ITEM A.1 (AGENDA REVIEW)

Is there a way to color-code
K) 19/20
1st) 20/21
2nd) 21/22 normal instruction now 3rd graders?
Additional information was requested from the trustee, and a response will be provided pending clarification of the request.

General education is special education. How is the new head of SPED going to alleviate the workload for personnel and/or add personnel so that IEPs, FIES, ARDs are true indicators of students’ needs being met and not just a checkmark?
The special education department is working closely with state special education conservators to streamline processes and systems to ensure that the district meets its obligation to students with disabilities in determining eligibility for services and implementing student IEPs.

What is the monetary value that the board will see with the change in personnel?
While the monetary value cannot be calculated in terms of productivity, the special education department is staffed in such a way as to maximize the return on the investment in our human capital who lead this work district-wide.

How will the head of SPED use the AIR report to guide their work?
We continue to work closely with state special education conservators in careful planning and consideration of issues raised in the 2018 AIR report.

Will there be an audit of what is still needed to help develop an overhaul of SPED?
The proposed 18-month internal audit plan includes a proposed follow-up audit in special education. In addition, HISD is scheduled for 2022-2023 special education cyclical monitoring review by the Texas Education Agency which will be followed by a comprehensive review of findings.

Will there be pilot programs so that we don’t dismantle what is already working?
Implementation for new processes and systems will be carefully considered to support current effective practices.
How can we learn from what is currently effectively working? What is an example of a high functioning special education program in HISD and around the country?

HISD administration works to engage with the national conversation about best practices in special education and relies on the state special education conservators to provide expertise as well. State special education conservators and district leaders have identified exemplary programs across the district through Community of Practice visits. This information is shared across the school support offices weekly.

What schools lack the least amount of resources for students with disabilities?

Campuses receive positions to support the number of students with disabilities based on a state formula related to PEIMS data and instructional setting codes. The district provides guidance through district staffing guidelines to ensure services are equitable based on student needs. Through a process titled “equity moves,” the district may make changes to leverage resources across the district for students with disabilities as per their Individualized Education Plans (IEPs.)

What is going on with our debate partnership with Houston Urban Debate League (HUDL)?

The partnership between Houston ISD and the Houston Urban Debate League (HUDL) remains in effect. HUDL currently hosts an annual summer camp at the University of Houston that is open to HISD high school students. The week-long camp allows students to learn advanced debate concepts while experiencing life on a university campus. HUDL also hosts the annual City Championship Tournament where they award scholarships for top performing debaters. Currently, we have 23 high schools and nine middle schools that participate in debate competitions coordinated by the UIL Department.

Do we have a partnership with a CHESS program?

While UIL does offer chess competitions for elementary and middle school students, we do not have a partnership with a non-profit organization focused on chess.

Summer School: providing e-readers for all students, specifically for RISE campuses?

We are still in the planning phases of determining summer programming - no determination has been made on specific devices being provided to students.

Debate? Karate? Chess? What academic and/or athletic programming will there be with summer if any—in particular, RISE campuses?

We offer UIL sports programming during the evenings of summer school. We often football, basketball, volleyball, soccer, track/cross country, softball, swim/water polo, tennis and golf at the district facilities.
and campuses across the city. For example, last year swim was rotated at Kashmere HS, Milby HS and Lamar HS.

**How are scores being stored/monitored year after year?**
Students cannot access year over year in the Renaissance platform, but they can see these in OnTrack. OnTrack is the space where we house all student assessment data for teachers and students.

**Does it follow the student?**
Students do have access to their historical data if the assessment was taken within HISD.

**Is it possible to have a writing portfolio to follow the student year after year?**
Given the mobility and size of the district, more research would be needed to go into whether implementation of writing portfolios in the district is possible.

**How, if so, are wrap around specialists and the HIPPY program centered around or stationed at rise campuses and/or refugee families? Are we assisting the families in their native languages?**
The HIPPY staff have been closely working with the Wraparound specialists this year to identify at-risk families that can benefit from the program and that might need additional referrals outside of the HIPPY services.

Currently, HIPPY is servicing parents at the following Rise schools: Highland Heights, Osborne, Smith, Robinson, Northline, Young. However, we are experiencing challenges in servicing the other schools - pending principal's approval to host a session for parents, limited HIPPY staff to service all schools, and vacancies to be filled.

