

HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD Announces Supports for Students at C and Non-NES D Schools in 2024-2025

January 31, 2024 - The Houston Independent School District (HISD) today released information on additional ways that it will support students in the coming school year (2024-2025) at its C rated campuses as well as D rated schools that are not joining the New Education System (NES). In an effort to promote student performance gains and academic proficiency, HISD will work with these campuses to ensure that they use high-quality instructional materials, sound teaching practices, and effective educational programs.

“We know there are students in our C and D schools who are performing well in academics, in electives, and in other ways,” said HISD Chief Academic Officer Kristen Hole. “But many other students in these schools are not achieving what we know they are capable of. Every student deserves a great education. At our C rated and non-NES D rated schools, principals will continue to make their own decisions about staffing – and these schools will keep their magnet programming. With specific supports and structures, we can also help these schools meet all students’ academic needs. The supports will make it easier for schools to use excellent learning materials and get the most out of their instructional time.”

High-Quality Instructional Materials

Instructional materials are the texts, lessons, assignments, and other content teachers use in the classroom. High-quality materials are aligned to state standards for what students are expected to know and be able to do at each grade level and in each subject. These materials foster deep understanding by reinforcing what students already know, are thoughtfully sequenced, and build on previous lessons. They are rigorous, engaging, and allow teachers to tailor instruction to students’ individual needs.

In 2024-2025, the District’s C rated schools and those D rated schools that are not joining NES will be able to choose from high-quality curricula options for reading-language arts, math, and science.

- If a school is already using an approved high-quality curriculum, HISD’s central office will pay for the associated curricular materials for the coming school year.
- If a school is not using an approved high-quality curriculum:
 - The school can select an approved curriculum from an external provider. HISD’s central office will pay half the adoption cost, and the campus will pay the other half.

- The school can adopt the NES curriculum. HISD's central office will cover the cost of all materials, making the curriculum free for the campus.

Instructional Time

HISD's C and non-NES D campuses will have to provide a minimum amount of instructional time in math and reading-language arts.

Magnet Programming

Magnet programming will continue. There may be some minor scheduling changes.

Educational Programs




This spring, HISD's Division Superintendents and representatives from the divisions will visit C and non-NES D rated campuses to talk with the principals of those schools about their education programs, how the campus is measuring the impact of those programs, and how well the programs are working.

Staff

Principals at HISD's C and non-NES D schools will not be required to replace staff in the coming school year and can make their own staffing decisions.

HISD's A and B rated schools are not impacted by these changes.

The Houston Independent School District is the largest school district in Texas and the eighth-largest in the United States, with 276 schools and nearly 190,000 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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