

# HISD PRESS RELEASE

## HISD Opens Sunrise Center at West Orem YMCA

*Sunrise Centers bring together community partners to provide comprehensive supports to HISD students, families, and the community.*

September 6, 2023 – Superintendent Miles joined leaders from the YMCA of Greater Houston, Houston Food Bank, Communities in Schools, Clothed by Faith, and Books Between Kids to open the first of six Sunrise Centers the District plans to serve students and families. Miles announced the Sunrise Centers as part of his Destination 2035 plan to make HISD the first large district in the country to prepare all kids for the workplace and world of 2035.

“We’ve focused our early work and energy on making sure every student receives the instruction and support they need to be successful in the classroom,” began Miles. “It is just as important that we address the challenges our students and families face outside the classroom as well. Sunrise Centers will provide intensive supports to students and families that need or want them.”

Sunrise Centers are intentional partnerships with existing community organizations and service providers. The centers are hosted in communities where HISD data shows there is the greatest need and community partners are selected based on data about the needs of students in that community.

The West Orem YMCA site will serve the communities surrounding Madison High School and will provide the following services:

- Social-emotional Support and Mental Health Services
- Case Management
- Basic Needs Support
- Literacy and Other Academic Supports
- Enrichment

“We are proud to join with HISD to support students and families in our neighborhood. We believe the entire community has a vested interest in ensuring HISD students are successful, supported, and safe inside the classroom and out. We look forward to the opportunity to be a part of that work,” said Stephen Ives, CEO, YMCA of Greater Houston.

HISD plans to launch five more centers by November 2023.

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.

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4400 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street | Houston, Texas 77092-8501 • [HoustonISD.org](http://HoustonISD.org)

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