



Eagle Pass Independent School District  
District of Innovation Plan  
2020 – 2025

The VISION shared by the stakeholders of Eagle Pass Independent School District is,

**“All students equipped for Success.”**

Eagle Pass ISD Mission Statement,

**“Our school community will enable and inspire all students to achieve academic excellence preparing them for college, career and life.”**

### **Introduction**

The 84<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session resulted in the passage of House Bill (HB) 1842, permitting Texas Public School Districts to become Districts of Innovation by which they could obtain exemption from certain provisions of the Texas Education Code, *TEC Chapter 12A.001*.

The expected benefits of becoming a District of Innovation include:

- **Flexibility:** Our District will have the flexibility to implement practices that support local needs, namely exemption from the mandate concerning uniform school start date.
- **Local control:** Our District will decide which flexibilities best suit our local needs.
- **Autonomy:** Our District must submit a District of Innovation Plan to the Commissioner of Education, but approval is not required.

On January 14, 2020 the Eagle Pass Independent School District’s Board of Trustees (“Board”) adopted a Resolution to explore the development of a District of Innovation Plan to increase local control over District operations and to support innovation and local initiatives. On February 11, 2020 the Board offered a public hearing concerning Eagle Pass ISD’s possible designation as a District of Innovation. The Board appointed a thirty-one (31) member, District Advisory Committee comprised of a cross section of stake holders from our District including teachers, campus administrators, District leadership, parents, and various community members, all charged with the task of developing the local District of Innovation plan during the February 11, 2020 School Board meeting. The first meeting of the District Advisory Committee (DAC) was held on February 26, 2020 to familiarize the committee with the process and procedures for the development of the DOI PI

## **TERM**

The term of the District of Innovation Plan is for five years to begin July 1, 2020 and end in June 30, 2025. These dates will remain in effect unless the Board terminates the Plan or until any amendment is applied according to the rules established or ended according to the law and authority given by the Commissioner of education. If the District determines to amend this Plan to include further exemptions and flexibilities pursuant to HB 1842, the Board will appoint a new committee to consider and propose the additional amendments. Any amendments will need to be approved by the District advisory Committee and a two-thirds majority vote of the Board. Any amendment adopted by the Board of the DOI Plan will not extend the term of the Plan.

## **Timeline of Events**

- January 14, 2020: Eagle Pass ISD Board of Trustees adopts Resolution for District of Innovation.
- February 11, 2020: Eagle Pass ISD Board holds public hearing concerning District of Innovation.  
Eagle Pass ISD Board takes action to pursue District of Innovation Plan and appoints a 31-member District Advisory Committee for development of the DOI Plan.
- February 26, 2020: First meeting of the District Advisory Committee to determine procedures for the development of the DOI Plan.
- April 9, 2020: Meeting (virtual) with the District Advisory committee to produce the DOI Plan.
- April 10, 2020: Plan posted on District website for public view and EPISD Board notifies Commissioner of Education of intent to vote on Plan.
- May 13, 2020: Eagle Pass ISD's District Wide Education Improvement Committee held a public meeting to allow for public comment via public hearing and voted unanimously to approve the District of Innovation Plan.
- May 14, 2020: The Board of Trustees voted to approve the District of Innovation Plan by affirmative two-thirds majority at a regular School Board Meeting.

**District Advisory Committee**

On February 11, 2020 EPISD Board of Trustees appointed committee to prepare DOI Plan.

