

**Point Isabel Independent School District
District of Innovation Local Plan
Frequency Asked Questions**

1. Is there a process that the district will go through before including any of the other provisions? For example: Eliminating teacher contracts.... Will this go to DEIC, School board, etc. before it takes effect?

Changes to teacher contracts is one of the many provisions provided in TAC 102.JJ for consideration, but not a consideration for PIISD. Any changes to the plan in subsequent years would require repeating the initial process with input from stakeholders and Board approval.

2. How do we know that 3-4 years down the line, the district will not do away with teacher contracts?

Changes to teacher contracts is one of the many provisions provided in TAC 102.JJ for consideration, but not a consideration for PIISD. Any changes to the plan in subsequent years would require repeating the initial process with input from stakeholders and Board approval.

3. Will teacher salaries ever be decreased to meet the minimum?

Changes to teacher salary schedules is one of the many provisions provided in TAC 102.JJ for consideration, but not a consideration for PIISD. Any changes to the plan in subsequent years would require repeating the initial process with input from stakeholders and Board approval. The goal of PIISD has always been to have competitive teacher salaries to attract and retain the highest quality educators.

4. Will the class ratio be increased to 25 to 1 for all teachers this year? Or is there a schedule?

The goal of PIISD is to provide a high quality education to every student. Currently PIISD exceeds the 22:1 ratio in some classes during the year. The enrollment in grades K-4 is monitored daily. Enrollment beyond 22:1 requires a waiver be approved by the Board and submitted to TEA on a monthly basis. Eliminating the requirement to file the waiver is the intent of the flexibility. Establishing a district cap of 25:1 for K-4 is not intended to automatically increase class sizes on a routine basis. Class size increases are considered on a case by case basis with the best interest of the students at the forefront.

5. Will teachers ever be required to do a duty-free lunch?

Changes to teacher duties is one of the many provisions provided in TAC 102.JJ for consideration, but not a consideration for PIISD. Any changes to the plan in subsequent years would require repeating the initial process with input from stakeholders and Board approval.

6. Will teacher planning periods ever be eliminated?

Changes to teacher planning periods is one of the many provisions provided in TAC 102.JJ for consideration, but not a consideration for PIISD. Any changes to the plan in subsequent years would require repeating the initial process with input from stakeholders and Board approval.

7. Will T-TESS be eliminated? How are teachers going to be evaluated?

Changes to the teacher evaluation system is one of the many provisions provided in TAC 102.JJ for consideration, but not a consideration for PIISD. Any changes to the plan in subsequent years would require repeating the initial process with input from stakeholders and Board approval.

8. Will SBDM be eliminated down the road?

Elimination of SBDM/DEIC is one of the many provisions provided in TAC 102.JJ for consideration, but not a consideration for PIISD. Any changes to the plan in subsequent years would require repeating the initial process with input from stakeholders and Board approval.

9. Will non-certified teachers be hired at the elementary level to replace certified teacher positions?

Changes to teacher certification requirements is one of the many provisions provided in TAC 102.JJ for consideration, but not a consideration for PIISD. Any changes to the plan in subsequent years would require repeating the initial process with input from stakeholders and Board approval.

10. The PIISD D-of-I plan seems to affect the HS only. Are there any major changes for the elementary schools?

The implementation of the blended learning plan for the High School requires many of the flexibilities delineated in the District of Innovation plan. The budget provisions to fund blended learning will benefit all campuses. The class ratio cap of 25 could affect grades K-4 at the elementary level.

11. Will PIISD consider starting school earlier in the year?

The current plan does not address an earlier school start date. The location of the district in a major tourism zone could pose difficulty for students/staff who work in the summer, as well as other complications by starting the school year earlier. Any changes to the plan in subsequent years would require repeating the initial process with input from stakeholders and Board approval.