

HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD launches maritime education partnership with UHD, HCC and Port of Houston

Jan. 31, 2019 – The Houston Independent School District, the University of Houston-Downtown, Houston Community College, and the Port of Houston Authority joined forces Thursday to announce a new education partnership that prepares students for maritime careers.

Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan, UHD President Juan Sánchez Muñoz, Port of Houston Authority Chair Janiece Longoria and HCC Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration Janet Wormack each signed a Letter of Intent that outlines seamless career pathways for students that begin in high school, extend to higher education institutions, and ultimately lead to potential maritime jobs at the Port of Houston.

"HISD is proud to partner with UHD, HCC, and the Port of Houston Authority to offer our students greater opportunities and pathways for successful maritime careers," Lathan said. "Great things are happening in Houston, and great things are happening for the students of HISD."

HISD students can earn college credits in maritime logistics and global supply chain management. Students can then apply those credits to an associate degree in logistics or global supply chain management at HCC and transfer to UHD's Bachelor of Applied Arts & Sciences in Applied Administration program. Currently, HISD has implemented maritime programs at Austin and Yates high schools, with more than 700 students enrolled.

As home to one of the world's largest ports, Houston's maritime industry plays an integral part in the economy. There is an increasing need for a well-trained maritime workforce as the industry continues to grow.

"We look forward to working closely with HISD to identify students that have ambitions of working in the maritime industry, which is a diverse area of professional work," UHD President Muñoz said. "This is an important sector for Houston and the state of Texas. Through this partnership, we hope to help keep that part of our economy strong."

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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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