

2017-2018 Coleman ISD  
District of Innovation Plan

Student Discipline Provisions

I. (FO LEGAL & LOCAL) (Ed. Code 37.0012)

Currently

Senate Bill 107 requires the designation of a campus behavior coordinator on each campus. This designee is responsible for maintaining student discipline and the implementation of Chapter 37, Subchapter A.

Proposed

This exemption allowing CISD to abstain from the state requirement that each school have a designated campus behavior coordinator will free the district from this particular legislative requirement that was put into place as a solution to a non-existent problem in CISD. Campus principals and assistant principals already serve in this capacity and a requirement to designate someone for this position is not necessary.

II. Uniform School Start Date

(EB LEGAL) (Ed. Code 25.0811)

Currently

Students may not begin school before the 4th Monday of August. However, for many years districts had the option of applying for a waiver to adopt an earlier start date. The vast majority of districts applied for the waiver and would begin the 3rd Monday, some even going as early as the 2nd Monday. Several years ago, the legislature took away all waivers and stated that districts may not begin until the 4th Monday, with no exceptions.

Proposed

This exemption will allow CISD the flexibility to make a local decision on each school year start date to best meet the needs of the students and local community. This empowers us to personalize learning, increase college and career readiness, and balance the amount of instructional time per semester. In addition, by having the flexibility in the start and end of the school year, students will be able to enroll in college courses that start in early June, thereby increasing college and career readiness. Removing the uniform start date could also let the CISD start classes as a short week, easing the transition for students entering kindergarten, middle school, and high school. This will also allow for more flexible professional development opportunities for our staff. CISD will not start school prior to the 2nd Monday of August.

### III. Probationary Contracts

(DCA LEGAL) (Ed. Code Subchapter C Sec. 21.102)

#### Currently

The probationary contract may be renewed for two additional one-year periods, for a maximum permissible probationary contract period of three school years, except that the probationary period may not exceed one year for a person who has been employed as a teacher in public education for at least five of the eight years preceding employment by the district.

#### Proposed

This exemption from probationary contracts being limited to one year for a person who has been employed as a teacher or administrator in public education for at least five of the eight years preceding employment by the district will allow CISD extended time for the evaluation and training of new personnel. CISD is committed to effectively managing teacher contracts and this exemption will provide the district with the flexibility to keep all professional employees new to the district on probationary contracts for a maximum permissible period of three school years.

### IV. Teacher Certification

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

#### Currently

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.

#### Proposed

This exemption from the current state teacher certification requirements that inhibit the CISD's ability to hire teachers for hard-to-fill teaching positions will allow the district to establish local qualification and training requirements. This exemption directly supports the move from "highly qualified" requirements in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). CISD will have the flexibility to hire external or internal applicants that do not have traditional state certifications. This will enrich applicant pools in specific content areas if certified teachers are not available to teach those courses. In addition, this exemption will afford the District the flexibility to hire professionals in certain trades or vocations to teach the crafts of those trades or vocations (such as welding, fine arts, health sciences, law, etc.) if certified teachers are not available to teach those courses.