

Banquete Independent School District

Dr. Max Thompson, Superintendent

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Chief Financial Officer

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Aaron Ramon

Abbi Lynn Pena

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Tracy Wright

President

Omar Ramirez

Vice-President

Ofelia Pena

Secretary



District Of Innovation Plan

Date of Board Approval February 13, 2017

Ratification Board Approval June 8, 2017

Overview

During the 84th Texas Legislative Session, House Bill 1842 was passed providing public school district the opportunity to seek a District of Innovation (DOI) designation. The designation allows eligible districts to exempt certain provisions of the Texas Education Code (TEC) in an effort to create additional local flexibility in the district planning and decision-making process. The term of the District of Innovation designation may not exceed five years. On February 13, 2017, the Banquete Independent School District's Board of Trustees adopted a resolution initiating the process of becoming a District of Innovation.

Board Resolution

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A DISTRICT OF INNOVATION

WHEREAS Education Code 12A.001 provides that a district is eligible for designation as a district of innovation if the district's most recent performance rating under Section 39.054 reflects at least acceptable performance, and that consideration of designation as a district of innovation may be initiated by a resolution adopted by the board of trustees of the district; and

WHEREAS the Banquete Independent School District's most recent performance rating under Education code 39.054 reflects at least acceptable performance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Banquete Board of Trustees by adoption of this resolution initiates the process under Education Code Chapter 12A to become a district of innovation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after this resolution is signed by the Board, a public hearing shall be held to consider whether the District should develop a local innovation plan for the designation of the District's as a district of innovation and that after the public hearing the Banquete Board of Trustees shall appoint a committee to develop a local innovation plan or decline to pursue designation as a district of innovation.

Adopted this 13th day of February, 2017, by the Banquete Board of Trustees.

Presiding President

Presiding Secretary

DISTRICT OF INNOVATION PLAN

RATIFICATION

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A DISTRICT OF INNOVATION

WHEREAS Education Code 12A.001 provides that a district is eligible for designation as a district of innovation if the district's most recent performance rating under Section 39.054 reflects at least acceptable performance, and that consideration of designation as a district of innovation may be initiated by a resolution adopted by the board of trustees of the district; and

WHEREAS the Banquete Independent School District's most recent performance rating under Education code 39.054 reflects at least acceptable performance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Banquete Board of Trustees by adoption of this resolution initiates the process under Education Code Chapter 12A to become a district of innovation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after this resolution is signed by the Board, a public hearing shall be held to consider whether the District should develop a local innovation plan for the designation of the District's as a district of innovation and that after the public hearing the Banquete Board of Trustees shall appoint a committee to develop a local innovation plan or decline to pursue designation as a district of innovation.

Adopted this 8TH day of June, 2017, by the Banquete Board of Trustees.

Presiding President

Presiding Secretary

District of Innovation Public Hearing

Date: Thursday, March 30, 2017
Time: 6:30 – 7:30 pm
Location: Banquete ISD – Administration Office
4339 Fourth Street
Banquete, Texas 78339

District of Innovation Committee Members

Dr. Max Thompson	BISD Superintendent
Nancy Mooney	High School Principal
Ramiro Pena	Jr. High School Principal
Rita Stracener	Elementary School Principal
Rochelle Cortino	Elementary School Asst. Principal
Kevin Hermes	BISD Athletic Director
Denise Blanchard	BISD Sp. Ed. Diagnostician
Rusty Miller	HS Teacher
Priscilla Pena	HS Teacher
Joann Garcia	HS Teacher
Lila Gonzalez	HS Teacher
Denise Malik	JH Teacher
Erica Escobar	JH Teacher
Berta Wymore	JH Teacher
Rosalinda Garcia	Elem. Teacher
Emma Buitron	Elem. Teacher
Rachel Medrano	Elem. Teacher
Roberta Shook	Elem. Teacher
Karen Harris	Elem. Teacher

District of Innovation Committee Meetings

Date: Thursday, January 26, 2017
Time: 3:30 pm
Location: Banquete ISD- Administration Bldg
4339 Fourth Street
Banquete, Texas 78339

Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2017
Time: 3:30 pm
Location: Banquete ISD-Administration Bldg
4339 Fourth Street
Banquete, Texas 78339

Date: Thursday, March 30, 2017
Time: 6:30 pm
Location: Banquete ISD-Administration Bldg
4339 Fourth Street
Banquete, Texas 78339

Term

As outlined by the Texas Education Agency, the term of the innovation plan is five years. The plan will begin with the adoption of the 2017-2018 school year, Board of Trustees regular meeting and conclude at the end of the 2021-2022 school year., unless terminated or amended earlier by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the law. Banquete ISD will exercise the authority to exempt itself from the following state requirements for a five year period running through the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year, including:

- School start window
- Required length of school day
- Teacher Certification

The District Improvement Committee in conjunction with the DOI Committee will monitor the effectiveness of the plan and recommend to the board modifications as needed.

