

**HART INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT OF INNOVATION
5 YEAR PLAN
TO BE IMPLEMENTED
2018-19
THROUGH
2022-23**

HART ISD DISTRICT OF INNOVATION PLAN

FIRST DAY OF INSTRUCTION

Student's Instructional Needs Exemption From:

TEC §25.0811, EB (LEGAL), EB (LOCAL) A district may not begin instruction for students for a school year before the fourth Monday in August. A district may not receive a waiver of this requirement.

Proposal:

The flexibility of a start date allows the district to determine locally, on an annual basis, what best meets the needs of the students and local community. This flexibility of the start date also offers the following opportunities:

- A) This will allow the first and second semesters to be more balanced in regards to number of days of instruction.
- B) This will allow dual credit students opportunities to align with the start date of our co-operating local colleges.
- C) An early start date will allow for more days of instruction before the re-testing dates for the state assessments in Dec.
- D) This will allow the district time to provide remediation to students in summer school.
- E) Students will have the opportunity to enroll in summer school classes with a finalized transcript and will also allow staff to attend college summer sessions if they so desire.
- F) This would allow the option to start school with a shorter week, easing the transition back to school for all students.

TEACHER CONTRACT DAYS

Student's Instructional Needs Exemption From:

TEC 21.401 Minimum Service Required (teachers on 10 Month contract must provide a minimum of 187 days of service) (DBC Legal and Local)

Proposal:

- a) Provide teachers more flexibility during summer months to seek out beneficial professional development that relates to their field
- b) Daily rate will be consistent with the 187 day calendar
- c) Improve teacher morale
- d) Enhance recruitment of qualified educational professionals

It will be a part of the calendar planning process to reduce the number of teacher contract days. Contract days will not exceed 187 days, but may be lessened based on the needs of the district. This process will be approved by the Board of Trustees during the adoption of the school calendar.

INTER-DISTRICT TRANSFERS

Student's Instructional Needs Exemption From:

TEC 25.036 Districts transfers are for an entire school year. (FDA Local)

Proposal:

Hart ISD would follow FDA Local policy requiring nonresident students to file a transfer application each school year.

- a. In approving transfer requests, the availability of space and instructional staff, availability of programs and services, the student's disciplinary record, academic record, attendance record, work habits and character will be evaluated.
- b. Transfer students are required to follow the attendance requirements, as well as rules and regulations of the district.
- c. Transfer status may be revoked by the superintendent at any time during the school year if the student is assigned disciplinary consequences such as suspension in or out of school, placement at an alternative campus DAEP or expulsion. In addition, students not meeting the state's attendance standards may also be subject to immediate revocation of the student's transfer status.

Benefit:

- a. Allows Hart ISD the flexibility to revoke transfer students, who on rare occasions, violate the transfer policy.
- b. Allows Hart ISD to better utilize school resources and personnel for the benefit of the district.

TEACHER PROBATIONARY CONTRACTS

Student's Instructional Needs Exemption From:

Instructional Needs Exemption from: TEC §21.102(b), DCA (LEGAL) 21.102(b) states that 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 the district.

Proposal:

This period of time may not be sufficient to fully evaluate the teacher's effectiveness in the classroom. The time line for contract renewals demand that employment must be offered before the availability of data from end of year assessments. Probationary contracts for a person that has been employed for at least five of the eight years preceding employment with the district may be extended for a second year including those employees with dial contracts. Procedure: the Superintendent will make contract recommendations to the Board of Trustees as per policy.

SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Student's Instructional Needs Exemption From:

BFD LEGAL 28.004

Current law requires that the SHAC committee must meet four times per year to assist the district in ensuring that local community values are reflected in the district's health education instruction.

Proposal:

The SHAC shall meet one time per year and may be in conjunction with the Site Base Decision Making Committee as needed.

As a small district, committee members are intimately aware of the needs of the District's students, as well as the values that are to be promoted within the community. With the limited number of stakeholders and the likelihood that community members that are actively involved serve the school in many ways and often serve on more than one committee or group, it is recommended that the committees may meet at the same time, location or date to complete duties and business of the committee.