



Overview of
District of Innovation

DOI is...

- Flexibility to Pursue Excellence
- Gateway to Opportunity
- Align Practice to Strategic Goals
- Mechanism to Plan for Success
- A Collaborative & Transparent Effort

DOI is NOT....

- *A Waiver*
- *An Exemption*
- *A Method of Avoiding Accountability*
- *To Be Developed in Isolation*



Here is what some of our surrounding Districts had to say...

- Allows districts to improve student's outcomes with local input and less regulatory control from Austin.
- Can serve as a way to market district schools to parents and students that is competitive with private and charter schools.
- HB 1842 essentially gives districts the operational flexibility of a charter school.
- Serves as a representation of what is special and important to the community as we look to the future.



+ 1 community member

+ 1 educator

Facilitator (2-3)
Legal Representative
ATPE Representative
UEA Representative
Superintendent



Advisory Committee Composition

Purpose of Advisory Committee

- Explore all possible exemptions and determine which exemptions are appropriate for Crowley ISD
- Check with TEA regularly to see if there are additional exemptions
- Post PROPOSED Local Innovation Plan for 30 days on the district website
- Host a Public Hearing about PROPOSED plan and answer any questions the community might have
- Approve PROPOSED District of Innovation Plan and submit to Board of Trustees for final approval

Plan Development Committee

- A small group of members who are charged with taking the exemption recommendations from the District Advisory Committee and developing a Local Innovation Plan
- These members can be a sub committee of the District Advisory Committee

District of Innovation – Possibilities

A District of Innovation may adopt a plan that includes exemptions from most of the same state laws that are not applicable to open enrollment school districts. These laws could include:

- Site-based decision making process
- Uniform school start date
- Minimum minutes of instruction
- Class size ratio
- Designation of campus behavior monitor
- Certain purchasing and contract requirements
- The 90% attendance rule
- Student discipline provisions
- Teacher certification
- Teacher contracts
- Teacher benefits, including state minimum salary schedule, duty-free lunch, and planning periods
- Teacher appraisal system

District of Innovation – Limitations

An innovation plan cannot seek exemption from a state or federal requirement applicable to open enrollment charter schools, certain parts of Chapter 11, state requirements for curriculum and graduation, and academic and financial accountability.

Laws from which a District of Innovation cannot be exempt include statutes regarding:

- Elected Board of Trustees
- Powers and duties of school boards, superintendents, and principals
- PEIMS
- Criminal history record checks and educator misconduct reporting
- Curriculum and graduation
- Bilingual education
- Special education
- Prekindergarten
- Academic accountability, including student assessments
- Financial accountability and related reporting
- Open meetings
- Public records
- Public purchasing under the Texas Local Government Code and conflicts of interest
- Nepotism
- Other state and federal laws outside of Texas Education Code

Potential Future Opportunities

Education Code	Requirement	Rationale
Ch. 25 Subchapter C sect. 25.0811 First Day of Instruction	A school district may not begin instruction before the 4 th Monday in August	Relief from this statute would allow for more instructional days prior to state assessments, completion of semester prior to the winter break, and alignment of calendar with TCC and AP exams.
Ch. 21 Subchapter C sect. 21.102 Probationary Contracts	Probationary contracts for first year teachers cannot exceed a maximum of three years; Teachers new to district have been in public education for at least 5 of last 8 years cannot exceed a maximum of one year	To enhance the ability to retain highly qualified teacher, teachers who have been in education 5 of last 8 years and new to CISD would be on a one year probationary contract with a district option to recommend a second probationary year to be approved by the Board of Trustees

Potential Future Opportunities

Education Code	Requirement	Rationale
Ch. 21 Subchapter A sect. 21.003 General Provisions	A person may not be employed as a teacher by a district unless the person holds an appropriate certificate or permit issued by the appropriate state agency.	In order to enable more students to obtain the educational benefit of targeted course offering (i.e. Fine Arts Academy Dance, etc.)the District would be able to collaboratively establish its own local qualification requirements and its own requirements for training of professionals and experts to teach such courses.
Ch. 37 Subchapter A sect. 37.0012 Designation of Campus Behavior Coordinator	A person at each campus must be designated to serve as the campus behavior coordinator.	Strict interpretation of the language implies that only one person can be designated. On a secondary campus, even with the back up of a principal, this is not ideal given the number of students being served.

District of Innovation Webinars

Live webinars hosted by TASB will be streaming
at CISD Administration Building
Room 108

Tuesday, December 6, 2016 – 10 am-11am

Wednesday, December 14, 2016 – 10am-11am

Questions?

