

# HISD PRESS RELEASE

## **HISD Special Populations to offer Parent Labs to support virtual learning for 2020-2021 school year**

*Aug. 18, 2020* – HISD’s Special Populations department will host a series of Parent Labs in August and September to assist parents who have students in any special populations program with navigating virtual learning for the 2020-2021 school year.

The Parent Labs will proactively engage and support parents with programs such as autism, dyslexia, speech/language, 504, intellectually disabled, and gifted & talented. There will be up to 20 sessions available by disability area or special population group and will be accessible via live or recorded formats. There also will be sessions available in Spanish.

“As we embark on a school year like no other, we know that extra supports for parents and students are vital as we navigate a more virtual approach to learning,” said HISD Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan. “These live interactive sessions are designed to inform, engage and empower our HISD parent community for the coming school year.”

Course sessions will be held on August 26-27 and September 2-3 at 4 p.m., 4:30 p.m., and 5 p.m.

Go to [HoustonISD.org/SpecialPopulations](https://HoustonISD.org/SpecialPopulations) to view a full schedule and links to each course. Here is a sampling of course offerings:

- 504 Accommodations Overview
- Identification/Eval/Eligibility/Services (Child Find)
- Overview of the TX Dyslexia Handbook (*Spanish course*)
- 5 IEP Look Fors
- New to HISD/Newly Identified for Services
- Speech Impairment
- Autism Home Front: Visual Scheduling
- Deaf/Hard of Hearing/Visual Impairment
- Autism Home Front: Setting Spaces for Success
- Dyslexia and Executive Function (*Spanish course*)
- Overview of Dyslexia Handbook
- Strategies: Anxiety/Depression (SEL)
- Dyslexia Simulation (*Spanish course*)
- Role of HISD Parent Liaison
- Parent Portal for Easy IEP
- Dyslexia and Executive Function
- Home Front: Setting Spaces for Success
- The Gifted Education Plan (Elementary)

- The Gifted Education Plan (Secondary)

For more information, visit the [Office of Special Populations](#).

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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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