



District of Innovation Plan

Chireno ISD

The 84th Legislative Session in House Bill 1842, passed the District of Innovation concept. HB 1842 allows exemptions from certain state-level requirements when established criteria is met. Chireno ISD is utilizing HB 1842 to have flexibility with school calendar options in an effort to better meet the needs of CISD students and their families. This plan will be in effect for the 2017-2018 school year through the 2021-2022 school year. This plan may be amended at any time by the committee with approval of the CISD Board of Trustees.

Potential benefits of becoming a District of Innovation include:

- *local control
- *customization
- *autonomy
- *flexibility

On March 30th, the Chireno ISD Board of Trustees approved Superintendent Norman's request to explore the opportunity for Chireno ISD to become a District of Innovation. The District of Innovation plan includes the following:

Flexible Calendar (TEC 25.0811)

Currently: *Students may not begin school before the 4th Monday in August.*

Proposed: *Consideration for a flexible calendar option to include a start date for CISD students no earlier than the 3rd Monday in August.*

Benefits:

- allow flexibility in development of school calendar*
- provide more days of instruction before state assessments*
- keep semesters balanced (greatest impact on one semester courses)*
- school end date prior to Memorial Day (critical for providing accelerated instruction and students enrolling in summer college sessions or trade school)*
- ensure time requirements (hour, seat, clinicals) are met for certification courses*

Summary:

Becoming a District of Innovation allows Chireno ISD to provide an educational system that better supports the personalized needs of our community. HB 1842 will benefit students and their families, employees, and the community by allowing CISD increased flexibility to make decisions at the local level. Chireno ISD will pursue the flexibility offered by HB 1842 with the best interests of our students and their social, emotion and academic well-being as our focus.

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