

# HISD PRESS RELEASE

## HISD launches ‘Let’s Stay Connected’ mental health hotline for students and parents

*May 26, 2020* –The Houston Independent School District launched the Let’s Stay Connected mental health hotline for students and parents today to provide emotional, social, and psychological support to students and parents who feel the need for assistance.

The hotline opened Tuesday, May 26 at 8 a.m. Students and parents may call the Let’s Stay Connected Hotline at **713-556-1340** 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Trained staff from HISD’s Social and Emotional Learning Department are available to offer counseling, mental health education, and make referrals in English and Spanish.

“One of the consequences of the COVID-19 crisis we have seen is an increase in the need for mental health support among our students and parents,” Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan said. “May is Mental Health Awareness Month so what better time to launch our hotline to address families’ needs in a way that is easily accessible and at no cost to them.”

Callers to the hotline may remain anonymous.

All HISD staff members have access to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), which may be reached by calling 833-812-5181 and is offered at no cost to employees.

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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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