

HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD students selected to share radiation-proof clothing design with NASA

July 24, 2019 – Two teams of Houston Independent School District students have been invited to NASA's Langley Research Center to share their student-designed, wearable, radiation-proof clothing with NASA engineers and scientists as part of the 2019 NASA Wearable Equipment for Averting Radiation (WEAR) challenge. The teams go to NASA's Langley facility in Hampton, Virginia next month.

The WEAR challenge tasks middle and high school students with designing garments to help mitigate radiation exposure during deep space missions. The teams, made up of students and teachers from Milby High School and Deady Middle School, submitted design proposals for wearable anti-radiation garments via video for review by NASA personnel.

"I'm proud of all HISD students and staff participating in this competition," said HISD Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan. "Houston is at the center of space exploration and I am thrilled that NASA has provided HISD students with this opportunity."

Through a competitive process, the top design teams from across the country received invitations to the Langley Research Center to discuss their concepts with NASA personnel, participate in STEM engagement activities, and tour NASA facilities. According to NASA, the development of radiation countermeasures is an important component for astronauts to return to the moon by 2024 and continue on to Mars.

You can follow the teams on their journey to NASA Langley using the hashtag #NASA_WEAR on social media. For more information about WEAR, visit http://go.nasa.gov/nasa_wear.

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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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