

HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD Board of Education to consider renewal of Teach Forward partnership with UH

May 7, 2019 –The Houston Independent School District Board of Education will consider continuing the Teach Forward Houston Initiative. Members of this cohort, which would include 20 students, would receive bachelor’s degrees in Education from the University of Houston.

In exchange, students would commit to teach at HISD schools for a term of four years. This grow-your-own teacher program has seen a success, with 88 HISD student participants to date. It is funded by the Teacher and School Leader Grant, received by the district in 2017.

The board’s regular monthly meeting will begin at 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 9, in the Manuel Rodríguez Jr. Board Auditorium of the Hattie Mae White Educational Support Center, 4400 West 18th Street. Click [here](#) to view the full agenda.

Trustees will also consider renewing the district’s Teach for America contract for the 2019-2020 school year. Since 1991, HISD has partnered with the organization, which supplies districts nationwide with leadership-oriented college graduates who commit to teach for two years.

Trustees are also expected to vote Thursday on an agreement with the Harris County Department of Education (HCDE) that would assist students who have completed a substance abuse rehabilitation program. Eligible students would attend HCDE’s Fortis Academy High School, which would prepare them for college or make them workforce ready in a safe, sober, quality academic environment.

The Board of Education is expected to accept a \$50,000 charitable donation from Branch Banking and Trust Company, which is donating the funds to the HISD Foundation. The money is designated to the district’s Homeless Education Department to support the needs of students and their families enrolled in the program.

The board is also expected to accept a \$60,000 donation from Save the Children, Inc. Those funds would also be donated to the HISD Foundation. It plans to use the money for food assistance, medication, clothing, and household supplies for students and their families at Las Americas Newcomer School. The campus serves refugee and newly immigrated students and their families.

HISD trustees will also vote on a proposed policy to spend at least 50 percent of the board’s discussion time on matters that affect students’ academic performance and outcomes.

The board meeting will be broadcast live online at www.hisd.tv and on HISD TV (Xfinity Channel 18 or AT&T U-verse Channel 99).

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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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