



# PRESS RELEASE

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**HISD Media Relations Department**

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## **The HISD Foundation and United Way of Greater Houston Help Pay for School Uniforms**

*July 19, 2011* – The HISD Foundation has partnered with United Way of Greater Houston to help purchase uniforms for the incoming classes of 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students at the new Young Women's and Young Men's College Preparatory Academies.

"United Way of Greater Houston is pleased to partner with the HISD Foundation," said Anna Babin, president and CEO of United Way of Greater Houston. "Developing children and youth to their full potential is one of our key focus areas, and this investment is one of the ways we can support the academic success of our children."

The college-success culture at these academies requires that the students wear a uniform to class every day. However, most students attending these academies come from low-income families unable to pay for these uniforms.

"The HISD Foundation is pleased to support this important district priority with a gift of \$25,000 from its 2011 Golf Tournament proceeds," said Tina Medlin, president of the HISD Foundation

United Way of Greater Houston contributed an additional \$20,000 bringing the total gift amount to \$45,000. These uniforms will be available to families who have expressed a need for financial support.

The Young Women's College Preparatory Academy and the Young Men's College Preparatory Academy at E.O. Smith will be located in Houston's historic Third Ward and Fifth Ward, respectively. Both academies will be focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, and prepare students for college through a rigorous Advanced Placement Program. The single-gender schools will open with grades 6 and 9 during 2011-2012; grades 7 and 10 will be added in 2012-2013; grades 8 and 11 will be added in 2013-2014 with the first 12<sup>th</sup> grade graduating class in 2014-2015. Both academies are still accepting applications. For more information, call the Young Women's College Preparatory Academy at 713-942-1441 or the Young Men's College Preparatory Academy at 713-226-2668.

### **About United Way of Greater Houston**

For nearly 90 years, United Way of Greater Houston has served the Greater Houston Area as a leader and trusted partner in improving lives, tackling key community social issues and making a lasting difference. United Way focuses on strengthening our community by developing children and youth to their full potential, creating strong families and safe neighborhoods, sustaining senior independence and rebuilding people's lives in times of crisis. For more information, visit

[www.unitedwayhouston.org](http://www.unitedwayhouston.org).

**About the HISD Foundation:**

The HISD Foundation partners with the district to raise private support, manage funds and provide donor accountability. Funds raised by the HISD Foundation and district leaders provide resources to advance the core initiatives of the district's Strategic Direction. The Foundation's fundraising efforts focus on institutional priorities set by the superintendent of schools and board of education. The Foundation's programming is aligned with the district's five core initiatives: Effective Teacher in Every Classroom; Effective Principal in Every Classroom; Rigorous Instructional Standards & Supports; Data-Driven Accountability; Culture of Trust through Action. For more information, visit [www.houstonisdfoundation.org](http://www.houstonisdfoundation.org).

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The **Houston Independent School District** is the largest school district in Texas and the seventh-largest in the United States with 298 schools and more than 200,000 students. The 301-square-mile district is one of the largest employers in the Houston metropolitan area with nearly 30,000 employees.

For more information, visit the HISD Web site at [www.houstonisd.org](http://www.houstonisd.org).

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