


District of Innovation



Core Beliefs


Kids come first.
Continuous learning is essential to prepare for college and career opportunities.
Each student's success is the shared responsibility of students, families, schools, and communities.
Learning is influenced by environment.

Vision

Northwest ISD empowers learners and leaders to positively impact the world.

Mission

Northwest ISD, in collaboration with students, families, communities, and global partners, will engage in a culture of learning that prepares all students to confidently navigate their future.



Strategic Goals

- 1 Students will achieve success through meaningful learning experiences, innovative pathways, and personalized opportunities.
- 2 Northwest ISD will recruit, value, and retain an exceptional staff to create a rewarding learning environment.
- 3 Northwest ISD will create and foster an environment where all stakeholders are engaged in the transformational work of the NISD family.

District of Innovation
December 10, 2018

Background and Context

- District of Innovation is a concept passed during the 84th Legislative Session in House Bill 1842. HB 1842 gives traditional independent school districts the opportunity to gain flexibility through a variety of available exemptions to the Texas Education Code.
- A school district's most recent academic performance rating must be at least acceptable in order to be eligible for designation as a District of Innovation.

Background and Context

- According to the TEA website, 784 districts have submitted approved District of Innovation plans to the Commissioner for the 2017-2018 school year. These districts vary in size, geographic location, and exemptions requested.

Previous Proposed DOI Timeline

- *September 25, 2017- Present the NISD Board of Trustees a Resolution to create a District of Innovation (DOI) committee and plan for consideration. (TEC 12A.001(c)(1))*
- *October 23, 2017- Public Hearing by NISD Board of Trustees (TEC 12A.002(a))*
- *September 25- November 28, 2017- Series of committee meetings with NISD stakeholders. (TEA 12A.002(b)(2), 12A.003)*

In December of 2017, it was recommended that we postpone further discussion and moved forward without finalizing a plan.

Current DOI Process

Action	Responsibility	Date
Presentation to NISD School Board for consideration of the DOI designation	Administration	9/24/2017
Vote to adopt a resolution to consider DOI designation	Board	9/24/2017
Hold public hearing	Board	10/25/2017
Decision to postpone process pending NISD Strategic Framework development	Administration	12/11/2017
Presentation to NISD School Board for consideration of the DOI designation	Administration	8/13/2018
Appoint a Committee to develop local innovation plan	Administration	9/1/2018
DOI Committee shares initial information and timeline proposal to DEIC	Administration	9/17/2018
DOI Committee Meeting	Committee	9/27/2018
DOI Committee Meeting	Committee	10/9/2018
Presentation to NISD Faculty Council to seek input	Committee	10/15/2018
Presentation to District Leadership Team to seek input	Committee	10/18/2018
DOI Committee Meeting	Committee	10/29/2018
DOI committee shares possible recommendations to DEIC and seeks additional input	Committee	10/30/2018

All NISD DOI resources:

