

HISD Media Advisory

HISD to announce new partnership with The Culinary Institute of America for district's culinary arts programs

November 10, 2014 – The Houston Independent School District on Friday will **announce enhanced college and career readiness opportunities for students in the culinary arts program at Westside High School through a new partnership with The Culinary Institute of America (CIA)**. The partnership will allow students to take dual-credit courses from a world-renowned culinary college as part of its first-ever affiliate program with a high school in the United States.

Beginning next school year, about 50 students in Westside's culinary arts program will be able to take up to six dual-credit courses with The Culinary Institute of America. **A similar initiative will be offered at Davis and Wheatley high schools in 2016, and Lamar and Milby high schools in 2017.**

The dual-credit courses will cover culinary fundamentals and offer students hands-on practicums. Students who earn at least a B- or higher in the courses and a passing grade on the college's culinary exams will have successfully completed one semester of study at CIA. They will also automatically qualify for scholarships from the college.

Each of the school's culinary arts instructors will be offered professional development through the partnership by receiving training from CIA faculty at the college's main campus in Hyde Park, New York. The Culinary Institute of America will also assist with designing a new kitchen facility for Westside's culinary arts program.

What: The Culinary Institute of America Announcement at Westside High School

Who: HISD Superintendent of Schools **Dr. Terry Grier**
HISD Board Trustee **Greg Meyers**
Westside High School Principal **Marguerite Stewart**
Westside High School Culinary Arts Director **Reginald Martin**
Culinary Institute of America Executives

When: Friday, Nov. 14, at 10 a.m.

Where: Culinary kitchen of **Westside High School**, 14201 Briar Forest Drive, 77077

HISD MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT | www.HoustonISD.org/HISDmedia | 713.556.6393

The Houston Independent School District is the largest school district in Texas and the seventh-largest in the United States with 282 schools and nearly 212,000 students. The 334-square-mile district is one of the largest employers in the Houston metropolitan area with more than 28,000 employees. For more information, visit the HISD Web site at www.HoustonISD.org.