



Tyler ISD
Tomorrow's Education Today

District of Innovation

HB 1842
Created TEC
Chapter 12A

Allows for
local decision
making

Allows for
SOME
flexibility
from TEC

District of
Innovation



District of Innovation Committee

Member Name	Title
Ricardo Alvarez	Instructional Specialist
Gary Brown	Ex. Dir. of Advanced Academics
Gregory Buckner	Community Member
Laura Cano	Ex. Dir. of Human Resources
Alejandra Carmona	Teacher – Elementary
Rodney Curry	Principal – Middle School
Carol Davis	Parent
Paulette Ditto	Parent
Elicia Eckert	Parent
Brent Farmer	Assistant Principal
Christy Hanson	Chief Administrative Officer
Shauna Hittle	Ex. Dir. of Teaching and Learning
Amanda Hortman	Instructional Specialist
Ronald Jones	Chief of Staff
Steven Ladd	Assistant Principal

Member Name	Title
Loredo, Marc	Parent and Community Partner
Shannon Leisure	CTE Facilitator
Tracey Myers	Assistant Principal
Carlton Oby	Community Partner
Nick Jesina Jr.	Community Member
Shanequa Redd-Dorsey	Assistant Principal
Christy Roach	Principal
Rawly Sanchez	Chief Administrative Officer
Lauran Smith	Teacher
Melinda Tefteller	Teacher
Jason Wallace	Parent
André Williams	Teacher
Ivette Zavarce	Community Partner

Ad Hoc Members	
Marty Crawford	Superintendent
Tosha Bjork	Chief Financial Officer
Detrese Harkey	Community Member
Sharon Roy	Chief Human Resources Officer

District of Innovation Process



December 2016
Introduction Meeting



January 2017
Board Resolution



February 2017
Public Meeting &
Approve to Move Forward



February 2017 & March 2017
DOI Committee Meetings



April 2017
First Reading to the Board
Posted on the website



May 2017
- Notified the Commissioner
- Hold a Public Meeting
- DOI Committee Approves the DOI Plan



June 2017
Board Approval

First Day of Instruction

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

Innovation Plan:

- To allow for a school calendar that fits the local needs of our community, emphasizes active learning, college & career readiness, and social and emotional needs of students, Tyler ISD will:

First Day of Instruction

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

Innovation Plan (continued)

- Provide Tyler ISD Board of Trustees the flexibility develop a school calendar that meets the needs of the district.
- Continue to involve stakeholders to make recommendations to the Tyler ISD Board regarding the calendar.
- The committee will recommend a calendar that
 - Addresses student instruction
 - Allows for focused professional development plan
 - Ensures the statutorily required instructional minutes (75,600)
 - Aligns with the traditions and expectations of the community.

Minimum Minutes of Instruction

TEC §25.081 (HB 2610): For each school year, each school district must operate so that the district provides for at least 75,600 minutes of instruction, including intermissions and recesses.

Innovation Plan

- Pre K
- Dropout Prevention Programs

Minimum Attendance for Class Credit or Final Grade (the 90% rule)

TEC §25.092 a): Except as provided by this section, a student in any grade level from kindergarten through grade 12 may not be given credit or a final grade for a class unless the student is in attendance for at least 90 percent of the days the class is offered. (Board Policy Ref: FEC Attendance for Credit).

Innovation Plan

Tyler ISD will utilize local graduation plan procedures to establish off site internships, courses, and/or other organized learning opportunities that are of academic value that could be considered “in kind” seat time. In which case, the credit and or grade could be granted.

TEACHER CERTIFICATION: GENERAL EDUCATION

- *TEC §21.003(a)* states that 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. In the event a district cannot locate a certified teacher for a position or a teacher is teaching a subject outside of their certification, the district must request emergency certification from the Texas Education Agency and/or State Board of Educator Certification.
- *TEC§ 21.057* requires that a school district provide parental notification if the district assigns an inappropriately certified or uncertified teacher to the same classroom for more than 30 consecutive instructional days during the same school year.

TEACHER CERTIFICATION: GENERAL EDUCATION

Innovation Plan

Tyler ISD will continue its quest for highly effective educators. All decisions regarding teacher certification and assignments will be decided locally, to serve the needs of students, the district, and community.

- Request must be submitted to Superintendent or designee.
- District Teaching Certifications based on skills and experiences
- The Tyler ISD Board of Trustees will be notified no less than one (1) time per semester of the number of teachers who have District Teaching Certifications.
- An employee working under a District Teaching Certifications will work on a probationary contract.
- Determinations shall be made on a case-by-case basis.

PROBATIONARY CONTRACTS

TEC §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.

Innovation Plan

For experienced teachers, counselors, librarians, or nurses new (Beginning the 2017-2018 academic and contract year) to Tyler ISD; that have been employed in a capacity that qualifies for a Ch. 21 contract in public education for at least five of the eight previous years, the probationary period when becoming employed by Tyler ISD shall be for a period of two (2) years with probationary contracts issued for each of the two (2) years.

PROBATIONARY CONTRACTS

TEC §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.

Innovation Plan (continued)

After the first (1) year of the probationary period in Tyler ISD, a teacher could have an opportunity to move into a term contract if he/she meets 5 criteria.

CLASS SIZE –Submitting waivers for Kindergarten – 4

TEC §25.112 requires districts to maintain a class size of 22 students or less for Kindergarten – 4th Grade classes.

TEC §25.113 requires district to notify parents of waivers or exceptions to class size limits.

Innovation Plan

It is the philosophy of Tyler ISD that lower class sizes have a positive impact on Kindergarten - 4th grade students and the district does not seek to unilaterally create larger class sizes. We believe, however, that appropriate class sizes can be monitored and maintained at the local level without the necessity of waivers from the Texas Education Agency.

- Class size ratios will be reported to the Tyler ISD Board of Trustees at a minimum of once per semester.
- Hiring decisions will be based on projected 22:1 ratios.
- Tyler ISD will make every effort to start each school year with enough teachers to establish a homeroom student/teacher ratio of 22:1 per Kindergarten - 4th grade homeroom class.

CLASS SIZE –Submitting waivers for Kindergarten – 4

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Innovation Plan (continued)

- Classrooms that reach a 23:1 ratio will be provided support through a paraprofessional position allowing incoming students to stay in their preferred or neighborhood schools rather than being transported to different campuses.
- If the student/teacher ratio averaged across a grade level needs to go over 24:1, parents of all students affected in each affected class will be notified.
- In the event that the class average across any given grade level (Kindergarten - 4) reaches 24:1 during the first grading period of the year or spring semester, Tyler ISD will actively seek an additional qualified teacher. Campus administration can make hiring decisions based on expertise and qualifications; rather than ratios.
- A teacher may be hired at any time during the school year; in accordance with district guidelines.