NISD WEBSITE

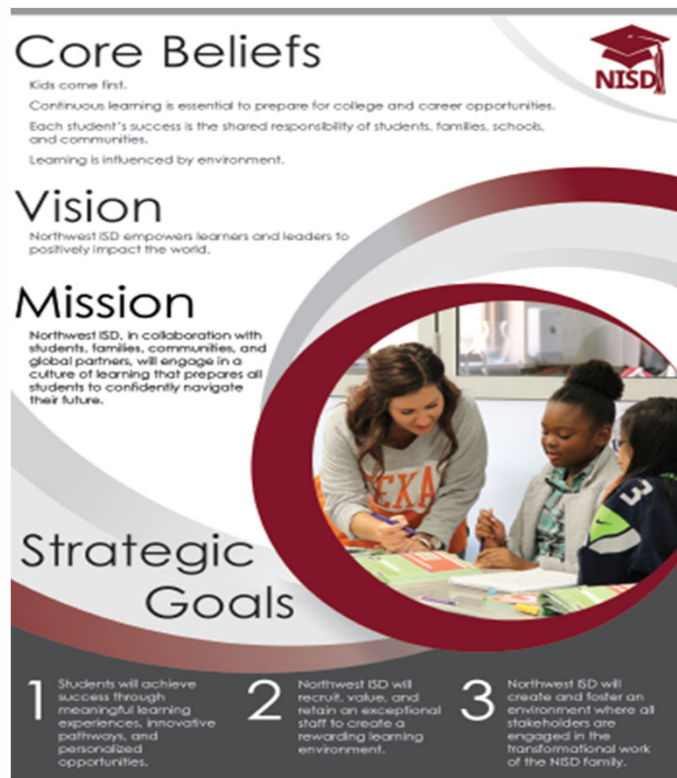
Curriculum & Instruction

District of Innovation

<https://tinyurl.com/y8pmehx5>



NISD Strategic Framework



The graphic is a vertical rectangular poster with a white background and a dark grey bottom section. It features a large, stylized circular graphic on the right side, composed of overlapping red and grey arcs. Inside this circle is a photograph of three people (two women and one child) sitting at a table, looking at a document. The text is arranged in sections on the left side of the graphic.

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The committee was asked to align any requests to the NISD Strategic Framework

Driving Question:

What operational changes would have the biggest positive impact on student learning experiences in NISD?

Initial Committee Work

- Background of District of Innovation Process
- Research- What are other District's doing?
- Collaborate- What ideas/thoughts have NISD stakeholders shared?
- Identify- What themes/categories/ideas are emerging for NISD?

Themes from the categories?

Emerging Categories:

- Calendar/Start times
- Teacher Issues
- Student Issues
- Curriculum and Instruction

Continuing Committee Work

Major Categories:

- What are the priorities?

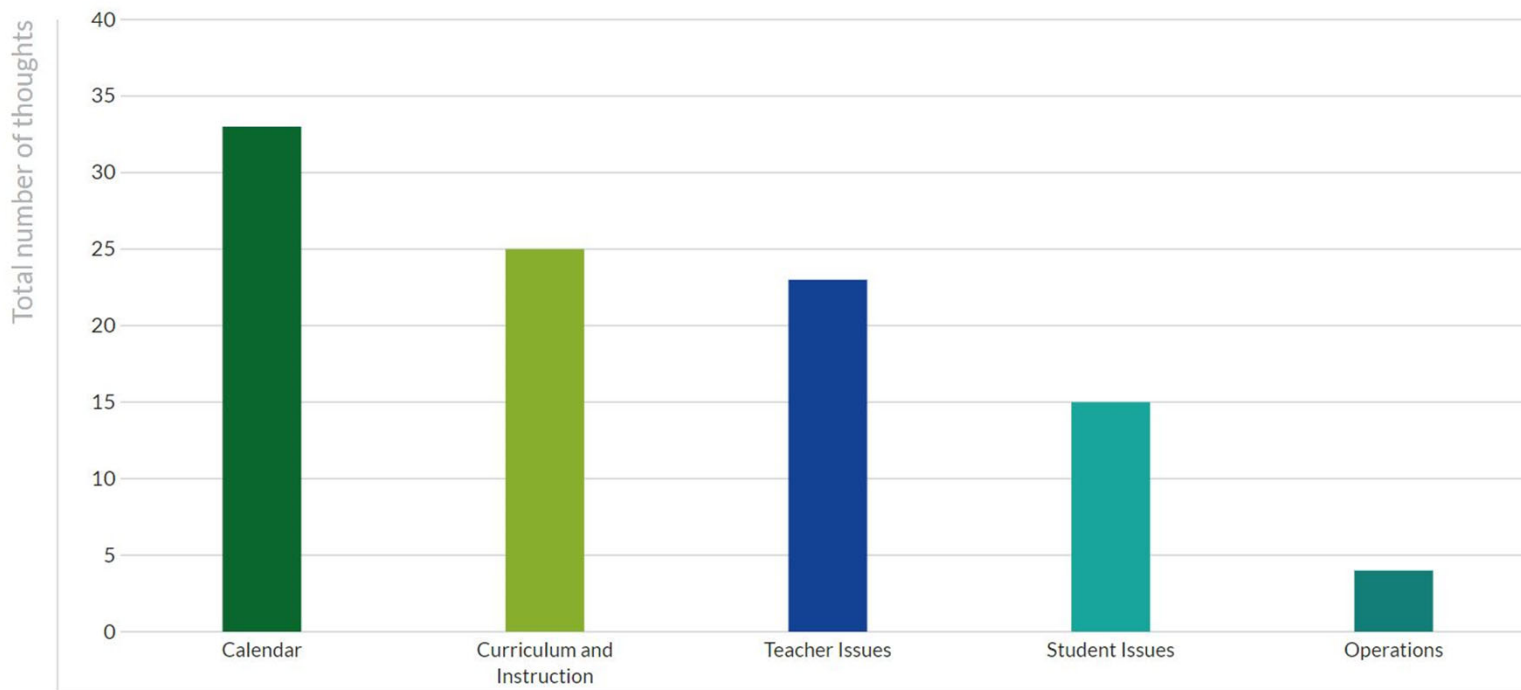
Research and Prioritize Implications:

