TEC 25.081\)](#)
- [Pink – Certification Required \(TEC 21.003\)](#)
- [Purple – Dropout Prevention Review \(TEC 11.255\)](#)

SUBCOMMITTEE REQUIREMENTS: Mrs. Trevino asked each Subcommittee to assign a committee member to each of the following positions: Committee Timekeeper, Scribe, and Reporter.

CHROMEBOOKS: Mrs. Trevino provided each of the Subcommittees with a Chromebook. Each of the Chromebooks opened up directly to a Google Doc where each Subcommittee could type their recommendations. They were able to delete, change or add to the plan as they determined.

GOAL of the Committees: Mrs. Trevino described the goal of the Subcommittees' work was to describe the issues and determine if exempting the district from this law would be a benefit. The Subcommittee was then asked to explain in writing the following:

- Why ECISD wants to exempt themselves from the law.
- Why the law is not beneficial to the district.
- What ECISD will do in place of the law or the proposed innovation?

****Subcommittees Began working in their groups****

****Subcommittees Reported out** TO VIEW THE FINDINGS OF EACH SUBCOMMITTEE, [CLICK HERE.](#)**

The Dropout Prevention Review Subcommittee announced that they recommended we omit the Dropout TEC Code from the DOI plan. Mr. Demetric Wells, ECHS Principal, explained that they felt the school district already had enough resources in place to help with this scenario. A vote was taken in favor of omitting Dropout Prevention Review from the DOI Plan with all committee members in favor.

Committee members came to a consensus with at thumbs up thumbs down vote after each Subcommittee shared their information.

There was significant discussion around the Class Size (TEC 25.112) issue. The entire DOI committee shared ideas, comments, and questions. The result was to include the Class Size (TEC 25.112) in the DOI plan and include guidelines to support district and campus administrators and teachers in making a decision that best supports student needs in the event a classroom was to exceed 22 students in Pre-K – 4th grades.

The DOI Committee recommended innovations to the following TEC areas:

- Designation of Campus Behavior Coordinators (TEC 37.0012), Class Size (TEC 25.112) & Student Teacher Ratios (TEC 25.111); First Day of Instruction (TEC 25.0811) & Last Day of School (TEC 25.0812); Minutes of Instruction (TEC 25.081); and Certification Required (TEC 21.003)

The DOI Committee recommended to NOT include Dropout Prevention Review (TEC 11.255) to the DOI plan.

FUTURE MEETING AGENDA: The committee will review a draft of the District of Innovation Plan via email and provide feedback, corrections, edits as needed at the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for: **Thursday, October 19, 2017**

6:00 PM

at Meadow Lane Resource Center (2620 Meadow Lane)

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.