

HISD PRESS RELEASE**HISD Board of Education to host virtual community meetings on district goals for student outcomes**

Virtual Literacy Summit also scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 3

Sept. 28, 2020 – The HISD Board of Education will host two community meetings and a literacy summit ahead of a vote to set new district goals for student outcomes. All meetings are virtual and open to the public.

Trustees are scheduled to vote on the goals during a special meeting on Thursday, Oct. 22.

“Our mission as the Board of Education is to educate the whole child so that every student in HISD graduates with the tools to reach their full potential,” HISD Board President Sue Deigaard said. “As we discuss and consider new goals for student outcomes in our district, we want to better understand the views of our communities, which is why public participation in these community meetings is important to us.”

Once adopted by the board, the goals will last five years and include at least three areas of focus, including early childhood literacy, early childhood math, and college, career, and military readiness. The board will also vote on new constraints, which outline parameters the superintendent must adhere to while working toward achieving the goals. Throughout the school year, the superintendent will provide regular updates to the board on each goal during public meetings.

“I encourage all HISD parents to participate in these important discussions,” HISD Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan said. “This is an opportunity for the public to provide input on the specific areas it believes the district should prioritize. I want to thank trustees for facilitating these virtual meetings.”

The board’s process for goal-setting for student outcomes and adopting superintendent constraints are components of Lone Star Governance, a model for school board governance that aims for continuous improvement.

The literacy summit, which will be held on Saturday, Oct 3, is intended to assist parents of students who may be struggling with reading and provide an opportunity for trustees and broader community partners to take part in this conversation. Lathan will join other education experts and representatives from Rice University, the Neuhaus Education Center, and APM Reports to discuss strategies to challenge students and improve literacy rates among children.

Below are the details for the HISD Board’s virtual literacy summit and goal-setting community meetings:

HISD Board of Education Virtual Literacy Summit

Saturday, Oct. 3, 10 a.m. to noon

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://bit.ly/3301GRN>

Passcode: XYH9wi

Virtual Community Meeting 1

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://bit.ly/2RYk5br>

Passcode: 0CnW2L

Virtual Community Meeting 2

Thursday, Oct. 15, 5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://bit.ly/340isPX>

Passcode: hYT3qT

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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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