

# GALENA PARK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT LOCAL INNOVATION PLAN

1.

### Rationale

Exemption from TEC 21.044 and 21.003 would enrich applicant pools in specific content areas and enable more students to obtain the educational benefit of career and technical course offerings.

## 2. School Start Date

(EB Legal) (TEC 25.0811)

To best serve the students and community of Galena Park ISD, we propose ~~that the~~ Trustees allow the Superintendent the authority to amend the start date of ~~the~~ school year based on information from ~~health~~ departments, local, state and/or federal officials and TEA.

~~To best serve the students of Galena Park ISD, we propose to be allowed to create a school calendar which serves the needs of our local community. We propose moving the mandatory start date back one week, so that students will begin school no earlier than the third week of August.~~

### Rationale



## 6. Designation of Campus Behavior Coordinator

(FO LEGAL) (TEC 37.0012)

To best serve the needs of students and staff in Galena Park ISD, we propose the District abstain from designating only one person as the Campus Behavior Coordinator.

### Rationale

Galena Park ISD's elementary campuses currently have at least two administrators: one principal and one assistant principal, who by job description, serve in this capacity already. Our secondary schools each have one principal and multiple assistant principals who all work together to ensure compliance with Chapter 37, Subchapter A. Our District believes in a collaborative approach to discipline, with multiple people providing emotional and social support to students, rather than just one person. Exemption from this requirement will allow the option of increasing collaboration in regard to student discipline, as outlined in the Galena Park ISD's Student Code of Conduct.

## 7. Probationary Contracts

(DCA LEGAL) (TEC Code Section 21.102)

To best serve the needs of students and staff in Galena Park ISD, we propose the District be allowed to extend the probationary period to exceed one year if the person has been employed in education for at least five of the previous eight years. Further, when an employee currently employed with the District transitions into a new position (such as an assistant principal moving into a principal position), we propose the District be allowed to place the employee on a probationary contract for up to three years.

This exemption provides flexibility so that the superintendent may approve recommendations for a second and/or third year probationary contract for teachers, administrators, counselors, nurses or any employee who has been employed in public education for at least five of the previous eight years, and has completed his or her first probationary year with the District, as well as any employee who has transitioned into a new position with the District, in order to

## 8. Exemptions from Future TEC Mandates

To best serve our local Galena Park ISD community, staff, and students, Galena Park ISD includes a provision in our Local Innovation Plan for the District to maintain ~~control~~ over any future, eligible Texas Education Code mandates, which may be exempted by a 2/3 majority vote of the Galena Park ISD Board of Trustees.