

HISD PRESS RELEASE

HAIS principal selected for inaugural Fulbright Leaders for Global Schools Program

Feb. 15, 2019 – Houston Academy for International Studies (HAIS) Principal Melissa Jacobs has been selected as an inaugural member of the Fulbright Leaders for Global Schools (Fulbright LGS) Program in Helsinki, Finland.

“Melissa is a prime example of the many dedicated educators at HISD who strive to be the best role model for our students,” said HISD Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan. “We are proud of her for seeking out and obtaining this important opportunity.”

Jacobs was selected from over 70 district administrators across the country who applied to the program. Ten U.S. educators will travel to Finland March 6–16, 2019. While there, Jacobs and other program participants will take part in a 10-day immersion program to learn about Finland’s renowned education system, engage in intellectual exchanges, visit schools and network.

“At HAIS, we encourage our students to think globally and consider differing perspectives,” Jacobs said. “We as educators must also be willing to do the same. I hope I can bring back lessons to implement at our campus that will benefit both our students and our faculty.”

As a grant recipient, Jacobs will join the ranks of distinguished participants who have become heads of state, judges, ambassadors, cabinet ministers, CEOs and university presidents, as well as leading journalists, artists, scientists, and teachers. They include 59 Nobel Laureates, 84 Pulitzer Prize winners, 72 MacArthur Fellows and 16 Presidential Medal of Freedom recipients.

HISD PRESS OFFICE | 713-556-6393 | PressOffice@HoustonISD.org | HoustonISD.org/HISDmedia

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.

HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 4400 West 18th Street | Houston, Texas 77092-8501
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