

# Terrell Independent School District

## Executive Summary Report

Date	District Guiding Pillar	
May 18, 2026	<p><b>Goal 1:</b> Student Achievement: Accelerate student learning to dramatically increase the number of students who perform on or above grade level.</p> <p><b>Goal 2:</b> School Culture: Create safe and secure learning environments that focus on the social, emotional, and cultural needs of every student.</p> <p><b>Goal 3:</b> Human Capital and Resources: Develop the capacity of every teacher and staff member to deliver rigorous, enriching learning experiences to every student and ensure the safety of all.</p> <p><b>Goal 4:</b> Organizational Efficiency: Develop a resource allocation plan and long-term facilities plan that supports and maintains the financial stability of the district, is aligned with identified priorities, addresses future growth and facility improvement needs, and represents being good stewards of taxpayer funds.</p> <p><b>Goal 5:</b> Community Engagement and Outreach: Elevate district pride by strengthening partnerships with families, the community, and the business community.</p>	

### Agenda Item: Consider Approval of the Terrell ISD District of Innovation Renewal Plan from June 2026- June 2031

#### Summary:

The purpose of this summary is to provide the Board of Trustees with an overview of the proposed **District of Innovation (DOI) Renewal Plan**. Originally adopted to provide the District with increased local control, the current plan is nearing its expiration. Renewal is essential to maintain existing flexibilities and implement new strategies that align with our 2026 Strategic Vision.

The District of Innovation concept allows public schools to access many of the flexibilities available to open-enrollment charter schools. Our District has utilized these exemptions to:

- **Customize the School Calendar:** Starting the school year earlier to balance semesters and provide proactive intervention.
- **Enhance Career & Technical Education (CTE):** Hiring industry experts to teach specialized courses without traditional state certification.
- **Optimize Class Size Reporting:** Streamlining administrative burdens while maintaining high-quality instruction.

The 2026–2031 Renewal Plan retains successful existing exemptions while introducing targeted new flexibilities:

1. **Instructional Methods:** Expansion of "Blended Learning" models that allow for non-traditional seat time in high school elective courses.
2. **Teacher Certification:** Expanded flexibility for hard-to-fill positions in STEM and Language Other than English programs, ensuring every classroom is led by a content expert.
3. **Behavioral Health Flexibilities:** Adjustments to certain disciplinary placement timelines to allow for more robust restorative justice practices.

The renewal process followed a transparent, multi-stage timeline ensuring compliance with state requirements:

- **Innovation Committee Formation:** Composed of teachers, parents, and community members.
- **Public Hearing:** Held on **April 29, 2026**, to gather initial community feedback and discuss the proposed exemptions.
- **Public Review:** The final draft was posted on the District website for the required 30-day public comment period.

The Renewal Plan is **fiscally neutral**. While it does not require additional funding, it creates operational efficiencies that allow for better allocation of existing resources toward student-facing initiatives.

The Administration and the District Innovation Committee recommend the Board of Trustees **approve** the District of Innovation Renewal Plan. Approval ensures the District continues to have the legal standing to bypass specific state mandates that hinder local innovation and student success.

#### Attachments:

[District of Innovation Renewal Plan](#)

#### Administrative Recommendation:

Administration recommends the Board of Trustees approve District of Innovation Renewal Plan June 2026 -June 2031

#### Budget/Funding

N/A