December 16, 2020

TO: Parents of Students Attending Westside High School

SUBJECT: Explanation of HISD Curriculum

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires all Title I schools to provide to parents a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the campus. The State Board of Education adopted the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) as the official K–12 curriculum for all Texas schools. The TEKS identifies what students should know and be able to do at every grade level and in every course in the foundation and enrichment subjects as they move successfully through schools. These learning standards will help ensure that all students can meet the following challenges of the 21st Century:

- Each student must become a more effective reader.
- Each student will have to know and apply more complex mathematics.
- Each student needs to develop a stronger understanding of science concepts, especially in biology, chemistry, and physics.
- Each student must master social studies skills and content necessary to be a responsible adult citizen.
- Each student must master a wider range of technology.

To view the descriptions of the TEKS online, visit: [http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=6148](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=6148). If you do not have access to the Internet, please call the contact person listed at the end of this letter and this information will be provided to you. The HISD curriculum, which is based on the TEKS, includes non-negotiable objectives that must be taught at every grade level; however, individual schools are held accountable for innovative, instructional programs and results. Every student will be provided equal access to rigorous instruction and academic programs. HISD recognizes, however, that some students may need extra assistance to obtain high academic achievement, and this assistance is available through the Title I program. HISD will include parents in appropriate decision-making opportunities to support student academic achievement. If you have questions concerning this letter or need paper copies of the material referenced on the web site, contact the school’s Title I Campus Contact Person, Ann Mayfield at 713-556-5250 during school hours, or e-mail amayfield3@houstonisd.org.

Sincerely,

Keri Wittpenn, Principal