

# **Kemp ISD District of Innovation Plan**

Kemp ISD is utilizing HB 1842, of the 84<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session, in order to have more local control in certain areas. HB 1842 allows a traditional public school to have some of the same local flexibility that public charter schools have always been allowed. We feel this is a great opportunity for our local district to tailor plans based on the needs of our students and community.

This plan will be in effect for the 2016-2017 school year through the 2020-2021 school year. This plan may be amended at any time by the committee with approval of the Board of Trustees.

The following district of Innovation Committee was appointed by the Kemp ISD Board of Trustees

## **District Innovation Team**

Phil Edwards – Superintendent of Schools

Jane Dvorak – Director of Instruction & Curriculum

Leslie Harting – Kemp Primary Campus

Catherine Henry – Kemp Primary Campus

Gloria Condor – Kemp Primary Campus

Julie Wakeland – Intermediate Campus

Lisa Ashton – Intermediate Campus

Glenn Sierra – Intermediate Campus

Steve Cooper – Junior High Campus

Sherilyn Smith – Junior High Campus

Marsha Pool – High School Campus

Elisa Hammonds – High School Campus

Charles Ackerman – High School Campus

Ivan Reyes – High School Campus

Kimberly Minzenmayer – Parent

Jami Allen – Parent

Rhonna Baker – Parent

Jennifer Romf-Hatch – Parent

Sharon Marszalek – Community

## **District of Innovation Timeline:**

February 25<sup>th</sup> – District EIC committee meets to discuss preliminary thoughts on Kemp ISD becoming a District of Innovation

March 14<sup>th</sup> – District Administration meets to discuss preliminary thoughts on Kemp ISD becoming a District of Innovation

April 18<sup>th</sup> – Kemp ISD school Board approves a resolution to allow Kemp ISD to consider becoming a District of Innovation.

May 16<sup>th</sup> - Public Hearing is held to explain and discuss Kemp ISD becoming a District of Innovation

May 19<sup>th</sup> – Meeting of District of Innovation team meeting and District of Innovation plan developed

May 24<sup>th</sup> – Public Meeting held to present and discuss the Kemp ISD District of Innovation Plan

May 24<sup>th</sup> – District of Innovation Plan is presented and approved by a unanimous 19-0 vote.

May 25<sup>th</sup> – Plan is Submitted to TEA and posted on the Kemp ISD website for 30 days

July 18<sup>th</sup> – Kemp ISD Board of Education Discusses and Approves the Kemp ISD District of Innovation Plan

July 19<sup>th</sup> – Inform TASB of Policy changes

## **1. School start date**

*(EB LEGAL) (Ed. Code 25.0811)*

*Currently, students may not begin school before the 4th Monday of August. For many years this was the rule, however, districts had the option of applying for a waiver to start earlier. The vast majority of districts applied for the waiver and would begin the 3rd Monday, some even going as early as the 2nd Monday. Therefore, several years ago the legislature took away all waivers and dictated that districts may not begin until the 4th Monday, without exceptions.*

### **Proposed**

To allow for a calendar that fits the local needs of our community, we are recommending moving the mandatory start date back, which would better benefit our students.

- a. No student will begin any earlier than the 2nd Monday of August.
- b. The goal is to improve the district attendance rate and student success through the flexibility in the calendar. Student achievement will also be addressed with consideration for remediation of identified “At-Risk” students. This may occur with identified students attending at a start date consistent with this proposed change, and other students having a start date at a different time, but still within the proposed guidelines of this plan.

## 2. Teacher certification

*(DK LEGAL, DK LOCAL, DK EXHIBIT) (Texas Ed. Code 21003, 21.055, 21.057)*

*Currently In the event a district cannot locate a certified teacher for a position or a teacher is teaching a subject outside of their certification, the district must submit a request to the Texas Education Agency (TEA). TEA then approves or denies this request.*

### **Proposed**

In order to best serve KISD students, decisions on teacher certification will be handled locally.

- a. The campus principal may submit to the superintendent a request to allow a certified teacher to teach a subject out of their certified field.
- b. An individual with experience in a CTE field may be eligible to teach a vocational skill or course through a local teaching certificate. The principal will submit the request to the superintendent with all the individual's credentials.
- d. The principal must specify in writing the reason for the request and document what credentials the certified teacher possesses qualifying this individual to teach this subject.
- e. The superintendent will then submit this action to the Board of Trustees for Board approval prior to the individual beginning any employment. Local teaching certificates will be for one year. The employee will be at-will.
- f. Each school year the district will report to the board and post online a report of all teaching personnel who are teaching a class that is outside their certification.