HISD PRESS RELEASE

Superintendent Millard House delivers second State of the Schools address

Mar. 3, 2023 – The Houston Independent School District's Superintendent Millard House addressed students, educators, community leaders, elected officials and HISD alumni during his second state of the school's address. This year's event focused on honoring our past and inspiring our future as we celebrate 100 years of educational success at HISD.

"All of us in the room today stand on the shoulders of those who came before us. Giants of our past like Dr. Ruth Simmons, Gordon Quan, Ed Emmett, and the Fraga family have paved the way not just for HISD as an organization but all 190,000 of our students, as well," said Superintendent House. "They are a living example of the power of public education and what is possible in this district. They are a testament to the fact that, if given the right educational supports, there is nothing that our students can't achieve. They embody the promise of HISD and its communities and serve as a guiding light for what this district can accomplish over the next 100 years."

This event is one of the most significant fundraising events held in support of HISD students and their education. With the funds collected, students and educators are provided with the support needed for projects and programs that fall outside of the district's normal operating budget in the areas of college and career readiness, comprehensive support, innovation, and equity. These are opportunities that may include grief support, drone technology, new builds of teacher classrooms, and more. All of which will help expand the student's mindset and their horizons to become the best version of themselves.

Superintendent House started his journey with HISD 19 months ago and spent his time visiting campuses to witness the work being done in classrooms which he gives praises to the community for their efforts in making progress possible despite monumental challenges the district was faced with. Along with his team, Superintendent House has been laser-focused on his five-year strategic plan in which has been on the right track to give every student a shot at a successful life and position the district to be an asset to the community for the next 100 years and beyond.

"In those 19 months, our team has been executing a five-year strategic plan that was shaped and guided by community input," said Superintendent House. "The strategic plan is a bold vision for what this district can – and should – be for our students, families, and community. Its foundation is built on six core commitments that speak to the values of our community."

This year's state of the school's address also served as an opportunity to address the uncertainty that currently looms over the district with potential intervention from the TEA and although Superintendent House mentioned he doesn't know what the future will bring, he continued to give comfort by calling on the support of the community to stand and work together as they've been doing to transform public education. He stated being HISD's Superintendent has been his highest professional honor and that he's

proud of the work that has been done in the last 19 months honoring the legacy and the foundation that has been laid by the educational giants of the past.

The Houston Independent School District is the largest school district in Texas and the eighth-largest in the United States, with 276 schools and nearly 190,000 students. The 333-square-mile district is one of the largest employers in the Houston metropolitan area, with more than 27,000 employees.

