

SALTILLO ISD

District Of Innovation Plan

2019-2020 School Year To 2021-2022 School Year



INTRODUCTION

House Bill 1842 passed in the 84th Texas Legislative Session, provides an opportunity for Texas public school districts to be designated as Districts of Innovation. This designation allows districts flexibility to exempt certain state requirements at the local level to better meet the needs of their unique student populations. As a District of Innovation, Saltillo ISD intends to utilize the opportunity to enact a high degree of local control over policies and procedures to best meet the needs of our students, employees, and community.

Districts are not exempt from statutes including curriculum and graduation requirements or academic and financial accountability.

PROCESS

On January 28 2019, the Administrative Leadership Team begin researching the benefits of District of Innovation for Saltillo Independent School District.

On February 28, 2019, the Saltillo Independent School District's Board of Trustees initiated the innovation process by passing a Resolution to Adopt a District of Innovation in order to support innovation and local initiatives to improve student learning.

The Administrative Leadership Team met with teacher and department heads initially on March 4, 2019, to discuss and develop the plan. A follow up meeting to finalize the plan was held on March 14, 2019.

On March 28, 2019, the Saltillo ISD Board of Trustees held a public hearing for public discussion on whether the District should develop a local innovation plan for the designation of the district as a District of Innovation. With there being no objection from the hearing, the Board of Trustees appointed the Site Based Decision Making Team to discuss and draft a local innovation plan.

The plan will be posted on the district website for 30 days before being presented to the SBDM Team on April 2, 2019. Saltillo ISD will notify the Texas Commissioner of Education of the District's final District of Innovation Plan. The finalized plan will be submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval on April 20th.

TERM

The District of Innovation Plan will become effective in April 2019 for the 2019-2020 school year and will remain in effect for two years, through March 2022, unless terminated or amended earlier by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the law. The SBDM Team will monitor the effectiveness of the plan and recommend to the Board of Trustees any suggested modifications.

School Start Date – Flexible Calendar

Exempt from: TEC §25.0811

Relevant Board Policy: EB LEGAL

Currently

A school district may not begin instruction before the fourth Monday in August, unless the school operates year-round.

Proposed

Flexibility of start date would allow the district to determine locally, on an annual basis, what best meets the needs of the students and local community. An early start date permits students an additional week of instruction prior to state assessments and creates a more balanced instructional calendar within the two semesters.

Class Size Waiver

Exemption from: TEC §25.112; TEC §25.113

Related Board Policy: EED LEGAL

Currently

Texas Education Code limits the number of students in Kindergarten through Fourth Grade to 22 students per teacher. Additionally, a campus or district that is granted an exception under Section [25.112\(d\)](#) from class size limits shall provide written notice of the exception to the parent of or person standing in parental relation to each student affected by the exception.

Proposed

As a district we look to provide the best learning environment for our K-4 student's while retaining the ability to manage increases in class size, should this arise. Saltillo ISD intends to remain within the education guidelines with regard to class size ratios, but this must also be balanced with the timing and ability of adding staff, the qualifications of staff available, the makeup and chemistry of the classroom and other classroom influences. This exemption allows Saltillo local control over class size ratios and is not a disregard for the intent of the ratio requirements.

In the event a classroom exceeds the 22 to1 ratio in grades K–4, the class sizes will be reviewed by appropriate district and campus administration and the Board of Trustees will be notified of any K-4 classes that exceed the ratio.

Saltillo ISD will follow our local School Board Policy EHBG(LOCAL) which reads:

The District shall prioritize admission to prekindergarten classes in accordance with the following until the classes reach the maximum allowable enrollment established by the District:

1. Children who reside in the District and meet the state eligibility requirements for enrollment in prekindergarten.
2. Children of District employees who do not reside in the District and meet the state eligibility requirements for enrollment in prekindergarten.

Other than children of nonresident District employees, the District shall not accept transfers for admission into the prekindergarten program.



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H Holiday
 ER Early Release
 PD
 1st 6 wks 28 days
 2nd 6 wks 29 days
 3rd 6 wks 29 days
 1st sem 86 days
 4th 6 wks 29 days
 5th 6 wks 28 days
 6th 6wks 28 days
 2nd sem 85 days
 Students 171 days
 Total Minutes 76,950
 Teachers 187 days
 STAAR TESTING
 *Bad Weather Days
 August Meet the Teacher (ED)
 October Fall Carnival (ED)
 March Open House (ED)
 May 8th Grade Graduation
 May High School Graduation
 May Last Day of School
 455/300 24-Jan

JANUARY						
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 *Bad Weather Days

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 October 25 Fall Carnival (ED)
 March 5 Open House (ED)
 May 28 8th Grade Graduation
 May 29 High School Graduation
 May 29 Last Day of School

455/300 March 4 2019

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