

HISD MEDIA ADVISORY

Ascending to Men Project invites community partners to create action plan for underserved students

Roundtable discussions will be held at Furr HS and Sharpstown HS

WHAT: The Houston Independent School District's Ascending to Men Project (ATM) will facilitate two simultaneous community discussions on academic and social issues confronting underserved male students.

ATM will hold roundtables at Furr and Sharpstown high schools. The discussion panels will include community-driven dialogue aimed at searching for solutions and creating action plans that district and community partners can execute immediately.

The panel at Furr HS will be moderated by FOX 26 anchor Maria Salazar and the discussion at Sharpstown HS will be led by Trae' Young, founder of Uplift and Outreach, a local non-profit organization specializing in career and entrepreneurship coaching.

During the 2018-19 academic year, 52.7% of male students in HISD were at risk of dropping out of school. Additionally, 58.6% of the district's discipline infractions were committed by male students. To tackle these challenges, ATM mentors male students and works to identify and pursue sustainable approaches that will effect positive change in their lives.

Students, parents, and all community members are encouraged to attend and participate in the roundtable discussions.

WHO: HISD Board of Education Trustees, HISD Chief of Innovation and Strategy **Rick Cruz**, HISD Assistant Superintendent of Equity and Outreach **Ken Davis**, HISD students, parents and community members

WHEN: Wednesday, Nov. 13
6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Furr High School, 500 Mercury Dr., 77013
Sharpstown High School, 7504 Bissonnet St., 77074

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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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