

# Districts of Innovation

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# Districts of Innovation

- Created by House Bill 1842 in the 84<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session
- Board Policy AF (LEGAL)
- Gives local school districts flexibility
- Greater local control as decision makers over the educational and instructional model for students:
- Districts must adopt an Innovation Plan that can include exemptions from state laws and parts of the Texas Education Code

# Local Innovation Plan

The plan must provide for a comprehensive education program for the district which may include, not limited to, innovations in:

- curriculum
- instructional methods
- community & parent involvement
- campus governance
- modifications to the school day or year
- budgeting and sustainable funding
- local accountability and other innovations prescribed by the Board

# Examples of Exemptions

- District-level and site-based decision making process
- 90% attendance rule
- Class size ratio
- Uniform school start date
- Minimum minutes of instruction

# Tentative Timeline for Santa Fe ISD Becoming a District of Innovation

- December Regular Board Meeting Overview Presented  
Board Resolution/Public hearing &  
delegates Superintendent to appoint committee
- January Board Meeting - members of planning committee  
named
- Jan.-Feb. Committee meets to develop plan
- February Board meeting – committee provides plan update;  
gets input from Board

# Tentative Timeline for Santa Fe ISD Becoming a District of Innovation

- March      Committee finalizes plan and presents to Board;  
Board votes to notify Commissioner of intent to adopt
- April      Plan posted on District website for 30 days  
DEIC Public Meeting to pass plan by majority vote
- May      Board votes on plan – 2/3 vote required  
TEA Commissioner Notified