

BREMOND ISD PROPOSED DISTRICT OF INNOVATION PLAN

INTRODUCTION

House Bill (HB) 1842, passed during the 84th Legislative Session, permits Texas public school districts to become Districts of Innovation and to obtain exemption from certain provisions of the Texas Education Code.

Potential benefits of becoming a District of Innovation include:

- **Flexibility:** Districts will have the flexibility to implement practices similar to charter schools, including exemption from certain mandates.
- **Local Control:** Districts will decide which flexibilities best suit their local needs.
- **Autonomy:** Districts must submit a DOI to the commissioner of education, but approval is not required.

Bremont Independent School District of Innovation Process/Timeline

July 18, 2022 - BISD Board of Trustees approves a Resolution to Adopt a District of Innovation.

July 18, 2022 - BISD Board of Trustees conducts a Public Hearing over District of Innovation Designation.

July 18, 2022 - BISD Board of Trustees approved a committee to develop a District of Innovation Plan.

August 2, 2022 – Proposed District of Innovation Plan placed on the BISD website

October 25, 2022 – The District Advisory Committee will meet to approve the final plan.

November 14, 2022 An action item on the Board of Trustees agenda will be to approve the DOI plan.

Bremont ISD District of Innovation Committee

Superintendent	Daryl Stuard
High School Principal	KL Groholski
Middle School Principal	John Burnett
Elementary Principal	Shelli McNutt
Local Police Department	Curtis Pope
Board President	Randy Yanowski
Board Member	Dave Owens
Elementary Teacher	Sarah Yanowski
Middle School Teacher	Jonathan White
High School Teacher	Leah Feist
Elementary Parent/EMS	Dee Price
Middle School Parent	Sarah Wortham
High School Parent	Dave Owens
Technology	Josh Hymer

School Start and End Date

Exemption from: TEC §25.0811; TEC §25.0812

Related Board Policies: EB LEGAL

Currently

TEC §25.0811 states that a school district may not begin student instruction before the 4th Monday of August. TEC §25.0812 states that a school district may not schedule the last day of school before May 15. The current process allows no flexibility in the design of annual calendars to fit the needs of the community or the wishes of the local Board of Trustees who represent community interests in this matter.

Previously, districts had the option of applying to TEA for a waiver to start earlier, even as early as the 2nd Monday in August. 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

- a.** Relief from the statute will allow Bremond ISD to develop a calendar that addresses student instruction and focused professional development in conjunction with the new instructional minute's requirement, rather than days.
- b.** Alignment of the district calendar with local universities, Community Colleges, TSTC, ACT/SAT exams, advanced placement exams, and STAAR timelines.
- c.** Provide for increased local control of the instructional calendar in order to be responsive to community needs.

Site-based Decision Making

Exemption from: TEC §11.251, TEC §11.252, and TEC §28.004 (d)

Currently

The BISD seeks exemption from the site-based decision-making process and the convening of the school health advisory committee and the many accompanying requirements falling under the governance of those two bodies. The statutory requirements as set forth by Texas Education Code in Chapter 11 and 28 are burdensome, time consuming, and ultimately cause a BISD direction of resources from the primary focus of schools: the education of students. Stakeholders will continue to be involved in the process, but a District Advisory Council that meets the needs of this district, schools and community as opposed to the one based on a broad brush and “one size fits all” model of statutory requirements detailed in TEC §11.251 and TEC §28.004. This will consolidate the number of meetings and the number of committees required by law and will better serve this community.

Proposed

In place of a Site-based Decision Making Committee and the School Health Advisory Council, a District Advisory Council (DAC) will be established to meet, review, analyze, and respond to both qualitative and quantitative data regarding the District’s success and most importantly, students’ success. This Council will convene at least two times per year to guide the general direction of district resources and efforts. This consolidation of committees will yield an opportunity for one council to address multiple needs of the students served by the District as opposed to having multiple committees addressing a more narrow focus of needs. views this Council as a more efficient and effective way to serve our students, parents, and community.