District of Innovation

Committee Meeting | Feb. 3, 2026

This Evening's Agenda

- Welcome
- DOI Overview
- Keller ISD's DOI Plan
- Feedback & Discussion

Let’s Break the Ice

- Name
- Association with Keller ISD (Parent, Employee, etc.)
- Why You Wanted to be on the DOI Committee

What is a District of Innovation?

- Authorized by HB 1842 (84th Session)
- Amended Ch. 12 of Texas Education Code (TEC)
- Districts can exempt out of certain provisions of the TEC
- Created to provide flexibility similar to charter schools

Common Areas of Exemption

- School Start Dates
- Teacher Certification Requirements (for certain positions)
- Class Size Limits (with local oversight)
- Minutes of Instruction
- Professional Development Days

What Cannot Be Exempted

- State Academic Standards (TEKS)
- State Assessment and Accountability Systems
- Federal Laws and Requirements
- Special Education and Bilingual Protections
- NEW: Discipline Requirements

Advantages to DOI

- Recruiting, Retaining High-Quality Staff
- Providing Flexible Calendars that Support Learning and Families
- Managing Resources More Efficiently
- Encouraging Innovation while Maintaining Accountability

Keller ISD's Plan

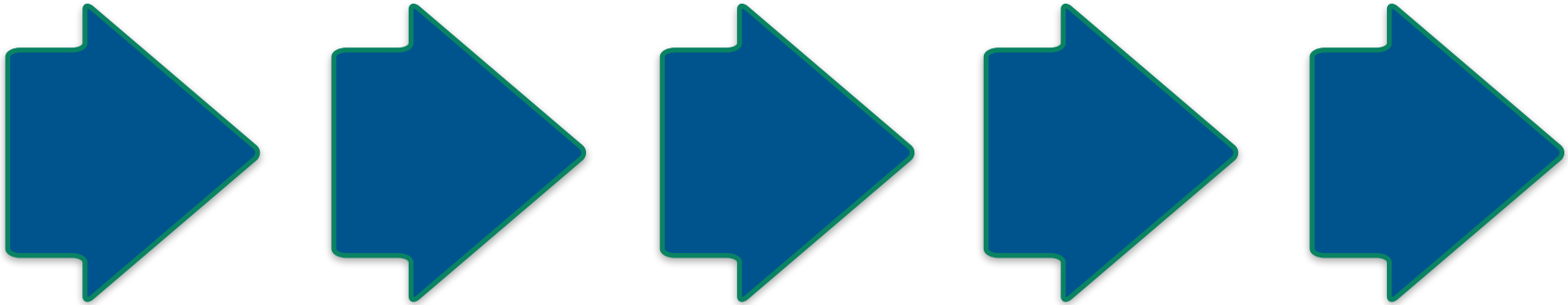
January 2017
Adopted Original DOI Plan

December 2021
Renewed DOI Plan

December 2026
Plan Expiration

****Innovation Plans Must be Revisited Every 5 Years****

Current Timeline



Board Appoints DOI Committee

Committee Develops Plan

Committee Passes Plan (Majority)

Plan Posted for 30 Days

Board Approves Plan (Two-Thirds)

Keller ISD's Current Exemptions

- **"Ninety Percent Rule" for Class Attendance**
  - TEC §25.092 | Policy FEC (LEGAL)
  - Provides flexibility for students in special situations
- **Length of School Day**
  - TEC §25.082 | Policy EC (LEGAL)
  - Provides flexibility in scheduling, especially at specialized campuses
- **Earliest Possible School Start Date**
  - TEC §25.0811, 25.812 | Policy EB (LEGAL)
  - Allows beginning year prior to fourth Monday in August
- **Minimum Days of Attendance**
  - TEC §25.081 | Policy EB (LEGAL)
  - Provides flexibility for students in special situations and programs

Keller ISD's Current Exemptions

DAEP Exception for On-Campus Learning for Some Classes

- TEC §37.008, 37.0082 | Policy FOCA (LEGAL)
- Provides flexibility in assigning discipline and greater student opportunities

Three-Day Limitation on Suspensions

- TEC §37.005 | Policy FOB (LEGAL)
- Allows for intermediary action between three-day suspension and DAEP

Campus Behavior Coordinator

- TEC §37.0012 | Policy FO (LEGAL)
- Allows for sharing of duties among administrators

Suspension Limitations for Students Below 3rd Grade

- TEC §37.005 | Policy FOB (LEGAL)
- Provides flexibility for special disciplinary scenarios

Keller ISD's Current Exemptions

- **Planning and Preparation Periods**
  - TEC §21.404 | Policy DL (LEGAL)
  - Provides flexibility in class scheduling
- **State Certification Requirements for Teachers**
  - TEC §21.003, 21.053 | Policy DBA (LEGAL)
  - Provides flexibility for hiring industry professionals
- **Certified Employee Contract Rights**
  - TEC §21.102(b), 21.211(b) | Policy DCA (LEGAL)
  - Allows for hiring probationary teacher to allow for additional growth
- **22-to-1 Elementary Class-Size Ratios and Notice**
  - TEC §25.112, 25.113 | Policy EEB (LEGAL)
  - Provides greater control for campus management

Keller ISD's Current Exemptions

- **Teacher Appraisals (Student Learning Objectives)**
  - TEC §21.352, 21.353 | Policy DNA (LEGAL)
  - Provides teachers additional time to focus on more beneficial evaluations
- **Ejection of Individuals from Facilities**
  - TEC §37.105 | Policy GKA (LEGAL)
  - Provides flexibility to address immediate safety needs
- **Depository Contracts**
  - TEC §45.205 | Policy BDAE (LEGAL)
  - Provides more efficient use of time and resources

Additional Innovations Available

- District-Level and Site-Based Decision-Making (DEIC, CEICs)
- Appraisal and Professional Development Requirements
- Teacher Duties & Benefits
- Staff Development Requirements
- Student-Teacher Ratios
- Grievance Policy
- Purchasing/Contract Restrictions/Requirements
- Investment of District Funds

Your Feedback

Any existing DOI exemptions we should remove?
Any additional DOI exemptions we should add?

Use the QR code below or Post-It Notes at your table

Thank You!

Next Meeting:
Monday, February 23

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