

Coupland ISD
DISTRICT OF INNOVATION PLAN
May 2022 – May 2027

Introduction

HB 1842 was passed during the 84th Texas Legislative Session in spring 2015. This bill provides Texas public school districts the opportunity to be designated as Districts of Innovation. To access these flexibilities a school district must adopt a District of Innovation Plan.

Districts of Innovation provides opportunities for:

- Greater local control;
- Increased flexibility governing education programming; and
- Empowerment to innovate and think differently.

Districts are not exempt from statutes related to curriculum, graduation requirements, nor academic and financial accountability

Coupland ISD has an approved District of Innovation Plan through May 10, 2027.

TIMELINE	
4/11/22	District Plan of Innovation Posted The Coupland ISD District Plan of Innovation will be posted on the Coupland ISD website for at least 30 days prior to renewal.
4/26/22	Public Meeting On April 26, 2022 the Coupland ISD district level committee will hold a public meeting for public input and final approval of the renewal of the District of Innovation Plan.
5/10/22	District of Innovation Plan Approved by Board of Trustees On May 10, 2022 the Board of Trustees will vote on the renewal of the Coupland ISD District of Innovation Plan. A copy of the approved District of Innovation Plan will be provided to Texas Education Agency for posting on its website.

Flexible Calendar

(TEC25.0811)

Currently:

Students may not begin school before the 4th Monday of August.

Proposed:

To allow for a calendar that fits the local needs of our community, we would like to consider a flexible calendar option which may include an early start date.

- Students may begin earlier than the fourth Monday of August. This earlier start date will allow a better balance between semesters, more instructional days prior to mandatory testing, and a school end date prior to June.

Transfer Students

(TEC25.036)

Currently:

Transfer students are accepted for a period of one year and may not be revoked during the school year.

Proposed:

To allow for a student transfer to be revoked at any time during the school year when it is in the best interest of the district and responds to the local needs of our community.

- Students transfer may be revoked at any time the transfer agreement is violated. The transfer agreement addresses attendance, academic and behavioral standards along with parent involvement activities. Transfers may also be revoked if the district enrollment grows to exceed class size limitations that would require hiring additional staff.

Teacher Certification

(TEC §21.003, TEC §21.053)

Currently:

A public school employee must have the appropriate credentials for his or her current assignment unless the appropriate permit has been issued. The credentials appropriate to each assignment are set forth in the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) rules at 19 Administrative Code Chapter 231.

Proposed:

To allow our core teachers to teach an elective course without the appropriate credential.

- Teachers with qualified experience could be eligible to teach an elective course through a local teaching certification. In addition, flexibility in this area will assist the District in offering courses in which students have an interest and students can earn state credit rather than local credit. A certified teacher will be permitted to teach outside their field. The District will only utilize this exemption for electives.