

Wink-Loving ISD

The Best in Texas: Building Excellence, Pride, and Tradition!

DISTRICT OF INNOVATION INFORMATION



Districts of Innovation

What is a “District of Innovation”?

- ▶ The District of Innovation concept, passed by the 84th Legislative Session in [House Bill 1842](#), gives traditional independent school districts most of the flexibilities available to Texas’ open-enrollment charter schools.



Should my district become a “District of Innovation”?

Potential benefits of becoming a District of Innovation include:

- ▶ **Local control:** Districts decide which flexibilities best suit their local needs.
- ▶ **Flexibility:** Districts will have the flexibility to implement practices similar to charter schools, including exemptions from mandates such as:
 - School start date
 - Teacher certification (except as required by federal law)

School Start Date Waiver Issue

The uniform school start date for the 2017-2018 school year is August 28, 2017. Using this start date will back up our school calendar up to the end of May or beginning of June.

If we receive this “district of innovation” designation we can start school on August 21, 2017 and will be able to maintain a school calendar similar to the current adopted calendar.

Steps from here:

- School Board will consider adopting an Innovation Plan Resolution in November.
- Each campus will have at least two teachers to serve on an innovation planning team to develop the Innovation Plan.
- Board will consider adopting the Innovation Plan after it has been posted online for 30 days.
- Innovation Plans may have a term of 5 years.
- Schools must achieve “met standard” on accountability ratings in order to maintain the Innovation Plan.

District of Innovation Timeline

- ▶ **Week of October 31st** – Inform faculty of intent to apply for District of Innovation.
- ▶ **Friday, November 4th** – Posted District of Innovation presentation information on the WLISD website
- ▶ **Tuesday, November 15th**
 - ▶ **Special Called Board Meeting for Public Hearing at 5:30 p.m.** in order review, consider, and discuss the possibility of becoming a District of Innovation
 - ▶ **Regular Board Meeting for Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m.** in order review and discuss the possibility of becoming a District of Innovation
 - ▶ **Action to Consider:** Board of Trustees to consider approving resolution to become a District of Innovation.
 - ▶ **Action to Consider:** Board of Trustees to consider approving the members of the District of Innovation Committee
- ▶ **Monday, November 28th at 3:30 p.m.:** WLISD Administration - Initial meeting of the District of Innovation Committee
- ▶ **Monday, November 28th at 3:45 p.m.:** WLISD Administration - District Advisory Committee Meeting
- ▶ **December 5th -December 9th:** Window for campus faculty meetings to preview District of Innovation plan.
- ▶ **December 9th – January 10th:** Post the District of Innovation Plan on the district website for 30 days
- ▶ **Tuesday, January 17th at 6:00 p.m.:** Regular WLISD board meeting to consider approving the District of Innovation Plan and approve the 2017-2018 school calendar
- ▶ **Monday, January 23rd:** Update all policy changes with TASB

District of Innovation Committee

District Representatives:

- ▶ Dr. Dewitt Smith, Superintendent of Schools
- ▶ Mr. Scotty Carman, High School Principal
- ▶ Mrs. Linda Jolly, Elementary Principal
- ▶ Mr. Lance Wineinger, Elementary Assistant Principal

Elementary Representatives:

- ▶ Mrs. Amanda Smith, Elementary Teacher Representative
- ▶ Mrs. Courtney Woody, District-wide Representative
- ▶ Mrs. Tiffany Youngblood, Elementary Teacher Representative

JH/High School Representatives:

- ▶ Mrs. Susan Abbott, JH/High School Teacher Representative
- ▶ Mrs. Vonda Warren, JH/High School Teacher Representative

Parent and Business Representatives:

- ▶ Mrs. Isela Flores, Parent Representative
- ▶ Mrs. Charity Smith, Business/Parent Representative