Local Innovation Plan
August 2017- July 2022

HB 1842, of the 84th Legislative Session, allows Texas districts to qualify as a District of Innovation. Districts of Innovation are afforded greater flexibility and increased local control of identified operations under the authority of the Texas Education Agency.
RESOLUTION

Resolution to Initiate the Process of Exploring the Option of the Designation of Hemphill ISD as a District of Innovation

Whereas, the Hemphill ISD Board of Trustees is committed to our vision to equip all students, in a safe learning environment, with the skills necessary to lead productive and satisfying lives, and

Whereas, the 84th Legislature passed House Bill 1842 providing Texas public school districts the opportunity to be designated as Districts of Innovation, and

Whereas, Texas public school districts designated as a District of Innovation may be exempted from selected state requirements thus affording greater local control, and

Whereas, House Bill 1842 requires public school districts seeking designation as a District of Innovation to develop a Local Innovation Plan providing for a comprehensive educational program and identify the state requirements imposed by the Texas Education Code inhibiting the goals of the Local Innovation Plan, and

Whereas, the Hemphill Independent School District has "met standard" as a district and on each campus and is thus eligible for designation, and

Whereas, the Hemphill ISD Board of Trustees believes that consideration of any Local Innovation Plan should be developed in collaboration with community and district stakeholders, and

Whereas, the Hemphill ISD Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing to allow feedback pertaining to the process, content, and support of a Local Innovation Plan; upon adoption of this resolution the Board of Trustees will appoint a committee to develop a plan in accordance with chapter 12A of the Texas Education Code.

Now, Therefore Be it Resolved that the Hemphill ISD Board of Trustees initiates the process of exploring and considering the option of designating the district as a District of Innovation.

Witness these signatures on the 19th day of January, 2017.

Chad Moody
President, Board Trustee

Lynn Lindsey
Vice President, Board Trustee

Tammie Bennett
Secretary, Board Trustee

Steve Conn
Board Trustee

Tom Cryer
Board Trustee

Gary Parks
Board Trustee

Janis Speights
Board Trustee

Reese Briggs
Superintendent
Hemphill ISD District of Innovation Timeline

January 6, 2017  **Information Provided to Board of Trustees**
A general overview and introduction to include the Commissioner’s rules for Districts of Innovation.

January 19, 2017  **Resolution**
The HISD Board of Trustees will discuss and receive recommendation to approve a resolution to explore the opportunity for Hemphill ISD to become a District of Innovation.

January 19, 2017  **Public Hearing**
Hemphill ISD will hold a public hearing to inform the public of facts about being a District of Innovation and allow for public input.

January 19, 2017  **Appoint Committee**
The Hemphill ISD Board of Trustees will appoint the Site-Based District Advisory Team to develop a District of Innovation Plan.

January 23, 2017  **Plan Development**
The HISD Site-Based District Advisory Team will meet to develop plan.

January 23, 2017  **Committee Approval**
The HISD Site-Based District Advisory Team approves District of Innovation plan at public meeting.

January 24, 2017  **District of Innovation Plan Posted**
The Hemphill ISD District of Innovation Plan will be posted on the Hemphill ISD website for a minimum of 30 days.

January 24, 2017  **Notify Commissioner**
Notify the commissioner of education of the board's intention to vote on adoption of the proposed plan

March 9, 2017  **Board Approval**
The Hemphill ISD Board of Trustees will vote on the recommendation to approve the Hemphill ISD District of Innovation Plan.

March 10, 2017  **Final Posting/Notification**
The approved Hemphill ISD District of Innovation Plan will be provided to the Texas Education Agency for posting on its website and the completed Commissioner’s form (Figure: 19 TAC §102.1307(d)) will be mailed to the Commissioner of Education. Additionally, the plan will be posted on the Hemphill ISD website for the entire period of the plan.
HISD District of Innovation Plan Committee Members
HISD District Advisory Team

Vicky Ostrom, Business Rep
John Schillings, Business Rep
Vermirkia Proctor, Parent
Kelly Anderson, Parent
Karri Jones, Teacher
Shelley Fisette, Teacher
Nina Farrell, Teacher
Susan Smith, HES Principal
Marc Griffin, HHS Principal
Tellina Wright, Business Rep
Theresa Franklin, Community Member
Julie Conn, Parent
Kristi McDaniel, Teacher
Kelly Reynolds, Teacher
Sherri Eddings, Teacher
Monica Butler, District GT Coordinator
Jeremy McDaniel, HMS Principal
Reese Briggs, Superintendent

Hemphill ISD Mission Statement

The mission of the Hemphill Independent School District is to equip all students in a safe learning environment with the skills necessary to lead productive and satisfying lives.

HISD District of Innovation Plan Goals

1. Provide more flexibility to calendar to address student and teacher instructional needs.
2. Create equity between semesters for single semester and all classes.
3. Improve attendance of students and staff.
4. Improve student growth and achievement while closing performance gaps.

Areas of Innovation

With regard to each area of innovation, the District declares exemption from the listed statutory provisions, as well as any implementing rules or regulations promulgated pursuant to those statutory provisions by any state agency or entity, including but not limited to the Commissioner of Education, Texas Education Agency, State Board for Educator Certification, and State Board of Education.

1. School Start and End Date
Exemption from: TEC §25.0811; TEC §25.0812
Related Board Policies: EB LEGAL
Manner in which statute inhibits the goals of the plan: TEC 25.0811 states that a school
district may not begin student instruction before the 4th Monday of August. TEC 25.0812 states that a school district may not schedule the last day of school before May 15. The current process allows no flexibility in the design of annual calendars to fit the needs of the community or the wishes of the local Board of Trustees who represent community interests in this matter.

