

Los Fresnos CISD District of Innovation Plan

H.B. 1842 in the 84th Session of the Texas Legislature in part amended Chapter 12 of the Texas Education Code to create Districts of Innovation. School districts are eligible for designation if certain performance requirements are met and the district follows certain procedures for adoption as outlined in Statute. The designation provides that the district will be exempt from certain sections of the Texas Education Code that inhibit the goals of the district as outlined in the locally adopted District of Innovation Plan.

The Los Fresnos CISD Board of Trustees held a Public Hearing to obtain input from the community and District stakeholders. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Board of Trustees instructed administration to convene a meeting of stakeholders to develop a Local Innovative Plan. A special meeting of the District Effectiveness and Improvement Council (DEIC) was held February 18, 2016 to discuss and develop a plan. The Innovative Plan that resulted from the collaborative efforts of the DEIC seeks to improve the delivery of instructional services and college and career readiness experiences.

The DEIC determined that the school start date, as described in the Texas Education Code § 25.0811 (a), inhibits the goals of the Local Innovative Plan because the effectiveness of the program design requires a school start date of August 15, 2016. To implement the Innovation Plan, the Los Fresnos CISD will respectfully request an exemption by the Commissioner of Education, specifically for the school start date provision for five years.

The DEIC identified the following benefits of the locally Developed Innovative Plan:

- An improved balanced instructional calendar – 87 days Fall / 92 days Spring
- Students participating in Dual Enrollment opportunities will work with balanced semesters which align with our local colleges.
- An early start date permits high school students an additional week of instruction for the December End of Course (EOC) assessments.
- High School students will complete semester final exams prior to December holidays and start new classes upon their return in January.
- The date of the last class day May 25, 2017 allows for an additional week of instruction for summer students to successfully master the objectives measured through the third administration of STAAR assessments (5th grade, 8th grade, End of Course)
- The early start date is highly favored and recommended by DEIC representatives, creating a positive climate for both students and teachers.
- Students will be afforded opportunities to enroll in summer college sessions with finalized official transcripts.



District of Innovation Timeline

January 29, 2016 · District Service Center Portable

Initial consideration for District of Innovation by Superintendent and Executive Cabinet

February 4, 2016 · District Service Center Portable

District Effectiveness and Improvement Council (DEIC) presented the opportunities available with the District of Innovation Plan

February 8, 2016 · Board Room/Training Center

6 p.m. Special Called Board Meeting

- Board of Trustees adopted and approved Board Resolution to initiate designation of Los Fresnos CISD as a District of Innovation
- Board of Trustees appointed Superintendent to select the members to the District of Innovation Committee.

6:30 p.m. Public Hearing

- Public Hearing held to receive stakeholder input and consider whether Los Fresnos CISD should develop a local Innovation Plan for Designation as a District of Innovation.

February 9, 2016

Superintendent appointed the District Effectiveness and Improvement Council (DEIC) as the District of Innovation Committee.

February 18, 2016 · District Service Center Portable

DEIC members appointed meet to develop and provide feedback on the District of Innovation Plan

March 10, 2016 · Board Room/Training Center

District of Innovation Public Meeting held to review the recommendations from the DEIC's District of Innovation Plan.

March 25-April 25, 2016

District of Innovation plan posted on the district website for 30 days

April 28, 2016 Board of Trustees Meeting

- Approved the District of Innovation Plan
- Approved the 2016-2017 Academic Calendar

LOS FRESNOS

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



District of Innovation Team

Chairperson: Ada Amaro-Sibaja

Special Programs Teachers

Saenz, Maria Guadalupe (GT)

Guerra, Elvia (Bilingual)

Maldonado, Edna

LaFollete, Joseph D.

Krebs, Timothy

Regular Program Elementary Teachers

Chavez, Dolores

Moran, Javier

McNabb, Trey

Robles, Leo

Cox, Veronica

Tamayo, Blanca

Garcia, Ida

Rea, Esperanza

Dorado, Nora

Alvarez, Alma

Licea, Gabriela

Duran, Ioanna

Torres, Amanda

Alanis, Ruth

Rivera, Marisela

Regular Program Secondary Teachers

Barker, Denjuami

Vastano, Robert

Keller, Corina

Champion, Linda

Garza, Toni

Cranick, Daniel

Muñoz, Luis

Non-Teaching Professionals

Leal, Rosemary

Saldaña, Cristobal

Garcia, Daniel

Estrada, Ben

Parents

Hinojosa, Maria

Grimaldo, Claudia

Lopez Riggins Elementary

Lopez Riggins Elementary

Palmer Laakso Elementary

Los Cuates Middle School

Los Fresnos High School

Las Yescas Elementary

Las Yescas Elementary

Laureles Elementary

Laureles Elementary

Los Fresnos Elementary

Los Fresnos Elementary

Olmito Elementary

Olmito Elementary

Palmer Laakso Elementary

Rancho Verde Elementary

Rancho Verde Elementary

Dora Romero Elementary

Dora Romero Elementary

Villareal Elementary

Villareal Elementary

Liberty Memorial Middle School

Liberty Memorial Middle School

Los Cuates Middle School

Resaca Middle School

Resaca Middle School

Los Fresnos United

Los Fresnos United

Principal

Assistant Principal

Counselor

Director, Assessment Office