

Areas of Innovation to Add / Modify:

1. First Day of School

(EB Legal, Local) (TEC25.0811)

Summary of TEC: Currently TEC 25.0811 does not allow school districts to begin instructional days for students before the fourth Monday in August. In addition, TEC 25.0812 mandates schools to schedule the last day of school no earlier than May 15th.

Innovation/Rationale:

PBT ISD reserves the right to initiate instructional days prior to the fourth Monday of August and end school prior to the 15th of May. This flexibility is an effort to maximize instructional time before state assessment exams and allow greater flexibility in creating the district calendar. Furthermore, beginning instructional days prior to the fourth Monday of August allows the district additional minutes, which are crucial to the “4-Day Option” format currently being researched.

2. Educator Contract Days

(TEC 21.401)

Summary of TEC: As it stands, educator contracts must be for a minimum of 10 months’ service during which the educator must provide a minimum 187 days of service.

Innovation / Rationale:

Teacher Contract Days (DCB Legal, DCB Local, TEC 21.401): Current education law in Chapter 21 defines a teacher contract as a 10 month contract equivalent to 187 days. The proposal would reduce teacher contract days from 187 to a decreased length with no effect on teacher salaries. This would better align the teacher days to 75, 600 minutes required of students.

- Will increase the daily rate the district pays teachers
- Will enhance teacher recruitment
- Will improve teacher morale

3. Planning and Preparation Time

(TEC 21.404)

Summary of TEC: Education code states that teachers must receive at least 450 minutes of planning/preparation time within each two-week period. Planning and preparation period may not be less than 45 minutes per instructional day.

Innovation/Rationale:

As a district, we need to have the flexibility in developing teacher schedules and planning time. It is not the intent of PBT ISD to abolish planning / preparation time, instead the district reserves the right to shorten the minimum 450 minutes per two week period utilizing the time created by the “4-Day Option” schedule during which teachers would receive a minimum of 360 minutes per two week period.