HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD Board of Education to consider increasing discussion time around student outcomes

April 9, 2019 – The Houston Independent School District Board of Education on Thursday will consider changing its policy to ensure that at least half the board's discussion time is spent on topics that affect academic performance, a change that is aimed at improving student outcomes and board governance.

The board's regular monthly meeting will begin at 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 11, in the Manuel Rodríguez Jr. Board Auditorium of the Hattie Mae White Educational Support Center, 4400 West 18th Street. Click here-to-wiew-the-full-agenda.

The board may also vote to close High School Ahead Academy (HSAA), a special campus for overaged middle school students. HISD administrators believe students can be academically accelerated to their proper grade level at their regular home campuses.

Trustees may also vote on changing the dates when the public can address board members about agenda items. If the change is approved, speakers would be able to address board members at agenda review meetings rather than waiting for board meetings. Agenda review meetings typically occur a week before board meetings. Public speaking would still be allowed at board meetings.

The board also plans to approve a \$69,000 grant from the HISD Foundation's Innovation Grant Program. The money would be spread among nine schools for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs, as well as other types of enrichment programs including medical training, water quality, and learning STEM through fashion design. The HISD Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that supports district-wide programs that increase students' academic achievements and develops effective classroom educators.

The board meeting will be broadcast live online at www.hisdtv.org and on HISD TV (Xfinity channel 18 or AT&T U-verse Channel 99).

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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 284 schools and more than 214,000 students. The 333-square-mile district is one of the largest employers in the Houston metropolitan area, with more than 27,000 employees.

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