



FALCON NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2020 - VOLUME 20, ISSUE 3

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Rice School Parents & Guardians,

As we approach the third six weeks of the 2020-2021 school year, parents will have the option to revise their selection for either in-person or virtual instruction. Parents will have from Monday, November 9, through Friday, November 13, to make their selection through the HISD Connect Parent Portal "Forms" section. If parents would like to keep their selection as-is, no action is needed. The first day of the third six weeks is December 7, 2020.

Principal Hobbs

THANKSGIVING BREAK



November 23-27, 2020 – No School
November 30, 2020 – Students return to classes

PROGRESS REPORT AND REPORT CARDS



Progress Report – November 13, 2020
Report Card – December 11, 2020

Parents can access grades, progress reports, and report cards through HISD Connect by PowerSchool at: <https://hisdconnect.houstonisd.org>

THIRD SIX WEEKS SELECTION PERIOD FOR IN-PERSON OR VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION BEGINS NOV. 9



If a change is needed, parents will be able to log in to the HISD Connect Parent Portal and make their new selection. <https://bit.ly/3p1bFiO>

2020-2021 STUDENT MEALS



Nutrition Services provides individually wrapped student meals in classrooms to all students enrolled in in-person learning.

Curbside meals will continue to be available on Mondays and Thursdays for any student who is between the ages of 1 and 18 and not engaged in in-person learning. If children are not present in the car, families must bring a birth certificate or proof of enrollment — student ID, report card, etc. — in any school district for each child needing meals. Curbside pickup is also available daily at a rotating list of apartment complexes, Monday through Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. Explore the map at the link below for a complete list of pick up times and locations.

<https://www.houstonisd.org/Page/184155>

HISD PARENTS ASKED TO COMPLETE STUDENT INFORMATION VERIFICATION FORM



With the 2020-2021 school year in full swing, it is important that all HISD parents complete the Student Information Verification application to ensure student information is accurate and up to date.

The form will be available on the HISD Connect Parent Portal from Monday, Oct. 26 to Friday, Nov. 13.

The Student Information Verification application will allow parents the opportunity to verify or update their information to stay connected to their student's school, such as home addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, and emergency contacts.

If a parent indicates that their home address has changed, the campus will contact the parent to obtain updated proof of address documentation.

Parents who have not set up their HISD Connect Parent Portal account and do not have their access code may contact their student's school to obtain their student's access ID.

As a reminder, the HISD Connect Parent Portal is a tool to track information related to students' schedules, grades, attendance, academic history, and more.

<https://bit.ly/3mA4ig5>

HISD COVID-19 DASHBOARD



The Houston Independent School District is closely monitoring COVID-19 pandemic and is in contact with the Centers for Disease Control, Texas Department of State Health Services and Houston Health Department to ensure all students and staff members are safe and updated with the latest information.

<https://www.houstonisd.org/COVID19Dashboard>

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATES



The Houston Independent School District is closely monitoring COVID-19 pandemic and is in contact with the Centers for Disease Control, Texas Department of State Health Services and Houston Health Department to ensure all students and staff members are safe and updated with the latest information. For updates, go to:

<https://www.houstonisd.org/HealthAlerts>

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HISD @ H.O.M.E.



The HISD @ H.O.M.E. Hotline – 713-556-INFO (4636) will be available Monday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

<https://www.houstonisd.org/HOME>

TAKE THE COURSE: “PARENT INTRODUCTION TO VIRTUAL LEARNING”



This school year, your child will begin school with virtual learning. This allowed HISD students to continue their education while HISD continued to monitor conditions across the district and make adjustments as necessary to ensure the health and safety of all students. During virtual learning, parents and students will be able to use HISD @ H.O.M.E. and district platforms to access instructional supports and resources.

The transition to virtual learning can present various challenges for families. To ensure parents and guardians are better informed, this course is designed to provide an introduction to virtual learning and guidance to support your student's virtual learning experience.

Take the Course: “**Parent Introduction to Virtual Learning**” at <https://www.houstonisd.org/ParentCourse>

PARENT UNIVERSITY



HISD is dedicated to providing parents with the supports they need to be invested in the success of their children.

Parent University supports parents and families in the education of their children, providing an introduction to district programs, community resources, and parent-engagement strategies. Each Parent University session will be held online.

The workshops will connect parents and children to resources offered by the district to create successful academic careers as well as safe and healthy environments at home and at school. The theme of the first session is “2020-2021 School Year 101” and will focus on the district’s “Reconnect Safely, Return Strong” reopening plan. After the September session, Parent University virtual workshops will take place on a monthly basis:

- Tuesday, Nov. 17 – Digital Citizenship
- Tuesday, Jan. 19 – School Level(s) Transition
- Tuesday, Feb. 16 – Non-Academic Supports Offered in HISD
- Tuesday, April 20 – Supporting Your Child’s Social and Emotional Needs

All HISD families are encouraged to attend. A variety of community resources will be available for parents, and Spanish

interpretation will be offered. Registration and more information for each event can be found at [HoustonISD.org/ParentUniversity](https://www.houstonisd.org/ParentUniversity).

HISD ‘LET’S STAY CONNECTED’ MENTAL HEALTH HOTLINE FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

The Houston Independent School District has announced the launch of Let’s Stay Connected, a mental health hotline for students and parents to provide emotional, social, and psychological support to students and parents who feel the need for assistance.

Students and parents may call the Let’s Stay Connected Hotline at 713-556-1340 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Trained staff from HISD’s Social and Emotional Learning Department are available to offer counseling, mental health education, and make referrals in English and Spanish.

“One of the consequences of the COVID-19 crisis we have seen is an increase in the need for mental health support among our students and parents,” Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan said. “May is Mental Health Awareness Month so what better time to launch our hotline to address families’ needs in a way that is easily accessible and at no cost to them.” Callers to the hotline may remain anonymous.

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CONTACT FACULTY & STAFF

Looking for a Rice School Faculty or Staff email, go to:

<https://www.houstonisd.org/trsfaculty>