

# **DeSoto ISD District of Innovation Plan Renewal**



# Table of Contents

01

Welcome

02

DOI  
Presentation

03

Questions &  
Comments

04

Voting



01

**Welcome**

# District of Innovation

H.B. 1842 (84th Session of the Texas Legislature) in part amended Chapter 12 of the Texas Education Code (TEC) to create Districts of Innovations. Districts are eligible for designation if certain performance requirements are met and the district follows certain procedures for adoption as outlined in Statute. The designation provides that the district will be exempt from certain sections of the TEC that inhibit the goals of the district as outlined in the locally adopted Innovation Plan.

**02**

**Local  
Innovation  
Plan**

# Included Exemptions

- Teacher Certification (§21.003, §21.053, §21.057)
- Probationary Contracts (§21.102b)
- School Start Date (§25.0811)
- K-4 Class Size (§25.112, §25.113)
- Kindergarten Start Age (§29.151)
- Designation of Campus Behavior Coordinator (§37.0012)
- Suspension Limitation for Students Below 3rd Grade (§37.005)

# Teacher Certification

**CERTIFICATION REQUIRED.** (a) A person may not be employed as a teacher, teacher intern or teacher trainee, librarian, educational aide, administrator, educational diagnostician, or school counselor by a school district unless the person holds an appropriate certificate or permit issued as provided by Subchapter B.

**PRESENTATION AND RECORDING OF CERTIFICATES.** (a) A person who desires to teach in a public school shall present the person's certificate for filing with the employing district before the person's contract with the board of trustees of the district is binding. (b) An educator who does not hold a valid certificate may not be paid for teaching or work done before the effective date of issuance of a valid certificate.

**PARENT NOTIFICATION.** (a) A school district that assigns an inappropriately certified or uncertified teacher to the same classroom for more than 30 consecutive instructional days during the same school year shall provide written notice of the assignment to a parent or guardian of each student in that classroom.

# What does this mean?

This allows us to hire CTE and PreK  
3 & 4 year old teachers

# Probationary Contracts

**PROBATIONARY CONTRACT.** (a) Except as provided by Section [21.202](#)(b), a person who is employed as a teacher by a school district for the first time, or who has not been employed by the district for two consecutive school years subsequent to August 28, 1967, shall be employed under a probationary contract. A person who previously was employed as a teacher by a district and, after at least a two-year lapse in district employment returns to district employment, may be employed under a probationary contract...

(b) A probationary contract may not be for a term exceeding one school year. The probationary contract may be renewed for two additional one-year periods, for a maximum permissible probationary contract period of three school years, except that the probationary period may not exceed one year for a person who has been employed as a teacher in public education for at least five of the eight years preceding employment by the district.

# Probationary Contracts

(c) An employment contract may not extend the probationary contract period beyond the end of the third consecutive school year of the teacher's employment by the school district unless, during the third year of a teacher's probationary contract, the board of trustees determines that it is doubtful whether the teacher should be given a continuing contract or a term contract. If the board makes that determination, the district may make a probationary contract with the teacher for a term ending with the fourth consecutive school year of the teacher's employment with the district, at which time the district shall:

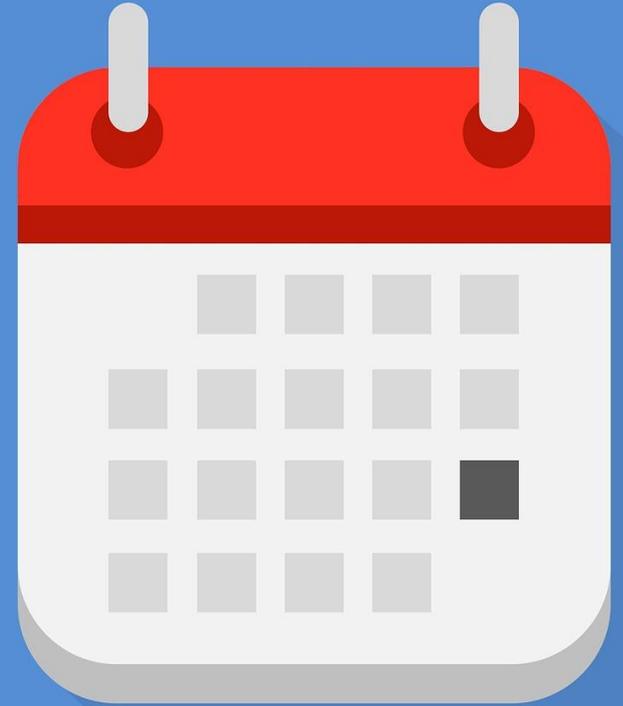
(1) terminate the employment of the teacher; or (2) employ the teacher under a continuing contract or a term contract as provided by Subchapter D or E, according to district policy.

