

Consider approval of TTESS 2 as the District evaluation system for teachers and other professionals.

1. Background:

T-TESS is used by 89% of Texas school systems and plays a central role in supporting teacher development and instructional quality across the state. With the updated educator standards, TEA has undertaken a multi-year process to align T-TESS with these standards and address educator and school system feedback. The refresh process has been guided by several principles: aligning to updated standards, reducing subjectivity, increasing clarity and universal applicability, and maintaining continuity with the current system. The goal is to ensure that T-TESS continues to define excellent teaching for Texas educators and supports districts in developing, supporting, and recognizing effective instruction.

2. Process:

The updated rubric, referred to as T-TESS 2, includes 12 dimensions and maintains four domains: Instructional Preparation, Instructional Delivery, Learning Environment, and Professional Practices and Responsibilities. The rubric streamlines and clarifies expectations, reduces redundancy, and incorporates research-based instructional practices. Some key shifts include: • The addition of indicators within dimensions. Indicators clearly name each skill and include evidence of student learning at higher performance levels. • Performance levels remain on a five-point scale, with clearer distinctions between levels. The rubric now spans from 'Improvement Needed' to 'Distinguished,' which allows skills to build as teachers progress. Southwest ISD applied to be a pilot program for this new evaluation system and will go into training and implementation this fall.

3. Fiscal Impact:

None, as it allows us to use the Eduphoria evaluation platform. This will eliminate the need to purchase a separate evaluation program from Frontline.

4. Recommendation:

That the Board approve TTESS 2 for teachers and other professionals.

5. Required:

Board action.