



# SPRINGTOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**MIKE KELLEY**  
Superintendent

*"Home of the Fighting Porcupines"*

**DARLENE PENNINGTON**  
Administrative Assistant

March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Commissioner Mike Morath  
Texas Education Agency  
1701 N. Congress Avenue  
Austin, TX 78701

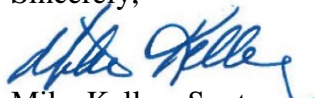
Dear Commissioner Morath,

The Springtown Independent School District ("District") has completed the process required by House Bill 1842 (HB 1842), enacted by the 84<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature and codified in the Texas Education Code Chapter (TEC) 12A, for the Board of Trustees to designate Springtown ISD as a District of Innovation. On November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016, the Board unanimously adopted a resolution for the District to initiate the process of designation as a District of Innovation as required by TEC 12A.001. On December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Trustees held a public hearing to consider whether the District should develop a local innovation plan and also approved creation of a District of Innovation Steering Committee to develop a local innovation plan as required by TEC 12A.002. The constitution of the District of Innovation Steering Committee was approved by the Board on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016, as required by TEC 12A.002. The District of Innovation Steering Committee developed the local innovation plan which was posted online via the District's website and social media for a 30 day comment period on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017, as required by TEC 12A.002 and TEC 12A.005.

On March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the District Instructional Advisory Committee (DIAC) created pursuant to TEC §11.251 held a public meeting to consider and vote on the Local Innovation Plan as required by TEC §12A.005. A majority of the DIAC approved the plan, and the Board voted in favor of the Local Innovation Plan on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at a public meeting conducted in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. The plan was adopted by a unanimous affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of the Board as required by TEC §12A.005. The District's local innovation plan can be found at <http://www.springtownisd.net/Page/8826> and includes exemption from the following sections of the Texas Education Code:

- §21.003 *Certification Required*
- §21.102 *Probationary Contracts*
- §25.081 *Minimum Minutes of Instruction*
- §37.007 *Alternative Settings for Behavior Management*
- §25.0811 *First Day of Instruction*
- §25.0812 *Last Day of School*
- §25.036 *Transfer of Student*
- §37.0012 *Designation of Campus Behavior Coordinator*

Sincerely,

  
Mike Kelley, Supt.  
Springtown ISD



## Figure: 19 TAC §102.1307(d)

### Innovation District

Please submit, on district letterhead, a letter to the commissioner of education stating the date that the board of trustees adopted a resolution to develop a local innovation plan for the designation of the district as an Innovation District.

A local innovation plan must be developed for a school district before the district may be designated as an Innovation District. A local plan must provide for a comprehensive educational program for the district, which may include:

- 1) Innovative Curriculum
- 2) Instructional Methods
- 3) Community Participation
- 4) Governance of Campuses
- 5) Parental Involvement
- 6) Modifications to the school day or year
- 7) Provisions regarding the district budget and sustainable program funding
- 8) Accountability and assessment measures that exceed the requirements of state and federal law; and
- 9) Any other innovations prescribed by the board of trustees.

A local innovation plan must identify requirements imposed by the Education Code that inhibit the goals of the plan from which the district should be exempted on adoption of the plan. The local innovation plan should specify the manner in which a particular statute inhibits one or more goals of the plan. Please use the form below to check the statutes specifically identified in your district's local innovation plan as inhibiting a goal of the plan. Checking a specific statute does not necessarily indicate eligibility for an exemption from all subsections of the statute. The local innovation plan controls with regard to the specific exemptions adopted by a district. The form below provides a reporting mechanism to fulfill the reporting requirements of the statute. Entire sections of code may not be eligible for exemption and each district should consult its legal counsel in developing its innovation plan.

Exemptions claimed for an Innovation District apply only to the specific provision of the Texas Education Code (TEC) cited, which may or may not be governed by a separate legal requirement. The exemption does not relieve the district of any requirement imposed by other state or federal law or a duty imposed under federal regulation, grant compliance, agency rule applicable to a charter school or a local legal requirement. Each district should consult its legal counsel to ensure adoption of necessary local policies to ensure compliance with all applicable legal requirements.

Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of exemptions.