District of Innovation Timeline

- January 26, 2017 DEIC Committee Meeting
Committee reviewed guidelines in order to present District of Innovation to BISD Board of Trustees
- February 8, 2017 DEIC Committee Meeting
Created a draft of district calendar to present to BISD Board of Trustees. Requesting BISD Board of Trustees adopt a resolution in supporting District of Innovation at the next schedule BISD Board of Trustees regular scheduled board meeting.
- February 13, 2017 Regular School Board Meeting
The Banquette ISD Board of Trustees voted to adopt a resolution in supporting of designating Banquette ISD as a District of Innovation.
- February 27, 2017 District of Innovation Plan posted on Banquette ISD website inviting community to DOI Public Meeting to be held on March 30, 2017 at BISD Administration at 6:30 pm
- March 29, 2017 District of Innovation Plan updated and posted on Banquette ISD website.
- March 30, 2017 District of Innovation Public Meeting
Public Meeting was held to inform community the process and recommendations of District Of Innovation Plan.
- April 10, 2017 Regular School Board Meeting. Updated District of Innovation Plan presented along with draft of 2017-2018 school calendar.
- May 9, 2017 Mailed District Of Innovation Plan to Commissioner of Education, Mr. Michael Morath.
- May 16, 2017 Mail DOI letter of Intent to Commissioner of Education, Mr. Michael Morath. Posted on website.
- June 8, 2017 Presented District Of Innovation Plan Ratification-Resolution To Adopt A District Of Innovation to BISD Board Of Trustees. BISD Board approved Ratification.

Banquete ISD Vision

Banquete ISD will be a premier school district and a leader in education.

Banquete ISD Beliefs

We believe that:

- All our students deserve a high-quality education
- Our student's education should stimulate cooperative, competitive, and imaginative learning
- Our staff will be committed to effective teaching and leadership
- Our district and community will promote constant improvement to our students

District of Innovation Plan

1. School Start Date **BISD Board Policy EB(Legal)** **§25.0811**

Current Law

State law currently prohibits school districts from starting class before the fourth Monday in August, unless they are year-round districts.

Proposed

BISD will start class no earlier than the third Monday in August, and will plan to end earlier in the spring semester in order to better balance the days in the fall and spring semesters, to provide more educational days prior to schedule state assessments, and to better align with dual-credit college courses in the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters. The primary goals of this change is to create greater flexibility in the District's Calendar are to improve the overall district attendance rate, to improve student success on state and local assessments, and to allow for greater opportunity for meaningful staff development throughout the school year.

2. Length Of School Day
BISD Board Policy EC(Legal)
§25.081

Current Law

State law currently requires that all school days must be 420 minutes long each day in order to count for ADA calculations and funding purposes, and to accumulate instructional minutes towards the 75,600 minutes required annually.

Proposed

Exempting from the 420 minute day requirement would allow BISD the flexibility needed to alter the school day schedule on selected day's whenever it was locally determined as necessary or beneficial to the district and its stakeholders. While there is already a waiver process available to request exemption from this requirement, the waiver is limited to a 6-day maximum number for the school year. Exempting completely from the 420 minute requirement would give the district a significant amount of local control over scheduling (above and beyond the 6-day maximum as needed) without the fear of diminishing state funding or losing credit for instructional time that might cause the district to fall out of compliance with annual minute requirement.

BISD does not intend to shorten the school day on a regular basis, or without specific purpose. To the greatest extent possible, "early release" days would be planned ahead of time and noted in the district calendar, which is approved by the Board of Trustees and published/distributed to district stakeholders in advance of the school year. The district would not schedule early release days under this exemption that were shorter than 240 minutes (4 hours).

3. Teacher Certification
BISD Board Policy DBA (Legal)
§21.003

Current Law

State law currently under Title 1, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (*20U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) notify the parents of each student attending any school receiving such funds that the parent may request, and the district shall provide the parents on request (and in a timely manner), information regarding the professional qualifications.

Proposed

Banquete ISD proposes to be able to assign a teacher with proper credential endorsement to a grade level other than teacher certificate specifications (IE. Math teacher with teaching certification 7-12 may teach a 6th grade Math class).