HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD full-day pre-kindergarten seats still available for 2020-21 school year

Space available at campuses offering free full-day, high-quality Pre-K programs

Oct. 15, 2020 — Parents may still enroll their 3 or 4-year-old children in one of the Houston Independent School District's free full-day, high quality pre-kindergarten programs for the 2020-21 school year. HISD has 155 elementary campuses with Pre-K programs and eight Early Childhood Centers which cater specifically to the school district's youngest learners.

"Offering pre-kindergarten programming to our youngest learners is a top priority in HISD," Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan said. "Research has consistently shown that full-day, high quality pre-k not only provides students with a strong educational and social foundation, but also results in increased academic outcomes in later years."

A Rice University study concluded that HISD's pre-K program significantly increases kindergarten readiness after as little as one year compared with students who do not attend pre-K. Research also shows that not only are children who participate in pre-K more successful in school, but they will be more likely to graduate high school, attend college, and earn higher wages as an adult.

Throughout the 2020-21 school year, HISD parents have the option to choose either virtual or in-person instruction for their child. Parents may change their selection after each six-week grading period. Face-to-face instruction begins Monday, Oct. 19, 2020.

Visit <u>www.houstonisd.org/prek</u> to find an HISD pre-K program near you and learn more about enrollment and eligibility requirements.

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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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