

HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD Internal Audit Department receives highest rating from international professional association

Nov. 19, 2020 – The Houston Independent School District’s Internal Audit Department has received the highest rating offered by the Institute of Internal Auditors, an international professional organization.

The institute offers three ratings: the highest is “Generally Conforms,” followed by “Partially Conforms,” followed by the lowest rating of “Does Not Conform.” HISD received the “Generally Conforms” rating.

“I am pleased to see that our audit team received the highest assessment from the Institute of Internal Auditors,” HISD Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan said. “Our auditors work to ensure the validity and legality of our financial records, and we appreciate their oversight.”

To obtain the Institute of Internal Auditors’ (IIA) highest rating, HISD’s audit department had to demonstrate that its charter, policies, and processes conform to the institute’s standards.

“This extremely significant accomplishment is a result of a total team effort, which included conducting audits across the district, strong leadership by HISD Board of Education Audit Committee members, and the support of Interim Superintendent Lathan and the executive leadership team,” HISD Chief Audit Executive Garland Blackwell said.

The IIA also commended district auditors for implementing the association’s Quality Assurance Improvement Program, which Blackwell said is the key strategic initiative that led his team to achieve the “Generally Conforms” rating.

Additionally, the IIA created and issued the International Professional Practices Framework to guide those performing audits. The framework includes five mandatory sections that HISD’s audit department applied to its work: Mission of Internal Audit, Standards, Core Principles, Definition of Internal Auditing, and Code of Ethics.

For more information about the IIA, click [here](#).

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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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