# What does this mean?

This gives principals more time to evaluate certified teachers who are new to the district

# School Start Date

**FIRST DAY OF INSTRUCTION** (a) Except as provided by this section, a school district may not begin instruction for students for a school year before the fourth Monday in August.



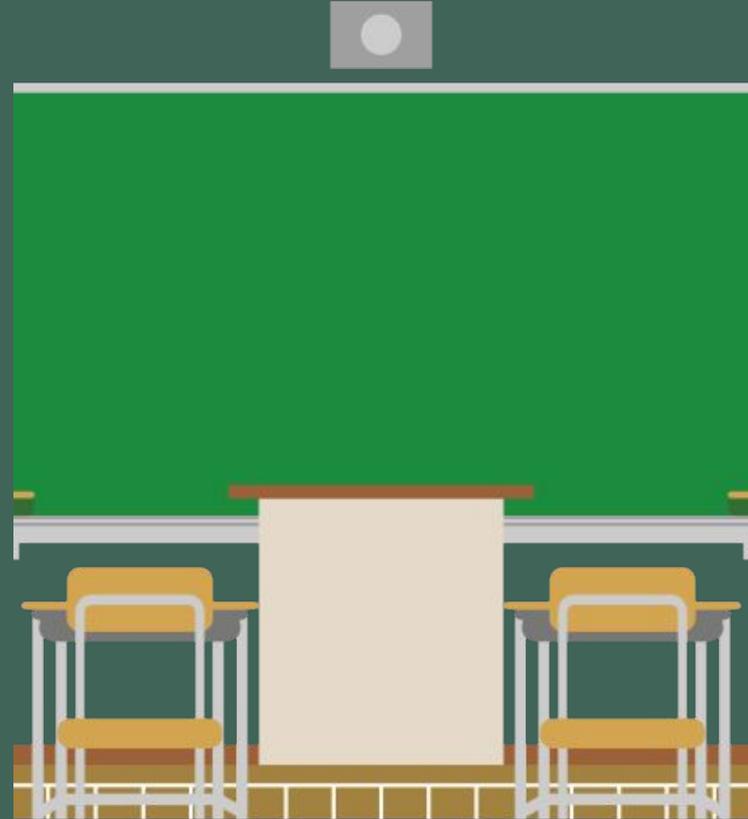
# What does this mean?

This means we don't have to wait until after the 4th Monday in August to start school, which means EOC testing can happen before Winter break

# Class Size in K-4<sup>th</sup> Grades

**CLASS SIZE.** (a) Except as otherwise authorized by this section, a school district may not enroll more than 22 students in a prekindergarten, kindergarten, first, second, third, or fourth grade class.

**NOTICE OF CLASS SIZE.** (a) A campus or district that is granted an exception under Section [25.112](#)(d) from class size limits shall provide written notice of the exception to the parent of or person standing in parental relation to each student affected by the exception.



# What does this mean?

This allows us to keep kids with known teachers/classmates and reduces the administrative burden of notifying parents every time class sizes change

# Kindergarten Start Age

**FREE KINDERGARTEN.** The board of trustees of each school district shall establish and maintain one or more kindergartens for the training of children residing in the district who are at least five years of age on September 1 of the school year.



# What does this mean?

**This gives parents the opportunity to enroll students in kindergarten who are ready!**

# Campus Behavior Coordinator

**DESIGNATION OF CAMPUS BEHAVIOR COORDINATOR.** (a) A person at each campus must be designated to serve as the campus behavior coordinator. The person designated may be the principal of the campus or any other campus administrator selected by the principal.

(b) The campus behavior coordinator is primarily responsible for maintaining student discipline and the implementation of this subchapter.

(c) Except as provided by this chapter, the specific duties of the campus behavior coordinator may be established by campus or district policy. Unless otherwise provided by campus or district policy:

(1) a duty imposed on a campus principal or other campus administrator under this subchapter shall be performed by the campus behavior coordinator; and

(2) a power granted to a campus principal or other campus administrator under this subchapter may be exercised by the campus behavior coordinator.

# Campus Behavior Coordinator

(d) The campus behavior coordinator shall promptly notify a student's parent or guardian as provided by this subsection if under this subchapter the student is placed into in-school or out-of-school suspension, placed in a disciplinary alternative education program, expelled, or placed in a juvenile justice alternative education program or is taken into custody by a law enforcement officer. A campus behavior coordinator must comply with this subsection by:

- (1) promptly contacting the parent or guardian by telephone or in person; and
- (2) making a good faith effort to provide written notice of the disciplinary action to the student, on the day the action is taken, for delivery to the student's parent or guardian.

