



Rio Grande City Consolidated Independent School District
District of Innovation Plan

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Rio Grande City CISD District of Innovation Plan

2019-2023

Introduction

The District of Innovation concept was passed into law by the 84th Legislature Session as per House Bill 1842, Texas Education Code, Chapter 124.001. The law provides the opportunity for districts to seek exemptions from certain section of the Texas Education Code. School districts follow procedures for adoption as outlined by the Texas Education Agency and Texas Association of School Boards.

As a District of Innovation, Rio Grande City CISD developed a local innovation plan that will execute greater local control and flexibility to maximize instructional days through an innovative instructional calendar, addressing the needs of RGCCISD students and staff.

District of Innovation Timeline

The following timeline depicts possible dates to complete the DOI process and submit a DOI plan to the Board of Trustees for approval.

- March 26th Intent of District of Innovation was presented at a work-session to the Board of Trustees
- March 26th Board of Trustees adopted the Resolution
- March 26th Board of Trustees approves for the Superintendent to appoint the District of Innovation Committees.
- April 5th A Public Hearing on the District of Innovation was held to present information and gather public input regarding the designation of Rio Grande City CISD as a District of Innovation. The School Board formally decided to pursue the opportunity to become a District of Innovation with appointment members to the District Advisory Committee to develop a local innovation plan
- April 15th District Advisory Committee drafts a local innovation plan on modification to the school year calendar
- April 15th District of Innovation Committee approves the District of Innovation Plan.
- April 16th – May 15th District of Innovation Plan posted online for 30 days

- April 16th Notify Commissioner of Education and TEA of the District's intent to become a District of Innovation (no approval required)
- May 14th Public Hearing to approve DOI final Plan with a majority vote of the committee members TEC 12.A005 (a)(3)
- May 14th School Board approves final plan by 2/3 majority TEC 12A.005 (b)
- May 15th If approved by Board of Trustees, the Rio Grande City CISD sends notification to Commissioner of Education of final Board approval of Rio Grande City CISD becoming a District of Innovation. A copy of the plan is included in the packet.
- May 15th The final District of Innovation Plan is posted on the Rio Grande City CISD website.

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Rio Grande City Consolidated Independent School District
District of Innovation Plan
District of Innovation Implementation Period: 2019-2023

Innovation

First Day of Instruction (School Start Date):

Texas Education Code Section 25.0811: A school district may not begin instruction for students for a school year before the fourth Monday in August.

Rio Grande City CISD District of Innovation Committee has determined that a school calendar that offers the option to begin the first day of instruction prior to the fourth Monday in August as currently required by the TEC will provide the District the ability to effectively meet the instructional needs of all students. The benefits for Rio Grande City CISD are the following:

- Students may begin earlier than the fourth Monday of August. This earlier start date will allow the opportunity for a more balanced first and second semester number of days of instruction.
- Provide classroom teachers the opportunity to deliver more equitable learning experiences for students in the fall and spring semesters.
- Align dual credit courses with post-secondary institutions such as UTRGV and South Texas College.
- More instructional days prior to mandatory state testing.
- High School graduating seniors will have opportunity to enroll in summer college courses with a finalized official high school transcript.
- Increased flexibility governing education programming.
- Empowerment to innovate and think differently.
- Greater local control.

Rio Grande City Consolidated Independent School District

District of Innovation Committee Members:

Name	Title
Mr. Roel A. Gonzalez	Superintendent
Dr. Arcadio Salinas	Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Leticia Trevino	Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Adolfo Pena	Assistant Superintendent/Principal
Mrs. Diana Robles	Chief Financial Officer
Mrs. Virginia Gonzalez	Director Federal Programs
Mrs. Maricela O. Garcia	Assistant Director Federal Programs
Mrs. Elsa V. Morris	Executive Director
Mrs. Patricia O. Soto	Coordinator
Mrs. Olga Smedley	Administrator
Mrs. Karen Garcia	Administrator
Mr. Leonel T. Guzman	Administrator
Mrs. Adela Rivera	Coordinator
Mrs. Cindy Solis	Specialist
Mrs. Marissa Saldivar	Principal
Mrs. Lilliana Olivarez	Principal
Mrs. Monique P. Villarreal	Principal
Mr. Federick Margo	Teacher
Mr. Orlando A. Guerra	Teacher
Mrs. Yvonne Berlanga	Teacher
Mr. Hilario Patiño	Teacher
Mrs. Brenda Arredondo	Teacher
Mr. Ever Treviño	Teacher

Ms. Briseida Maldonado

Teacher

Ms. Kristian Treviño

Teacher

Mrs. Ariana Salinas

Parent

Mrs. Nery J. Guerra

Parent

Mrs. Araceli Benavides

Parent

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Board of Trustees

Eduardo “Eddie” Ramirez, President

Leticia O. Lopez, Vice-President

Basilio D. Villarreal, Jr., Secretary

Daria “Dr. B” Babineaux, Member

Noe Castillo, Member

Daniel J. Garcia, Member

Eleazar Velasquez, Jr., Member

District Administration

Roel Gonzalez, Interim Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Arcadio J. Salinas, III, Asst. Supt. for Human Resources & Prof. Accountability

Dr. Leticia Trevino, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction

Serapio Trillayes, Executive Director for Curriculum & Instruction

Adolfo Pena, Jr., Asst. Supt. for Administrative Support

Diana Robles-Mendez, Chief Financial Officer

Elsa V. Morris, Executive Director for Assessment, Accountability and School Improvement