

HISD recognizes the need to provide ongoing literacy support to students in HISD schools. By becoming a Read Houston Read Virtual volunteer you will be helping to impact the academic and social-emotional setback that many of our student's experience as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic. As part of the Literacy By 3 initiative, the District, in partnership with the Barbara Bush Literacy Foundation (BBHLF) and the Children's Museum of Houston, is resuming the Read Houston Read and Real Men Read programs for the 2021-2022 school year.

Dedicating an hour of time each week, Read Houston Read volunteers will use the Microsoft TEAMS platform or attend in-person session to conduct a live reading session with two 1<sup>st</sup> grade students. By working with the same students for an entire school year, volunteers can make a real difference in the life of a child.

## **LOOKING FOR A WAY TO HELP ?**

## **Register as a volunteer via VIPS using the following steps:**

**Step 1**: Complete the VIPS (Volunteers in Public Schools) Volunteer Orientation Training online in English at <a href="http://houstonisd.org/vipslogin">http://houstonisd.org/vipslogin</a> or in Spanish at <a href="http://www.houstonisd.org/voluntarios">http://www.houstonisd.org/vipslogin</a> or in Spanish at <a href="http://www.houstonisd.org/voluntarios">http://www.houstonisd.org/vipslogin</a> or in Spanish at <a href="http://www.houstonisd.org/voluntarios">http://www.houstonisd.org/vipslogin</a> or in Spanish at <a href="http://www.houstonisd.org/voluntarios">http://www.houstonisd.org/voluntarios</a>.

**STEP 2**: Read the VIPS Volunteer Handbook and Save/Print the Certificate of Completion for future reference.

**STEP 3**: Complete the VIPS Volunteer Application, agree to the Annual Background Check, and review the required documents (Code of Ethics, Code of Civility, Confidentiality Statement).

**STEP 4**: Create or update your account on Connect4Literacy to register for volunteer opportunities. Ensure you're using the same email account you used for VIPS.

**STEP 5:** Wait 3-5 business days for the Background Check to process. Volunteers receive a confirmation of receipt upon submission and an approval or denial reply from <u>donotreply@raptortech.com</u> when completed.

**STEP 6:** Create a personal Raptor Portal Volunteer Account for the ability to track volunteer hours.

**STEP 7:** Once VIPS APPROVED, register for opportunities to volunteer using the BBHLF's Connect 4 Literacy website at <u>https://www.connect4literacy.org.</u>

## VOLUNTEER VIRTUALLY

Donating an hour of time each week, RHR volunteers will make a big difference helping to negate the impact of the "corona slide" that many students will experience as a result of COVID 19.



Gentleman from the community are also invited to participate in the Real Men Read Program, which requires only 1 hour of service monthly to read to a class of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. For more information about Real Men Read and Read Houston Read, visit our website: <u>https://www.houstonisd.org/readhoustonread</u>