(e) If a parent or guardian entitled to notice under Subsection (d) has not been reached by telephone or in person by 5 p.m. of the first business day after the day the disciplinary action is taken, a campus behavior coordinator shall mail written notice of the action to the parent or guardian at the parent's or guardian's last known address.

(f) If a campus behavior coordinator is unable or not available to promptly provide notice under Subsection (d), the principal or other designee shall provide the notice.

# What does this mean?

This allows campus administrators to share the discipline load

# Limitations on Student Suspensions

(c) A student who is enrolled in a grade level below grade three may not be placed in out-of-school suspension unless while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off of school property, the student engages in:

- (1) conduct that contains the elements of an offense related to weapons under Section [46.02](#) or [46.05](#), Penal Code;
- (2) conduct that contains the elements of a violent offense under Section [22.01](#), [22.011](#), [22.02](#), or [22.021](#), Penal Code; or
- (3) selling, giving, or delivering to another person or possessing, using, or being under the influence of any amount of:
  - (A) marijuana or a controlled substance, as defined by Chapter [481](#), Health and Safety Code, or by 21 U.S.C. Section 801 et seq.;
  - (B) a dangerous drug, as defined by Chapter [483](#), Health and Safety Code; or
  - (C) an alcoholic beverage, as defined by Section [1.04](#), Alcoholic Beverage Code.

# What does this mean?

This allows campuses the ability to remove younger students from the classroom and take the time necessary to put meaningful behavior management plans in place

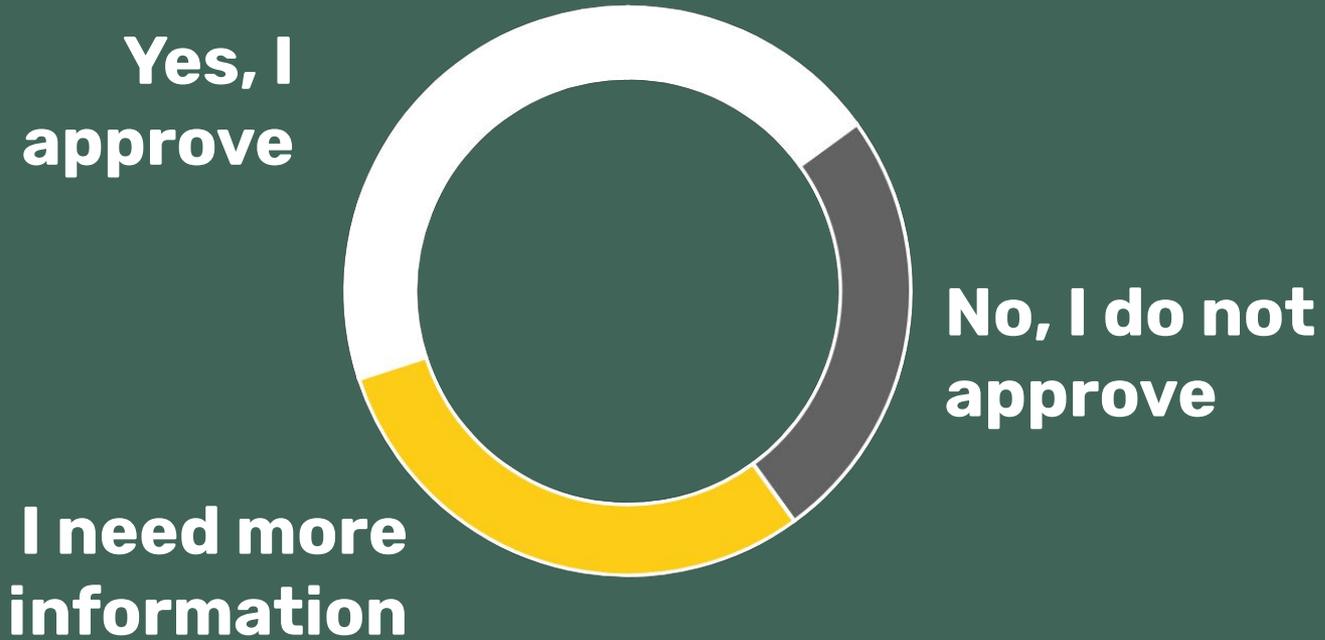
**03**

# Questions & Comments

04

# Voting

# Let's Take a Vote



# Thanks!

**CREDITS:** This presentation template was created by **Slidesgo**, including icons by **Flaticon**, infographics & images by **Freepik**