

HISD MEDIA ADVISORY

HISD launches mentorship initiative to empower female students

WHAT: The Houston Independent School District will announce its newest student mentorship program, Resilient Outstanding Sisters Exemplifying Success (ROSES), at a kick-off event with elected officials, community partners, and educators on Thursday.

ROSES is the sister program of the Ascending to Men Project (ATMP) and seeks to provide positive role models and advocates to underserved young women who need guidance and opportunities for educational, social, and professional growth.

Nine hundred students from 30 schools have been identified and personally invited by HISD Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan and Assistant Superintendent of Equity and Outreach Kenneth Davis to participate in the program. Over 130 individuals have already signed up to be a ROSES mentor.

Students who join ROSES will participate in a tailored curriculum featuring workshops led by professional women from various industries, entrepreneurship tours, college visits, and a ROSES summit at the end of the year.

In December, their achievements and personal growth will also be celebrated at a formal ball to showcase protocol and etiquette.

WHO: HISD Board of Education Trustees, Interim Superintendent **Grenita Lathan**; Assistant Superintendent of Equity and Outreach **Kenneth Davis**; ROSES Senior Manager **Jermani Justice**; U.S. Rep. **Sheila Jackson Lee**; Judges **Shannon Baldwin**, **Lori Chambers Gray**, **Sandra Peake**, **Linda Dunson**, **Toria Finch**, and **Angela Graves-Harrington**; community partners and educators.

WHEN: Thursday, August 29
10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

WHERE: Yates High School, 3650 Alabama St., 77004

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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.

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