District of Innovation Timeline
Mabank ISD

☐ Friday, February 19 – 1:00, MISD Conference Room

Initial meeting with administrative staff to discuss preliminary thoughts and discuss possible members of the District of Innovation Committee.

☐ Monday, February 29– 8:30, MISD Conference Room

Meeting with administrative staff to further discuss thoughts and discuss possible members of the District of Innovation Committee.

☐ Monday, March 14

☐ 2:00, Special Board Meeting – Board of Trustees approve resolution to hold a public hearing to discuss the possibility of using HB 1842 to become a District of Innovation.

☐ 12:15, Special Board Meeting

Public Hearing to explain and discuss the possibility of becoming a District of Innovation

Approve a motion to pursue local, “District of Innovation” plan

Board of Trustees approve the members of the District of Innovation Committee

☐ Monday, March 21- 3:15, MISD Administration

Initial meeting of the District of Innovation Committee

☐ Monday, March 21- 3:45, MISD Administration

District Advisory Committee Meeting

March 21-March 30

Window for campus faculty meetings to preview District of Innovation plan.

March 23-April 25

Post the District of Innovation Plan on the district website for 30 days

Monday, April 25- 6:30 Regular MISD Board Meeting

Approve the District of Innovation Plan

Approve the 2016-2017 school calendar

Monday, May 9

Update all policy changes with TASB

Monday, May 21, 2018

District Advisory Committee Meeting for approval to amend DOI plan to include probationary contracts of teachers new to the district.

Monday, June 25, 2018 Regular MISD Board Meeting

Approve the amendment to District of Innovation Plan
What is a District of Innovation

A District of Innovation is a concept passed by the 84th Legislative Session in House Bill 1842, effective immediately, that gives traditional school districts most of the flexibilities available to Texas’ open enrollment charter schools. To access these flexibilities, a school district must adopt an innovation plan as set forth in Texas Education Code chapter 12A.

What legal requirements can Mabank ISD avoid by becoming a District of Innovation?

1. Uniform school start date (EB Legal): This will allow MISD to provide a calendar that addresses student instruction and focused professional development plan in conjunction with the new instructional minutes rather than instructional days required.

2. Class size ratio (EEB Legal): Currently K-4th grade classes are to be held to a 22 students to 1 teacher ratio according to state law. When the classes exceed, a waiver to TEA is required. Annually students must be transported between the three neighborhood schools to maintain this ratio which reduces the positive attributes of neighborhood schools for all students. This will allow MISD more flexibility for the elementary campuses.

3. Teacher Certification (DK Legal and Local): In the event a district cannot locate a certified teacher for a position or a teacher is teaching a subject outside of their certification, a district must submit a request to TEA. In order to best serve MISD students, this will allow decisions on certification to be handled locally.

4. Probationary Contracts (DCA Legal): Currently, for experienced teachers new to the district, the probationary period may not exceed one year if the person has been employed as a teacher in public education for at least five of the previous eight years. This time period is not sufficient to evaluate the teacher’s effectiveness in the classroom since teacher contract timelines demand that employment decisions must be made prior to state assessment results. For experienced teachers, counselors, or nurses new to the district that have been employed as a teacher, counselor, or nurse in public education for at least five of the last eight previous years, a probationary contract may be issued for up to two years from the last date of district employment.

Summary of Process

- MISD Board consider to Adopt a Resolution
- Conduct Public Hearing
- Decision to decline or appoint a District of Innovation Committee
- Develop a Strategic Plan
- Provide Plan for Review (Public/District Innovation Team/TEA)
- District of Innovation Team votes on Strategic Plan
- MISD Board votes on Strategic Plan

HB 1842

Districts of Innovation

HB 1842 provides MISD with the opportunity to design a strategic plan according to the needs and resources of our district while maximizing local control.

What impact could innovations have on school funding?

School district funding will remain substantially the same for Districts of Innovation. The MISD Administrative team predicts a positive impact to the budget.

Plan approved by MISD District Advisory Committee on March 21, 2016
Proposed District of Innovation Team

2. Scott Adams  Assistant Superintendent of Business Operations
3. Brad Koskelin  Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
4. Dena Mojica  Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
5. Jes Satterwhite  MHS Principal
6. Barbie Conrad  MJH Principal
7. Debbie DeRosa  MIS Principal
8. Kevyn Pate  Lakeview Elementary Principal
9. Chelsea Capehart  Central Elementary Principal
10. Brandi Dyer  Southside Elementary Principal
11. Arynn Rasmussen  MHS Assistant Principal
12. Virginia Pfoh  MJH Teacher
13. Shana Cockrell  CE Teacher
14. Victoria Flores  LV Teacher
15. Cheryl Roberts  MIS Teacher
16. April Morris  SS Teacher
17. Kenneth Odom  MISD Board of Trustees President
18. Steve Schiff  Community Representative
19. Robin Neighbors  Parent Representative/ Community Representative

MISD Mission Statement

Mabank ISD will provide a collaborative learning environment for educators and students leading to the understanding that we are all part of something bigger than ourselves. We will produce within each student the development of a creative mind, healthy body and a servant’s heart enabling each Mabank graduate to contribute to our global society in positive and significant ways.