



# VAN VLECK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Board of Trustees

TONY KUCERA

*President*

CASEY KILE

*Vice-President*

TERRY BLACKMON

*Secretary*

LAUREN KUBECKA

*Member*

MARCUS MOSS

*Member*

DONNIE O'CONNELL

*Member*

KEVIN WARD

*Member*

## Administrative Team

CHRISTIE DEMENT

*Superintendent*

GAYLE BLACKMON, RTSBA, CPA

*Chief Financial Officer*

ROBERT BLACKMON

*Operations*

KAMI BLUDAU

*VVJH Dean of Students*

MARSHA BROWN

*AP VVE Principal*

KARI BUTTON

*Curriculum*

& Federal Programs

KRISTI CHAMPION

*Business Operations*

DOLORES GARCIA

*Food Services*

SHANNON GARCIA

*AP VVHS Principal*

AMY HACKWORTH,

*Student Information*

*Systems & Assessment*

PAT HACKWORTH

*Superintendent's Secretary*

BRANDON HOOD

*VVJH Principal*

RANDY KEYS

*Technology*

KIM KUNZ

*Captain*

TIFFANY ONCKEN

*Librarian/Media Specialist*

LYNDEE OWEN, BSN, RN, NCSN

*District Nurse*

VICTOR PENA

*VVE Principal*

SHANNON PERMENTER

*Interim Athletic Director*

STACIE PRESLEY

*GCSE SUPERVISOR*

MATT STEINER

*VVHS Principal*

STEPHANIE WARD

*Federal Prog. Coordinator*

FRED WESSELSKI

*Chief of Police*

## Van Vleck Independent School District of Innovation

### Plan Amendment

House Bill 1842, passed in the 84<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislative Session, provides an opportunity for Texas public school districts to modify state requirements at the local level to better meet the needs of their unique student populations in order to prepare them for success and lifelong learning.

Due to the constant changes in the educational landscape, Van Vleck ISD seeks to maximize responsiveness to the district's vision for the future, to evolve and improve critical systemic components that support family and community engagement, the delivery of instruction, the recruitment and retention of highly qualified staff, as well as the safety and security of our school community.

The Van Vleck ISD District of Innovation Plan was amended on August 29, 2023, in accordance with EC11.251. This amendment does not change the date of the current plan.

Term: The term of the plan is for five years, beginning in January August 1, 2019 through July 31, 2024 unless terminated or amended earlier by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the law. The committee will continually monitor the effectiveness of the plan and recommend to the Board of Trustees any suggested modifications to the plan.

DOI Exemptions
I. TEC 37.105 REMOVAL OF UNWANTED VISITORS
II. TEC 37.006 (a)(2)(c-2) (e-cigarettes) HB114 MANDATORY DAEP PLACEMENT FOR EVERY VAPE
III. TEC 37.115 (f-1) HB 473 THREAT ASSESSMENT
IV. TEC 33.006 Subsections: d-h COUNSELOR WORK TIME

District of Innovation Timeline of Amendment	
August 29, 2023	Reviewed and Approved by District Advisory Committee (DAC)/District Education Improvement Committee (DEIC)
September 18, 2023	Approved by Board of Trustees
October 3, 2023	Notification with Amendments, Checklist, and Link Emailed to TEA
October 3, 2023	Amended DOI Posted on District Website per TEC

## **I. Removal of Unwanted Visitors**

TEC.37.105 REMOVAL OF UNWANTED VISITORS - requires that any parent, visitor, or guest who is behaving in a manner inappropriate for a school setting must be given a verbal warning prior to (1) being ejected from the event or (2) refused entry to an event. A school administrator, school resource officer, or school district peace officer of a school district may refuse to allow a person to enter or may eject a person from property under the district's control if the person refuses to leave peaceably on request. The guest must also be given notice of how to appeal the ejection.

### ***Proposed Amendment:***

- Van Vleck ISD requests relief from TEC 37.105 to ensure the safety and security of the district and its patrons.
- Relief would allow designated staff members the authority to immediately remove anyone whose behavior is inappropriate without a prior verbal warning.

## **II. Mandatory DAEP Placement for Vaping (HB114)**

TEC 37.006 (a)(2)(c-2) (e-cigarettes) HB114 MANDATORY DAEP PLACEMENT FOR EVERY VAPE - makes offenses involving the possession and/or use of vapes and paraphernalia a mandatory DAEP offense. School districts will be required to place all students who are caught in possession of and/or using vapes of any kind in DAEP.

### ***PROPOSED AMENDMENT***

- Van Vleck ISD requests relief from the requirements of TEC 37.006(a)(2)(c-2) (e-cigarettes) HB 114 as compliance will place an undue burden on the district;
- As a small district, VVUSD does not have the additional personnel which would be required to supervise and instruct a potential influx of students in DAEP;
- VVUSD believes only severe misbehaviors should require mandatory placement in DAEP;
- VVUSD believes a student's disciplinary history, rather than a one-time vaping violation, should determine removal from the classroom and placement in DAEP; and
- Relief from the mandates of HB 114 would allow the campus principal, with the approval of the principal, to utilize alternate forms of disciplinary action:
- **Consequences:**
  - **First Offense – Written Warning and ISS for 3 days**
  - **Second Offense – Complaint signed by a Justice of the Peace and DAEP:**
    - **VVJH Students – 20 days**
    - **VVHS Students – 30 days**

#### **Notes**

- **All students having offenses involving the possession and/or use of VAPES and paraphernalia must attend an Anti-Vaping Program approved by the VVUSD Police and Counseling departments.**

- The Van Vleck ISD Student Code of Conduct will be followed if students possess Vapes with THC or other illegal substance(s).

### **III. Threat Assessment**

TEC 37.115 (f-1) HB 473 THREAT ASSESSMENT HB 473 - currently states that before a team may conduct a threat assessment of a student, the team must notify the parent of or person standing in parental relation to the student regarding the assessment. The team shall provide an opportunity for the parent or person to participate in the assessment, in person or remotely.

#### ***PROPOSED AMENDMENT***

- Van Vleck ISD would like to be exempt from having the parent attend the threat assessment meeting, but rather just notify them before the meeting and then tell them the outcome. This protects sensitive information about other students or staff that may be discussed during the assessment itself. The statute for exemption is TEC 37.115 (f-1).

### **IV. Counselor Work Time**

TEC 33.006 subsections (d) – (h) – COUNSELOR WORK TIME - places restrictions on the duties that can be fulfilled by school counselors, requires policy adoption and annual review by the school board, and limits contracting options with counselors in the district

#### ***Proposed Amendment:***

- Van Vleck ISD desires to maintain flexibility in its school counseling and guidance program by requesting relief from the requirement of the TEC 33.006 (d) that a counselor must spend 80% of the total work time on duties identified by statute.
- In addition, VVUSD wishes to remove restrictions imposed by subsections (e) – (h) which are related to policy adoption, annual review, and counselor employment contracts;
- VVUSD believes that these changes will help the district better meet the everchanging needs of its students by allowing VVUSD counselors to fulfill other important roles throughout the district, including but not limited to, scheduling and student assessment; and
- VVUSD counselors will continue to focus on the district's counselor program and its goals; however, restrictions which mandate time tracking/logging as required under the 80/20 duty requirement are inefficient use of said counselor's time. The logging/tracking requirement also impedes the district's ability to utilize the counseling staff in a variety of roles which would, as currently written, not best serve the needs of the students and the community.