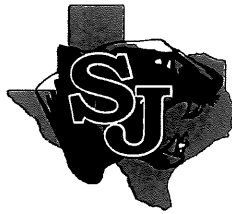


SAINT JO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



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Why would Saint Jo ISD want to become a District of Innovation?

First Question: What is a "District of Innovation"?

An exciting opportunity! A District of Innovation (DOI) is a concept passed by the 84th Texas Legislature that gives traditional independent school districts most of the flexibilities available to open enrollment charter schools, including exemption from many requirements mandated in the Texas Education Code. To create a DOI, a school district must adopt an innovation plan for its district.

Why choose a District of Innovation?

Freedom to make decisions about Saint Jo ISD at the local level. A local school district may want to pursue specific innovations in curriculum, instruction, governance, parent or community involvement, school calendar, budgeting, or other ideas. Essentially, innovation plans are about local control. Saint Jo ISD's innovation plan will be unique to the school district and the community.

Is there a funding impact?

Not a direct one. School district funding will remain the same for Saint Jo ISD when it becomes a DOI. Depending on the innovation plan, the District may have some flexibility in the use of compensatory education funds. As a DOI, Saint Jo ISD has the ability to pursue flexibility choices, especially with respect to the school calendar and CTE certification, which could impact funding calculations positively.

What impact could designation as a District of Innovation have on district policy?

Policy changes will correlate with innovation plan changes. As a DOI, revisions to local policies may be required as well as adjustments to legal policies to reflect that some legal provisions may be affected by the District's innovation plan. As the innovation plan is sculpted by the committee, the District will evaluate necessary changes to Saint Jo ISD policies.

How long does an innovation plan stay in effect?

Hopefully as long as it benefits the District! Under current law, the plan may have a term of up to five years, and it may be amended, rescinded, or renewed during that time period.