- Everything we ask for must still be in compliance with Board Policy

Sub-Committees:

- May extend past the approval of DOI plan

Thought Exchange: What has our community said?



Five emerging themes based on the Top 100 "thoughts"

Over 175 different ideas

Over 7,300 different ratings on those ideas

Driving Question:

What operational changes would have the biggest positive impact on student learning experiences in NISD?

Group Work:

Idea or Waiver addressed	Support Level (low, medium, high)	Priority (low, medium, high)	Positive Impact for NISD	Does it have to have DOI to be able to accomplish it?

What is the BIG idea?

- Based on their research of other Districts;
- Based on their own experience, ideas, and input from others;
- Based on stakeholder feedback from Thought Exchange

26 Major ideas emerged,
But only
12 require a DOI plan!!

Prioritizing Ideas

- *Both the DOI committee and the DEIC were given individual surveys to share individual feedback/support for the twelve DOI ideas.*
- *Based on the results of those surveys and feedback, NISD Administration will bring nine innovative exemptions forward for consideration.*

DOI exemptions for consideration:

High Priority/Support

- Uniform Start Date for Academic Calendar (TEC 25.0811)
- Minutes of Instruction (TEC 25.081)
- Educator Certification (TEC 21.003 and 21.053)
- Campus Behavior Coordinator (TEC 37.0012)
- Removal of Unwanted Visitors (TEC 37.105)

DOI exemptions for consideration

Moderate Priority/Support

- **Credit by Examination (TEC 28.023)**
- **Minimum Days of Attendance (TEC 25.081)**
- **Probationary Contracts for Experienced Teachers (TEC 21.102)**
- **Teacher Mentors (TEC 21.458)**

Other ideas researched that do not need DOI....

- 9 week grading period
- School daily start times
- Professional Development days
- "Zero Hour"
- Standards Based Grading
- Personalized Learning
- Expanding various CTE Pathways
- Curriculum Needs/alignment
- Homework
- Recess
- Daily Planning Requirements
- Alternative Appraisals
- Virtual learning

Next Steps

NEXT STEPS:		
Presentation to NISD Board with draft DOI plan	Administration	11/12/2018
Pending Board Approval; Post local innovation plan on website	Board	12/10/2018
Send notification to Commissioner of intention to vote on local innovation plan	Administration	1/11/2019
DEIC holds public meeting to consider final version of the proposed plan; DEIC votes on final plan	Committee	1/14/2019
NISD Board votes on final approval of plan	Board	1/14/2019
Notification to Commissioner of approval of plan	Administration	1/15/2019