

Bronte Independent School District

Learners *Becoming Leaders*

Bronte ISD

District of Innovation
2022-2023 through 2026-2027

210 Jefferson Street Bronte, Texas 76933 Phone 325/473-2511 Fax 325/473-2022

HB 1842, of the 84th Legislative Session, allows Texas districts to qualify as a District of Innovation. Districts of Innovation are able to gain local control of certain operations that are currently under the control of the Texas Education Agency.

Bronte ISD

Pathway to Success

District of Innovation Committee

Tim Siler, Superintendent
Jennifer Englert, Principal
Doug Kuhlmann, Principal
Daisy Sanchez, Counselor
Rebecca Siler, Technology Director

District of Innovation Timeline/Process:

Activity/Task

Community and staff involvement meeting

Timeframe

October 2022

Seeking input to interest into seeking designation

Oct – Dec 2022

Board Resolution

Dec 2022

Public Hearing

Dec 2022

Committee Appointment

Dec 2022

Plan posted online

Jan 2023

DAC holds Public meeting

2023

School Board approval

June 2023

Plan is implemented

June 2023

1. Start of School Year

(EB Legal)(EB Local)(Edu. Code §25.0811)

Current Law

State law currently prohibits school districts from starting class before the fourth Monday in August, unless they are year-round districts.

Proposed

Bronte ISD will start class no earlier than the third Monday in August, and will plan to end earlier in the Spring semester in order to better balance the days in the fall and spring semesters, to provide more educational days prior to scheduled state assessments, and to better align with dual-credit college courses in the Fall, Spring and Summer semesters. The primary goals of this change to create greater flexibility in the District Calendar are to improve the overall district attendance rate, to improve student success on state and local assessments, and to allow for greater opportunity for meaningful staff development throughout the school year.

2. Certifications

(DK LEGAL, DK LOCAL, DK EXHIBIT) (Ed. Code 21.044, 21.003)

Current Law

In the event a district cannot locate a certified teacher for a position or a teacher is teaching a subject outside of their certification, the district must submit a request to the Texas Education Agency. TEA then approves or denies this request. There is a lot of bureaucracy and unnecessary paperwork involved in the process.

Proposed

In order to best serve BIRD students, decisions on certification will be handled locally.

- a. The campus principal may submit to the superintendent a request to allow a certified teacher to instruct and supervise students out of their certified field. The principal must specify in writing the reason for the request and document what credentials the certified teacher possesses in which would qualify this individual to teach this subject.
- b. An individual with experience in a CTE field could be eligible to teach a vocational skill or course through a local teaching certificate. The principal will submit the request to the superintendent with all the individual's credentials. The superintendent will then approve the request if they feel the individual could be an asset to students. The superintendent will then report this action to the Board of Trustees prior to the individual beginning any employment. The employee will be at-will.
- c. In the event that the District does not have applicates for "difficult positions to fill" (Math, Science, Spanish) the Principal may submit to the superintendent a request to allow an individual with a required minimum bachelor's degree to instruct and supervise students in the position. The individual shall agree to enter and complete an alternative certification program while employed in that position. The prospective employee will be required to submit to all required history checks. The superintendent will then report this action to the Board of Trustees prior to the individual beginning any employment. The employee will be at-will, until completion of the alternative certification program.

This proposal will provide more flexibility in our scheduling and more options for our students in class offerings. We envision classrooms with multiple subjects being taught through multiple formats, in which the "teacher" will become a facilitator in student learning.