

HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD Administration Presents Proposed 2024-2025 Budget

Plan invests scarce resources in HISD's highest priorities and stabilizes the District's financial future

May 16, 2024 - At a workshop today, Superintendent Mike Miles and Chief Finance and Operations Officer Jim Terry presented the proposed 2024-2025 Houston Independent School District budget to School Board members and the community. The presentation outlined the principles, processes, and financial considerations used to create the \$2.1 billion-plan. Despite significant budgetary challenges—including the end of federal Covid relief aid, no increase in state funding for education, and continued student enrollment declines—the administration delivered a 24-25 budget that funds the District's most important priorities and stabilizes its finances for the future.

"When I was appointed in June, I made a commitment to the Board and community that, moving forward, HISD would build its budgets the right way," **Superintendent Miles said**. "We would identify the District's critical priorities and allocate resources to those areas. That is what we have done. HISD was facing very real financial challenges for next year, and this process has not been easy. But our proposed budget puts students and teachers first—it invests in the key actions necessary to meet the Board's goals, and it protects our schools for the long term."

HISD relied on five core principles to guide the 24-25 budget process:

- Keep cuts as far away from the classroom as possible.
- Invest in teachers and school leaders.
- Prioritize actions and initiatives outlined in the District Action Plan to achieve the School Board goals.
- Reduce inefficiencies and right size the central office.
- To the extent possible, temper cuts to schools that have control over their budgets.

Departments received initial allocations for next school year and then built their budgets to invest in priority actions directly tied to the [District Action Plan](#) and [School Board goals](#). HISD, like most school districts in Texas and across the country, was forced to make very tough decisions for 24-25. State funding for districts did not increase, and the one-time money provided by the federal government to support students after the pandemic is no longer available. To avoid the fiscal cliff predicted by prior administrations, every central office

department had to eliminate programs and positions previously funded with one-time money that HISD can no longer afford.




24-25 HISD Budget by the Numbers:

- **Total Budget:** \$2,116,696,193 (A \$110 million **decrease** from 23-24)
- **Total Allocation to Schools:** \$1,366,323,219 (A \$62 million **increase** from 23-24)
- **Beginning of Year (July 2024) Fund Balance:** \$932,687,809
- **Projected End of Year (June 2025) Fund Balance:** \$801,569,428
- **Total Federal Pandemic Relief Funds No Longer Available:** \$386,273,553
- **Total Budget Gap Addressed:** \$528,000,000

“We fundamentally changed the way HISD prepares its budget,” **Dr. Terry explained.** “It was a difficult process for everyone—but by taking those difficult steps now, HISD will not approach the devastating fiscal cliff anticipated by the leaders who came before us. We look forward to working with the Board to finalize and adopt the budget in June.”

The budget presentation also included information on HISD’s Interest and Sinking and Nutrition Services funds, both of which require independent approval by the School Board. The Board is expected to consider the entire 24-25 HISD budget at its meeting on June 13. To see the full budget presentation from today, click [here](#).

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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