Campus/Dept	Name	Email Address
Eagle Pass High School-ELA	Galindo, Walter	<a href="mailto:wgalindo@eaglepassisd.net">wgalindo@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Eagle Pass High School-Social Studies	Villasenor, Sylvia	<a href="mailto:svillasenor@eaglepassisd.net">svillasenor@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Vacancy - Science		
<b>Junior High Schools</b>		
Eagle Pass Junior High – Enrichment	Barrera, Indira	<a href="mailto:ibarrera@eaglepassisd.net">ibarrera@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Eagle Pass Junior High – Mathematics	Pader, Victor	<a href="mailto:vpader@eaglepassisd.net">vpader@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Memorial Junior High – Enrichment	Gonzalez, Sarah J.	<a href="mailto:sgonzalez2@eaglepassisd.net">sgonzalez2@eaglepassisd.net</a>
<b>Elementary Schools</b>		
Liberty Elementary – 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	Contreras, Alicia	<a href="mailto:acontreras3@eaglepassisd.net">acontreras3@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Seco Mines Elementary – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Villarreal, Marisa	<a href="mailto:avillarreal@eaglepassisd.net">avillarreal@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Seco Mines Elementary- 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	Diego, Margaret	<a href="mailto:mdiego@eaglepassisd.net">mdiego@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Graves Elementary – 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Ramon, Jessica	<a href="mailto:jramon@eaglepassisd.net">jramon@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Ray Darr Elementary – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Vargas, Adriana	<a href="mailto:avargas@eaglepassisd.net">avargas@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Liberty Elementary – 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Gonzalez, Mireya	<a href="mailto:mgonzalez2@eaglepassisd.net">mgonzalez2@eaglepassisd.net</a>
<b>Early Childhood Schools</b>		
Kennedy Hall – Pre-Kinder	Villalobos, Graciela	<a href="mailto:gvillalobos@eaglepassisd.net">gvillalobos@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Kennedy Hall – Kinder	Chacon, Maria	<a href="mailto:mchacon@eaglepassisd.net">mchacon@eaglepassisd.net</a>
<b>District Level Administrators</b>		
Curriculum & Instruction	Cox, John	<a href="mailto:jcox@eaglepassisd.net">jcox@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Bilingual/Fine Arts/GT	Gonzalez, Jaime	<a href="mailto:jgonzalez7@eaglepassisd.net">jgonzalez7@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Language Arts	Musquiz, Rodolfo	<a href="mailto:romusquiz@eaglepassisd.net">romusquiz@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Federal Programs	Serna, Norma	<a href="mailto:nserna@eaglepassisd.net">nserna@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Instructional Services	Camarillo, David	<a href="mailto:dcamarillo@eaglepassisd.net">dcamarillo@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Mathematics	Carreon, Rita	<a href="mailto:rcarreon@eaglepassisd.net">rcarreon@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Migrant	Chaires, Timoteo	<a href="mailto:tchaires@eaglepassisd.net">tchaires@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Science/Social Studies	Vielma, Francisco	<a href="mailto:fvielma@eaglepassisd.net">fvielma@eaglepassisd.net</a>
School Improvement/Curriculum	Martinez, Rene	<a href="mailto:rmartinez2@eaglepassisd.net">rmartinez2@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Staff Development/Parental Involv.	Harper, Lana	<a href="mailto:lharper@eaglepassisd.net">lharper@eaglepassisd.net</a>
<b>Non-Teaching Members</b>		
Ray Darr Elementary- Principal	Chacon, Veronica	<a href="mailto:vchacon@eaglepassisd.net">vchacon@eaglepassisd.net</a>
Robert E. Lee Elementary -Counselor	Melchor, Julissa	<a href="mailto:jmelchor@eaglepassisd.net">jmelchor@eaglepassisd.net</a>
ECC – Instructional Officer	Rodriguez, Veronica	<a href="mailto:vrodriguez3@eaglepassisd.net">vrodriguez3@eaglepassisd.net</a>
<b>Parent/Community Members</b>		
Business Representative	Davis, William W.	
Community Member	Casares, Asalia	
Parent Member – Liberty Elementary	Elizondo, Chriselda	
Parent Member – Liberty Elementary	Guerra, Juan	
Parent Member – San Luis, EPJ, EPHS	Ramirez, Marlen	

## **Area of Innovation**

With regard to the area of innovation Eagle Pass ISD is requesting exemption from, the District declares exemption from the listed statutory provision, 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.

## **School Start Date**

*Exemption from: TEC § 25.0811: A school district may not begin instruction for students for a school year before the fourth Monday in August.*

*Related Board Policies: EB (LEGAL)*

### ***Manner in which statute inhibits the goals of the plan***

*The statute in its current form allows no flexibility for Eagle Pass ISD to design an annual calendar to meet the varied needs of all stakeholders. Exemption from this statute will provide our District the opportunity and ability execute the innovation strategies listed below:*

- *Increased local control of the instructional calendar will allow the District to be responsive to community needs as well as meeting scheduling needs of students by aligning the District calendar with those of local universities and local districts with shared service arrangements.*
- *Exemption from this statute will help support the creation of focused professional development in conjunction with the instructional minutes' requirement.*
- *This exemption will allow the District to approach balance between the fall and spring semesters and will offer increased instructional time and planning time before STAAR/EOC State assessments as well as National Assessments (SAT/ACT etc.)*
- *Instruction will begin no earlier than the third week in August.*