

Oakwood ISD

DISTRICT OF INNOVATION PLAN

TIMELINE

March 27, 2017	<p>Adopting Resolution On March 27, 2017 the Oakwood ISD Board of Trustees will be asked to approve a resolution to explore the opportunity for Oakwood ISD to become a District of Innovation.</p>
April 10, 2017	<p>Public Hearing On April 10, 2017 the Oakwood ISD Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing for public Input on the District of Innovation opportunity.</p>
April 24, 2017	<p>Appoint Committee On April 24, 2017 the Oakwood ISD Board of Trustees will appoint the Site Base Committee (SBDM) to develop a District Innovation Plan.</p>
April 25, 2017	<p>Develop a Plan of Innovation The SBDM will explore and develop a District Of Innovation Plan</p>
April 25, 2017	<p>SBDM Approved District of Innovation Plan On April 25, 2017 the SBDM will approve a District of Innovation Plan</p>
April 25, 2017	<p>District Plan of Innovation Posted The Oakwood ISD District Plan of Innovation will be posted on the Oakwood ISD website for at least 30 days</p>
May 25, 2017	<p>District Innovation Plan Approved by Board of Trustees On May 25, 2017 the Oakwood ISD Board of Trustees approved the Oakwood ISD District of Innovation Plan. A copy of the approved District of Innovation Plan will be provided to Texas Education Agency for posting on its website.</p>

INTRODUCTION:

HB 1842 was passed during the 84th Texas Legislative Session in spring 2015. This bill provides Texas public school districts as Districts of Innovation. To access these flexibilities a school district must adopt a District of Innovation Plan.

Districts of Innovation provide opportunities for:

* Greater local control

*Increased flexibility governing education programming; and

*Empowerment to innovate and think differently.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

OAKWOOD ISD SITE BASE COMMITTEE

Jackie Thomason – District Administrator

Tina Rayborn – District Principal

Lori Olive – District Counselor

Scott Haseltine – High School Teacher

Stacy Salguero – High School Teacher

Gwen Chapman – Elementary Teacher

Heather Courmier – Elementary Teacher

Qwa Mudd – High School Teacher

Amanda Pettiette – Parent Representative

Julie Florence – Parent Representative

1.) FLEXIBLE CALENDAR

(TEC25.0811)

Currently:

Students may not begin school before the 4th Monday in August. For many years this has been the rule, however, districts had the option of applying for a waiver to start earlier. The vast majority of districts applied for the waiver and would begin the 3rd Monday, some even going as early as the 2nd Monday.

The Texas tourism groups lobbied to have this stopped because they believed it was hurting their tourism business. Therefore, several years ago the legislature took away all waivers and dictated that districts may not begin until the 4th Monday, with no exceptions.

Proposed:

To allow for a calendar that fits the local needs of our community, we would like to consider a flexible calendar option which may include an earlier start date.

- * Students may begin earlier than the 4th Monday in August.
- * This earlier start date will allow a better balance between semesters, more instructional days prior to mandatory testing, and a school end date prior to June.
- * By ending earlier, OISD can support students who need remediation, as well as students who are entering college or trade school.

2.) TEACHER CERTIFICATION

(TEC21.003)

Currently:

In the event that a district cannot locate a certified teacher for a position or a teacher is teaching a subject outside of their certification, the district must submit a request to the Texas Education Agency. TEA then approved or denies this request. There is a lot of bureaucracy and unnecessary paperwork involved in the process.

Proposed:

In order to best serve OISD students, decisions on certification will be handled locally.

- The campus principal may submit to the superintendent a request to allow a certified teacher to teach one subject out of their certified field. The principal must specify in writing the reason for the request and document what credentials the certified teacher possesses which qualify this individual to teach this subject.
- An individual with experience in a CTE field could be eligible to teach a vocational skill or course through a local teaching certificate. The principal will submit the request to the superintendent with all the individual's credentials. The superintendent will then approve the request if they feel the individual could be an asset to students. The superintendent will then report this action to the Board of Trustees prior to the individual beginning any employment. Local teaching certificates will be for one year. The employee will be at-will.
- This will allow more flexibility in our scheduling and more options for our students in class offerings.