

HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD Board votes to expand virtual reality programs to advance Career and Technical Education training

Oct. 10, 2019 – The Houston Independent School District Board of Education authorized significant technological advancements in the district’s Career and Technical Education (CTE) program by voting unanimously to provide additional virtual reality and augmented reality tools on select campuses.

The \$400,000 purchase for products, services, and software represents a marked increase in HISD’s current augmented reality and virtual reality offerings. The technology will be installed at Barbara Jordan Career Center and Austin and Yates high schools. Students studying CTE courses such as health science, welding, automotive, and maritime will use the technology to see 3-D images, giving them a 360-degree view of objects such as automotive parts, the human heart or underwater equipment.

The Board of Trustees also voted 9-0 for additional training services and equipment for the aviation program at Sterling Aviation Early College High School, and the purchase of additional equipment and supplies for use districtwide in CTE cosmetology programs.

Trustees voted to accept a \$90,000 grant from Qatar Foundation International to support instruction, programs, and activities for students at HISD’s Arabic Immersion Magnet School.

The board approved a resolution on polling locations for the Nov. 5 school board election for single-member Districts II, III, IV and VIII.

HISD trustees also proclaimed October 2019 as Bullying Prevention Month in the district to raise awareness and help end bullying and its painful impact on children.

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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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