HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD to launch HISD @ H.O.M.E. Hotline to support distance learning

April 9, 2020 – The Houston Independent School District will be launching the HISD @ H.O.M.E. Hotline starting Monday, April 13, to provide timely answers to questions from students and parents about distance learning.

Starting on April 13, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., students and parents can call the HISD @ H.O.M.E. Hotline at **713-556-INFO (4636)**. Operators will be on hand to answer questions in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Arabic. The hotline will remain in place for as long as it is needed to support the transition to at-home learning.

"We are working diligently to offer equitable at-home learning support during this unprecedented crisis," Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan said. "We hope this hotline will be a key resource for students and parents who might have questions about our district's distance learning, HISD @ H.O.M.E."

HISD launched <u>HISD @ H.O.M.E.</u> (Home-based Online Mobile Education), a distance learning plan to ensure students' academic and non-academic needs are met as the district remains closed due to COVID-19 precautions.

Also as part of the district's distance learning plan, <u>HISD @ H.O.M.E. TV</u> provides instructional videos from 9 to 11 a.m., 1 to 3 p.m., and 5 to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. The videos include lessons in English and Spanish from teachers and teacher development specialists in several subject areas, including math, science, reading and writing, social studies, and fine arts. These videos are broadcast on HISD-TV (Comcast channel 18 and AT&T U-verse channel 99), as well as online via HoustonISD.org/LiveTV.

For updates and information, please visit HoustonISD.org/HealthAlerts.

*Note to media: In keeping with social distancing guidelines, the hotline will be manned by HISD employees working from home. There will not be a physical call center location for live shot and b-roll opportunities.

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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 280 schools and more than 209,772 students. The 333-square-mile district is one of the largest employers in the Houston metropolitan area, with more than 27,000 employees.