The HIPPY curriculum is offered in English and Spanish. In addition, we support our families in Hindu, Malayalam, Telugu, as well other languages spoken by our home instructors.

**Pre-k: what is the data with teacher satisfaction using Savaas?**
This data will be available at the end of the 22-23 school year.

**Please provide the data that shows % of 2018-2019 & 2019-2020 children who attended any known PreK compared to 2022-2023 students.**
This date is not readily available in a prepared format and will require additional time for our Research & Accountability department to research existing data and provide a comprehensive response.
ITEM H.1
How does an agreement between the city and HISD come about? Community members have asked about creating an agreement for DeZavala Elementary and the city park so that students have more space.
The school Principal would initiate an inquiry detailing what is being requested and making a case for why/how it would be good for the campus and community. The inquiry would then be directed to Real Estate who would contact the City of Houston to explore what opportunities exist for a formal agreement.

ITEM I.1
I1a- 22-06-06-01 – Which schools are getting repairs to their playground equipment? Briscoe Elementary currently does not have a functioning playground for ECC students.

Although we do not have a project list, we receive and process requests for service as quickly as possible. As we receive requests for repairs to the campus playgrounds, the team completes a site assessment to determine if repairs/replacement will be needed. Project I1a- 22-06-06-01 will allow us to complete the repairs/replacement with one of the vendors, if approved. We will also investigate to determine what is needed at Briscoe ES.

23-08-11 – How are we currently using the pools in our district to get the most effective usage?
Some campuses use their pools during the day for classes. We also use our pools for University Interscholastic League (UIL) water polo and swim practices, district meets, and UIL regional meets. We also host summer swim camps.

Are pool expenditures automatic? I have a pool at one at one of the district IV schools that is not functioning, but still gets inspected regularly. So, are the companies being paid by the pool or by the district as a whole?
Pool expenditures are not automatic. Annual inspections are completed by internal staff. As maintenance requests are received for pools, the facilities team is dispatched to investigate and will onboard approved vendor if/when needed to service as quickly as possible.

23-10-13-04 – What services does Amazon Business provide to the district?
This project will allow all campuses and departments to purchase items needed directly from Amazon only. Items include but are not limited to educational-related supplies/materials, office supplies, and textbooks/consumables.
22-06-15-01 – What exactly is being bought?
This project allows for all walk-through and handheld metal detectors districtwide to be serviced and repaired.

ITEMS I.6-I.9
*UPDATED 12/6/22*
Please explain items I.6-I.9.
Agenda items I-6, I-7, I-8, and I-9 are all related items and options for the Districts FY 2023 planned bond defeasance and refunding/remarketing opportunities.

The district’s “Plan A” is in items I-6 and I-7 which achieves the following:
Defeasance of $110 million in debt
Combines the Remarketing of the Series 2012 and Series 2014A-1B bonds into one transaction to decrease related cost of issuance and enhance the marketability of district bonds.
Captures potential debt service savings by refunding fixed rate bonds that meet the savings threshold in the board approved debt management policy.

Agenda items I-8 and I-9 are the district’s “Plan B” option which provides flexibility for the District to proceed with the required defeasance and remarketings if market conditions are not conducive to combining the Remarketing of the Series 2012 and 2014A-1B into one transaction due to unforeseen adverse changes in capital market conditions.

These items give the district options to take timely action on the defeasance and refunding of debt to provide the district and taxpayers the most interest savings possible and manage the district’s debt service tax rate.

ITEM J.1
What has HISD done for past contract studies for vendors?
The district has not participated in this type of study in the past. HISD does not have the internal capacity or expertise to do its own Disparity/Croson Study. Specific methodologies that have been approved by courts must be used. In addition, the time it would take to research past HISD vendors, as well as determine the available capacity of local MWBE vendors, is beyond the capacity of HISD staff. To legally support continuation of an MWBE program requires a study that must be outsourced.
What are we currently doing to promote businesses that might meet the criteria?
The district has a Supplier Diversity department that advocates fair and equitable opportunities for the participation of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE). The team is actively involved with the City of Houston’s Office of Business Opportunity, Houston Minority Supplier Development Council, Women’s Business Enterprise Alliance, Houston Minority Business Development Agency, and many Chamber of Commerce throughout Houston. The Supplier Diversity department is also a founding member of the Interagency Mentor-Protege Program to foster and strengthen long-term, effective working relationships between established companies and emerging M/WBE firms.