Innovation Strategies:

A. Relief from the statute will allow HISD to develop a calendar that addresses student instruction and focused professional development in conjunction with the new instructional minutes requirement, rather than days.

B. Provides for greater flexibility allowing HISD to build student support days in each grading period to address student needs and close learning gaps. Students benefit from individualized instruction in teacher-student ratios of 1-5 or less. These days, while instructional, do not count toward the average daily attendance nor toward the required 75,600 minutes of instruction.

C. Provides for a balance in semesters while allowing for completion of the first semester prior to the Christmas break. This creates a coherent sequence of instruction, review, and semester exams provides all students with an opportunity for a new start after the break.

D. Provide for increased local control of the instructional calendar in order to be responsive to community needs.

Term

The term of the Hemphill ISD District of Innovation plan is five years beginning in August of 2017 unless amended or terminated by the HISD Board of Trustees in accordance with Texas state law.
HISD Local Innovation Plan Amendment

In accordance with TEC §12A.007 and TAC §102.1313 Hemphill ISD seeks to amend the current Local Innovation Plan as prescribed below. As a small rural district, we propose to use the DOI to provide our students with the opportunity to develop skills and gain work experience while receiving exposure to a variety of career fields.

HISD District Advisory Team

Karri Jones, Teacher
Sherri Eddings, Teacher
Susan Smith, HES Principal
Marc Griffin, HHS Principal
Lana Procella, Teacher
Jessica Clark, Teacher
Lea Warren, Teacher
Karen Cunningham, Teacher
Hannah Daffron, Parent

Kelly Reynolds, Teacher
Alex McSwain, Teacher
Jeremy McDaniel, HMS Principal
Maggie Hadnot, Teacher
Vance Vickers, Teacher
Dorothy Henson, Teacher
Mary Ann Briggs, Counselor
Becky Smith, Teacher

DATE OF MEETING: June 26, 2018

Hemphill ISD Mission Statement

The mission of the Hemphill Independent School District is to equip all students in a safe learning environment with the skills necessary to lead productive and satisfying lives.

HISD District of Innovation Plan Amendment Goals

1. The primary goal, which makes this program unique, is to connect classroom learning to real life applications through community business partnerships offering intern experiences driven by both work and academic experiences.
2. HISD will offer a variety of pathways to enhance our current on-campus course offerings.
3. Create opportunities for students to gain experience, knowledge, and enhanced application of skills in fields which they may wish to pursue academically and/or as a career path.

Areas of Innovation

With regard to each area of innovation, the District declares exemption from the listed statutory
provisions, as well as any implementing rules or regulations promulgated pursuant to those statutory provisions by any state agency or entity, including but not limited to the Commissioner of Education, Texas Education Agency, State Board for Educator Certification, and State Board of Education.

1. Certification requirements for non core teachers participating in the ISD/business educational pathway partnership.

Exemption from: TEC §21.003; TEC §21.055; TEC §21.057

Related Board Policies: DBA (LEGAL)

Manner in which statute inhibits the goals of the plan:

TEC §21.003 requires all teachers to be certified. HISD seeks to provide students with interests in local businesses an opportunity to receive hands-on training coupled with a followed scope and sequence curriculum taught by district certified teachers who qualify based on experiences in their respective field.

TEC §21.055 allows for district issued teaching permits but requires commissioner approval and annual classroom management training. HISD seeks to identify and locally certify (provide district permit) to business partners who will be contracted and paid a stipend to teach their trade to a small number of students off campus. HISD proposes that training should be developed and implemented locally to provide for the dynamics and needs of the district, business partner/teacher, and student(s).

TEC §21.057 requires parental notification of students taught by non certified teachers. Parents will be required to sign consent forms which outline the instructional and curricular components and delivery methods. Other notification letters would be redundant and confusing.

Innovation Strategies:

A. HISD currently partners with Angelina College to provide classes taught by Angelina College Teachers at Hemphill High School. The DOI proposes to extend this partnership through an amalgamation between the college, community businesses, and school district.

B. Angelina College will map the academic rigor for the course offerings and the community members in the vocational and career areas of interest will be locally certified to teach the courses.

C. HISD will thoroughly vet the community teachers; subjecting them to background and credential inspections.

This unique community/education collaboration will allow our students to receive additional development in career and technical education competencies, receiving practical experience beyond the brick and mortar of the high school classrooms. Students will earn valuable job skills, understand academics in context to the jobs outside the classroom, and leave high school with academic and work records, potential certifications, and possible employment opportunities. All “student interns” will be expected to complete and end-of-course evaluation which will illustrate their knowledge and understanding of their training.

Examples of internship offerings may include but are not limited to:
• Small Engine Repair
• Auto Body Repair/Finishing
• HVAC
• Audiology
• Plumbing
• Electrician
• Building Trades

**Term**

The term of the Hemphill ISD District of Innovation plan is five years beginning in August of 2017 unless amended or terminated by the HISD Board of Trustees in accordance with Texas state law. This amendment will expire in August of 2022 unless the Hemphill ISD board of trustees approves an extension of the Hemphill ISD Local Innovation Plan prior to this date.

Approved by the Hemphill ISD Board of Trustees on this **19** day of **July**, 2018.

[Signature]

Lynn Lindsey, Board President

[Signature]

Gary Parks, Board Secretary