

HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD Board of Education approves budget, raising minimum wage to \$14 an hour

June 27, 2019 – With a vote of 5-1, HISD’s Board of Education passed the budget for the 2019-2020 school year that will increase the district’s minimum wage from \$12 an hour to \$14 an hour.

Trustees proposed and adopted an amendment that included \$17 million in department cuts but any staff reductions as a result would be offset by utilizing fund balance.

The spending plan mandates that district employees will see no increase in health insurance premiums.

The approved budget provides teachers, full-time counselors, full-time nurses, full-time librarians and other educational professionals with raises ranging from 3.5 percent to 8 percent, depending on years of service in HISD.

Trustees also approved increasing bus drivers’ minimum wage to \$18/an hour.

The board also approved an amendment to provide no raises for staff earning more than \$75,000 per year. Instead, these employees would receive a one-time bonus of \$1000 and two extra vacation days.

HISD’s administrators had presented a balanced budget for consideration to the Board of Education that included raises for every district employee and no staff reductions.

Several other amendments were made by Trustees which administrators will be analyzing over the next several days to incorporate into the budget.

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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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