Term of Plan: \_\_\_\_\_

Plan applies to:  Entire District  
 Campus (list) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

## **Chapter 11 – School Districts**

### **Subchapter D. Powers and Duties of Board of Trustees of Independent School Districts**

- §11.1511 (b)(5), (14) Specific Powers and Duties of Board
- §11.162 School Uniforms

### **Subchapter F. District-Level and Site Based Decision-Making**

- §11.251 Planning and Decision-Making Process
- §11.252 District-Level Planning and Decision-Making
- §11.253 Campus Planning and Site-Based Decision-Making
- §11.255 Dropout Prevention Review

## **Chapter 21 – Educators**

### **Subchapter A – General Provisions**

- §21.002 Teacher Employment Contracts
- §21.003 Certification Required
- §21.0031 Failure to Obtain Certification; Contract Void

### **Subchapter B – Certification of Educators**

- §21.051 Rules Regarding Field-Based Experience and Options for Field Experience and Internships.
- §21.053 Presentation and Recording of Certificates
- §21.057 Parental Notification

**Subchapter C – Probationary Contracts**

**Subchapter D – Continuing Contracts**

**Subchapter E – Term Contracts**

### **Subchapter H – Appraisals and Incentives**

- §21.352 Local Role
- §21.353 Appraisal on Basis of Classroom Teaching Performance
- §21.354 Appraisal of Certain Administrators
- §21.3541 Appraisal and Professional Development System for Principals

### **Subchapter I – Duties and Benefits**

- §21.401 Minimum Service Required
- §21.402 Minimum Salary Schedule for Certain Professional Staff
- §21.4021 Furloughs

- §21.4022 Required Process for Development of Furlough Program or Other Salary Reduction Proposal
  - §21.403 Placement on Minimum Salary Schedule
  - §21.4031 Professional Staff Service Records
  - §21.4032 Reductions in Salaries of Classroom Teachers and Administrators
  - §21.404 Planning and Preparation Time
  - §21.405 Duty-Free Lunch
  - §21.406 Denial of Compensation Based On Absence for Religious Observance Prohibited
  - §21.407 Requiring or Coercing Teachers to Join Groups, Clubs, Committees, or Organizations: Political Affairs
  - §21.408 Right To Join or Not To Join Professional Association
  - §21.409 Leave Of Absence for Temporary Disability
  - §21.415 Employment Contracts
- Subchapter J – Staff Development**
- §21.451 Staff Development Requirements
  - §21.452 Developmental Leaves of Absence
  - §21.458 Mentors

## **Chapter 22 – School District Employees and Volunteers**

### **Subchapter A – Rights, Duties, and Benefits**

- §22.001 Salary Deductions for Professional Dues
- §22.002 Assignment, Transfer, or Pledge of Compensation
- §22.003 Minimum Personal Leave Program
- §22.006 Discrimination Based on Jury Service Prohibited
- §22.007 Incentives for Early Retirement
- §22.011 Requiring or Coercing Employees to Make Charitable Contributions

## **Chapter 25 – Admission, Transfer, and Attendance**

### **Subchapter C – Operation of Schools and School Attendance**

- §25.0811 First Day of Instruction
- §25.0812 Last Day of School
- §25.083 School Day Interruptions
- §25.092 Minimum Attendance for Class Credit or Final Grade

### **Subchapter D – Student/Teacher Ratios; Class Size**

- §25.111 Student/Teacher Ratios
- §25.112 Class Size
- §25.113 Notice of Class Size
- §25.114 Student/Teacher Ratios in Physical Education Classes; Class Size

## **Chapter 37 – Discipline; Law and Order**

### **Subchapter A – Alternative Setting for Behavior Management**

- §37.0012 Designation of Campus Behavior Coordinator
- §37.002 Removal by Teacher

## **Chapter 44 –Fiscal Management**

### **Subchapter B – Purchases; Contracts**

- §44.031 Purchasing Contracts
- §44.0331 Management Fees Under Certain Cooperative Purchasing Contracts
- §44.0352 Competitive Sealed Proposals
- §44.042 Preference to Texas and United States Products
- §44.043 Right To Work
- §44.047 Purchase or Lease of Automated External Defibrillator

### **Subchapter Z – Miscellaneous Provisions**

- §44.901 Energy Savings Performance Contracts
- §44.902 Long-Range Energy Plan to Reduce Consumption of Electric Energy
- §44.903 Energy-Efficient Light Bulbs in Instructional Facilities
- §44.908 Expenditure of Local Funds

## **Chapter 45 – School District Funds**

### **Subchapter G – School District Depositories**

- §45.205 Term of Contract
- §45.206 Bid Or Request for Proposal Notices; Bid and Proposal Forms
- §45.207 Award of Contract
- §45.208 Depository Contract; Bond
- §45.209 Investment of District Funds

## **Other**

Please list any additional exemption required for your Innovation District Plan:

- §25.081 **Minimum Minutes of Instruction**
- §37.007 **Alternative Settings for Behavior Management**
- §25.036 **Transfer of Student**
- §21.102 **Probationary Contracts**