

Development and Adoption of the Local Service Plan

To develop the local service plan, Douglas Education Service District (DESD) and the component school districts shall:

1. Determine the needs of the component school districts within the following four basic service areas:
 - a. Programs for children with special needs;
 - b. Technology support;
 - c. School improvement services;
 - d. Administrative and support services.
2. Identify any additional or unique regional needs; and
3. Determine the priority of the needs identified above.

Once the needs of the component school districts have been identified and prioritized, the DESD Board shall determine whether the most equitable, high quality, cost effective and locally responsive means of meeting the needs of the component districts is to:

1. Provide services directly through DESD staff; or
2. Provide services through the operation of a public school, a public charter school, an alternative school or a preschool; or
3. Provide services by contracting with a public or private entity; or
4. Pay another education service district or school district to provide the services; or
5. Use any combination of the above.

Once the needs of the component districts have been identified and prioritized and the means of providing services to meet those needs determined, the DESD Board shall adopt the local service plan. On or before March 1, the DESD Board shall obtain the approval of the plan from at least two-thirds of the component school districts. The districts approving the plan must represent a majority of the pupils included in the average daily membership of the DESD, as determined by reports of the component districts for the preceding year.

The following is the timeline for adoption and approval of the local service plan:

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| July 1 - August 14 | Each component school district identifies their needs. |
| August 14 - September 1 | The Board combines and ratifies districts' needs. |
| September 1 - September 30 | Component school districts prioritize the needs from the combined and ratified needs summary; the Board determines the scope of the four service areas; and whether there are unique regional needs. |
| October 1 - October 31 | The Superintendent Council gives input on the scope of the four service areas and any identified regional needs; the Board determines regional priorities; and establishes goals for each priority. |
| November 1 - November 30 | Advisory committees give input on strategies to meet the goals/DESD identifies suitable approaches. |
| December 1 - December 31 | Advisory committees give input on implementation processes and practices; DESD develops the proposed Local Service Plan. |
| January 1 - January 15 | The Superintendent Council gives input on the plan proposal; the Board adopts the Local Service Plan. |
| January 15 - March 1 | Component school district boards act to approve the Local Service Plan. Approval requires affirmative votes by two-thirds of the districts representing a majority of the students in the region. |
| March 1 - June 30 | Begin Local Service Plan implementation by creating the needed administrative structure, recruiting necessary staff and building an appropriate budget. A proposed budget is submitted to the Budget Committee for consideration, followed by a hearing and adoption by the Board. |
| May 15 | DESD staff distributes program histories of district needs and program service records to component school districts to aid in identifying their revised list of needs. |

If the local service plan adopted by the DESD Board is not approved on or before March 1, then the DESD Board shall continue to provide services from the last approved plan until a new plan can be adopted and approved.

DESD shall expend at least 90 percent of all amounts received from the State School Fund and at least 90 percent of all amounts considered to be local revenues on the local service plan adopted by the DESD Board and approved by the requisite majority of the component school districts.

DESD shall expend 100 percent of all amounts received from the School Improvement Fund on the school improvement portions of the local service plan adopted by the DESD Board and approved by the requisite majority of the component school districts.

The approved local service plan may be amended at any time during its implementation. To amend the local service plan, the DESD Board must adopt the amendment and refer it to the component school districts for approval. The amendment must be approved by two-thirds of the component school districts and have at least a majority of the pupils included in the average daily membership of DESD as determined by the reports of the school districts for the preceding year.