



Board of Trustees
Executive Summary of Board Agenda Item

TITLE:

Discuss and Take Appropriate Action to Appoint a Local Innovation Committee to Draft a Local Innovation Plan

JUSTIFICATION STATEMENT:

(To appoint a Local Innovation Committee, if after the public hearing to consider whether the District should develop a Local Innovation Plan, the Board votes to pursue designation as a District of Innovation)

PURPOSE OF AGENDA ITEM: Action

TO BE HELD IN: Open Session

AUTHORITY FOR ACTION: Law or Rule

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Cezy Collins

SUMMARY:

Chapter 12A of the Texas Education Code Section 12A.002 provides that promptly after adopting a resolution to consider designation as a District of Innovation, the Board shall hold a public hearing to consider whether the District should develop a Local Innovation Plan to designate the District as a District of Innovation. At the conclusion of the public hearing, or as soon as possible after the conclusion of the public hearing, the Board may decline to pursue designation of the District as a District of Innovation or appoint a committee to develop a local innovation plan in accordance with Section 12A.003 of the Texas Education Code. If the Board votes to pursue designation of the District as a District of Innovation, the Board will discuss the process for appointing members of a committee to develop a Local Innovation Plan. The Local Innovation Plan will be developed by the Board-appointed Local Innovation Committee in collaboration with the community and District stakeholders, along with a public hearing to receive feedback from the community and District stakeholders. The Board may not vote on the adoption of a proposed local innovation plan unless the final version of the proposed plan has been available on the District's website for at least 30 days, the Board has notified the Commissioner of Education of its intention to vote on adoption of the proposed plan, and the District-wide Educational Improvement Council (DEIC) has approved the proposed plan by majority vote. The proposed plan may be adopted by an affirmative vote of two-thirds majority of the Board.

The membership of the Local Innovation Committee appointed by the Board to develop a local innovation plan is not specified in statute. As a practical matter, the members of the Local Innovation Committee must be able to write a comprehensive Local Innovation Plan including the elements of the plan required by law. A Local Innovation Plan must: (1) provide for a comprehensive educational program for the District, which may include: (A) innovative curriculum, instructional methods, and provisions regarding community participation, campus governance and parental involvement; (B) modifications to the school day or year; (C) provisions regarding the District budget and sustainable program funding; (D) accountability and assessment measures that exceed the requirements of state and federal law; and any other innovations prescribed by the Board; and (2) identify requirements imposed by the Texas Education Code that inhibit the goals of the plan and from which the District should be exempted upon adoption of the plan, subject to certain exceptions. In addition, the Local Innovation Committee members should be able to clearly articulate the purpose of the plan and persuade the school community of the value of the plan.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION/MOTION:

It is recommended that the Board delegate to the Interim Superintendent the authority to appoint a Local Innovation Committee comprised of two members appointed by each Board member and seven members appointed by the Interim Superintendent, and to direct the Interim Superintendent to report the names of the members of the committee at the January 2021, Board Meeting.

FUNDING SOURCE: ACCOUNT NO.:

FISCAL IMPACT AND COST:

- IMMEDIATE:
- FUTURE/ONGOING: