

# HISD MEDIA ADVISORY

## Students set to ‘Reconnect Safely, Return Strong’ on HISD’s first day of face-to-face instruction

**WHAT:** Tens of thousands of HISD students will return to face-to-face instruction on Monday, Oct. 19, with Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan scheduled to visit multiple campuses as the district continues to ‘Reconnect Safely, Return Strong’ for the 2020-2021 school year.

Lathan’s stops will feature schools where safety and cleaning procedures will be demonstrated and on display, including the district’s health screening app. Lathan will also visit with school nurses and a first-year principal who are meeting pandemic-related challenges during this year of flexibility. Additionally, the interim superintendent will highlight the district’s historic response to closing the digital divide among its students in need.

All stops below are in-person unless otherwise noted.

***Media must RSVP to [pressoffice@houstonisd.org](mailto:pressoffice@houstonisd.org) with information on which locations they plan to attend. HISD Communications will also provide b-roll of all visits to media.***

**WHO:** HISD Board of Education Trustees, Interim Superintendent **Grenita Lathan**, HISD students, educators, staff, and families

**WHEN/WHERE:** **Monday, Oct. 19, 2020**

**7 - 7:30 a.m. – Young ES, 3555 Bellfort St., 77051**

- **Health Screening App**
  - Dr. Lathan will submit her check-in on HISD’s mobile health app.
- **Transportation and safety measures for bus riders**
  - Dr. Lathan will greet arriving students, many of whom are homeless.

**8 - 8:30 a.m. – Booker T. Washington HS, 4204 Yale St., 77018**

- **Face shield production**
  - Engineering students at Washington HS are producing face shields.

**9 - 9:30 a.m. – Eliot ES, 6411 Laredo St., 77020**

- **Daily cleaning measures to ensure everyone’s safety amid Covid-19**

- The school’s plant operator will demonstrate safety measures taken during the day to keep schools clean.
- Dr. Lathan will speak with Custodian Irma Martinez, an experienced professional who has been recognized for her dedication and high standards.

**10 - 11 a.m. – Highland Heights Elementary, 865 Paul Quinn St., 77091**

- **\*Press Conference\* – 10:30 a.m.**
  - Dr. Lathan will be joined by U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee, Mayor Sylvester Turner, County Commissioner Rodney Ellis, State Senator John Whitmire, State Representative Jarvis Johnson and Ross Moody of the Moody Foundation to speak about students’ resuming face-to-face instruction, and closing the digital divide as HISD Reconnects Safely and Returns Strong.

**11:30 a.m. - noon – Love ES, 1120 W. 13th St., 77008**

- **First-Year Principal – Eden Bass**
  - Dr. Lathan visits the new principal at Love Elementary in this “Year of Flexibility.”

**12:30 - 1 p.m. – Navarro MS, 5100 Polk St., 77023**

- **Face-to-face instruction, elective Karate class**
  - The interim superintendent will visit several classrooms and an elective Karate class, which will be conducted with physical distancing and masks.

**1:30 - 2 p.m. – Mitchell ES, 8050 Springtime Lane, 77075**

- **School destroyed by Harvey reopens as new campus**
  - This is a new campus where the interim superintendent will visit with a family, who despite being flooded out by Hurricane Harvey, decided to remain in the neighborhood because of their desire for their children to continue attending Mitchell ES.

**2:30 - 3 p.m. – Mark White Elementary, 2515 Old Farm Rd., 77063**

- **HISD nurses and safety measures implemented amid COVID-19**
  - Dr. Lathan will meet with Nurse Janda Jelks, who is an HISD graduate of DeBakey High School for Health Professions.

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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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