



EL PASO
INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT

MEETING DATE: 5/11/2021
AGENDA ITEM NO.: 7.F.
ACTION ITEMS

Board of Trustees
Executive Summary of Board Agenda Item

TITLE:

Discuss and Take Appropriate Action to Adopt and Renew Local Innovation Plan to Renew Designation as a District of Innovation as Defined by Chapter 12A of the Texas Education Code

JUSTIFICATION STATEMENT:

(To adopt and renew the Local Innovation Plan, as required by Texas Education Code Chapter 12A, in order to renew designation as District of Innovation)

PURPOSE OF AGENDA ITEM: Action

TO BE HELD IN: Open Session

TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODES:

AUTHORITY FOR ACTION: Law or Rule

STAFF RESPONSIBLE: Cezy Collins, General Counsel, and Dr. Tamekia Brown, Chief Academic Officer

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLAN OBJECTIVE, GOAL OR NEED ADDRESSED:

SUMMARY:

Chapter 12A of the Texas Education Code permits Texas public school districts to become Districts of Innovation and to obtain exemption from certain provisions of the Texas Education Code. On December 8, 2020, the Board unanimously passed a Resolution to Consider Renewal of Designation as a District of Innovation in order to increase local control over District operations and to support innovation and local initiatives to improve educational outcomes for the benefit of students and the community. In its Resolution, the Board clarified that it did not desire the District to be exempted from any existing laws relating to teacher contracts or teacher benefits, except to the extent that the Texas Education Code 22.004 (i) precludes the District from providing alternative group health coverage.

On December 8, 2020, the Board delegated the authority to the Interim Superintendent to appoint a Local Innovation Committee comprised of two members appointed by each Board member and seven members appointed by the Interim Superintendent. The Interim Superintendent reported the names of the members of the Committee at the January 2021 Board Meeting. One vacancy remained on the Committee due to the appointee's inability to serve.

The Committee met on February 10, 17, 24, and March 10, 24, 31, and April 8, 2021, to discuss and draft the Local Innovation Plan ("Plan"). In the process the Committee reviewed the District's current exemptions and various exemptions enjoyed by other districts of the same size and with B or A ratings. The Committee sought and considered input on the Plan through a community meeting on April 7, 2021. Based on direction provided by the Board and input from various District stakeholders, the Committee proposes this Plan be adopted by the Board to renew its designation as a District of Innovation. On April 8, 2021, the Plan was posted on the District's website. On April 20, 2021, the Board voted to notify the Commissioner of Education of its intention to vote on the adoption/renewal of the Plan, and the Commissioner was notified accordingly on April 21, 2021.

On April 29, 2021, the Districtwide Education Improvement Council (DEIC) held a public meeting to discuss and vote on the Plan. All 21 DEIC members in attendance (a majority of the membership) approved the Plan. The Committee is recommending that the Board adopt/renew the Plan by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of the Board to attain designation as a District of Innovation.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION/MOTION:

It is recommended that the Board adopt and renew the Local Innovation Plan, as presented, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of the Board, to renew the District's designation as District of Innovation.

FUNDING SOURCE: ACCOUNT NO.:

FISCAL IMPACT AND COST:

- IMMEDIATE:
- FUTURE/ONGOING:

IMPACT ON OTHER FUNCTIONS/OPERATIONS:

CONSEQUENCES OF NON-APPROVAL:

The District will be designated as a District of Innovation and will not be able to exempt itself from certain Sections of the Texas Education Code.

IMPLEMENTATION The term of the Plan is for five years, beginning at the start of the 2021-2022 school year and ending at the end
TIMELINE: of the 2025-2026 school year, unless terminated or amended earlier by the Board in accordance with the law.

COMMENTS RECEIVED, IF ANY:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- [English DOI Plan](#)
- [Spanish DOI Plan](#)