

**Over 500 educators and parents expected at**

**HISD’s fifth annual Special Education Conference**

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| **What:** | The Houston Independent School District will empower educators and parents during its fifth annual Special Education Conference to help students with disabilities be successful in and outside of the classroom.  The two-day conference themed “Engage, Restore and Support Every Student” will offer customized professional development and support for general and special education teachers, administrators, and classroom support personnel.  For the first time ever, parents will be attending this year's conference as both participants and session presenters. Presentations from both teachers and thought leaders in the field will focus on evidence-based instructional practices and strategies to build inclusive school cultures and support all learners.  Participants can expect to leave ready to begin the school year armed with new and effective instructional and behavioral strategies to equitably support the well-being, learning and achievement of all students with special education needs.  Follow the conference on social media using #HISDSPED18. | |
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| **Who:** | HISD Board of Education President **Rhonda Skillern-Jones**, District VII Trustee **Anne Sung**, Interim Superintendent **Dr. Grenita Lathan**, Assistant Superintendent of Special Education Services **Dr. S. Lachlin Verrett**, Officer of Special Populations **Dr. Courtney Busby**, keynote speaker **Dr. Dianne Reed**, HISD special and general education teachers, instructional support personnel and parents. | |
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| **When:** | **July 17-18, 2018, 7:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m.**  **Tuesday, July 17 at 8:30 a.m.** – District VII Trustee **Anne Sung** and Interim Superintendent **Dr. Grenita Lathan** will be providing opening remarks  **Wednesday, July 18 at 12 p.m.**  – HISD Board President **Rhonda Skillern-Jones** will address attendees during the luncheon | |
| **Where:** | Kingdom Builder’s Center  6011 W. Orem Drive, Houston, TX 77085 | |
|  | **Media interested in covering must RSVP to the HISD Press Office (**[PressOffice@houstonisd.org](mailto:PressOffice@houstonisd.org) **or 713-556-6393).** | |