

## HISD PRESS RELEASE

### **HISD Board of Trustees to consider educational program on healthy food choices**

*Aug. 7, 2019* – At its first regular meeting of the 2019-2020 school year, the Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees will consider a collaborative food literacy program operated by HISD's Nutrition Services Department and the University of Houston.

**The board's regular monthly meeting begins at 5 p.m. on Thursday, August 8, in the Manuel Rodríguez Jr. Board Auditorium of the Hattie Mae White Educational Support Center, 4400 W. 18th St., 77092. Click [here](#) to view the full agenda.**

The innovative program would employ work-study college students to educate prekindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup>-grade HISD students on making healthy food choices. Student workers would utilize campus gardens, farmers markets and lunchtime campaigns to teach HISD students. The program would be at no cost to the district.

The board will also consider a proposal to give employee groups the right to hold elections to select representatives who can be their voice at consultation meetings with administration when it comes to issues of wages, employment hours and work conditions.

Additionally, trustees will consider asking the state if the district can withhold \$114 million in "recapture" funds due to Hurricane Harvey damage to four schools. Under the previous school finance law, HISD was required to return money to the state, known as recapture payments. The district has one remaining payment and is requesting state permission to withhold \$114 million of it to help offset the cost of rebuilding schools that were damaged by Harvey. The campuses being completely rebuilt are Braeburn, Kolter, Mitchell and Scarborough elementary schools.

Also scheduled for board consideration is a contract that will provide more health clinic options for employees. If the item is approved, district employees would have access to 13 offsite clinics in addition to two onsite clinics located on HISD properties. Employees who earn more than \$25,000 annually would receive a new benefit allowing \$20 visits to offsite clinics. All insured employees, regardless of income, would continue to receive free visits to the onsite clinics, and those earning less than \$25,000 would continue to receive free visits to offsite clinics as well.

A vote is also scheduled on a resolution calling for the November 5 school board election. Single member districts II, III, IV and VIII are on the ballot.

The board meeting will be broadcast live online at [www.hisd.tv](http://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 280 schools and more than 209,772 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 18<sup>th</sup> Street | Houston, Texas 77092-8501  
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