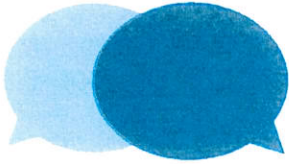


LISTEN & LEARN TOUR



A CONVERSATION WITH

SUPERINTENDENT CARRANZA

HOSTED BY HISD BOARD OF EDUCATION TRUSTEES

HISD Board of Education trustees will be hosting a series of community town hall meetings with newly appointed HISD Superintendent Richard Carranza. Superintendent Carranza will be available to listen to input from the community about the district's future and learn about key issues that are important to stakeholders.

The following sessions are planned, but more dates will be added.

WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 14 | 6 P.M.

Gregory-Lincoln Education Center
1101 Taft Street
Houston, TX 77019
Hosted by Trustee
Diana Dávila, District VIII

THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 15 | 6:30 P.M.

Chavez High School
8501 Howard Drive
Houston, TX 77017
Hosted by Trustee
Manuel Rodriguez Jr., District III

FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 16 | 7 P.M.

Jones Futures Academy
7414 Saint Lo Road
Houston, TX 77033
Hosted by Trustee
Jolanda Jones, District IV

SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 17 | 12 P.M.

Attucks Middle School
4330 Belfort Street
Houston, TX 77051
Hosted by Trustee
Jolanda Jones, District IV

MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 19 | 4 P.M.

Hartman Middle School
7111 Westover Street
Houston, TX 77087
Hosted by Trustee
Manuel Rodriguez Jr., District III

MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 19 | 7 P.M.

Hamilton Middle School
139 East 20th Street
Houston, TX 77008
Hosted by Trustee
Anna Eastman, District I

TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 20 | 9 A.M.

Marshall Elementary School
6200 Winfield Road
Houston, TX 77050
Hosted by Trustee
Diana Dávila, District VIII

TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 20 | 6 P.M.

Black Middle School
1575 Chantilly Lane
Houston, TX 77018
Hosted by Trustee
Rhonda Skillern-Jones, District II

WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 21 | 6 P.M.

McReynolds Middle School
5910 Market Street
Houston, TX 77020
Hosted by Trustee
Diana Dávila, District VIII

MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 26 | 1 P.M.

Blackshear Elementary School
2900 Holman Street
Houston, TX 77004
Hosted by Trustee
Jolanda Jones, District IV

TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 27 | 6 P.M.

Austin High School
1700 Dumble Street
Houston, TX 77023
Hosted by Trustee
Diana Dávila, District VIII

MONDAY | OCTOBER 3 | 6 P.M.

Fleming Middle School
4910 Collingsworth Street
Houston, TX 77026
Hosted by Trustee
Rhonda Skillern-Jones, District II

WEDNESDAY | OCTOBER 5 | 6 P.M.

Forest Brook Middle School
7525 Tidwell Road
Houston, TX 77016
Hosted by Trustee
Rhonda Skillern-Jones, District II

THURSDAY | OCTOBER 6 | 7 P.M.

HCC - Willie Lee Gay Hall
1990 Airport Blvd.
Houston, TX 77501
Hosted by Trustee
Wanda Adams, District IX

MONDAY | OCTOBER 24 | 6 P.M.

Madison High School
13719 Whiteheather Drive
Houston, TX 77045
Hosted by Trustee
Wanda Adams, District IX

TUESDAY | OCTOBER 25 | 6 P.M.

Parker Elementary School
10626 Atwell Drive
Houston, TX 77096
Hosted by Trustee
Wanda Adams, District IX

Why is the district losing \$162 million, and what is the plan to address that?

Under the state's funding structure, HISD is considered "property-wealthy" and is required to make a "recapture" payment to the state under Chapter 41 of the Texas Education Code. The payment for the 2016-17 school year is \$162 million, which the district would pay by purchasing attendance credits. At its June meeting, HISD approved a 2016-17 budget, seeking to minimize classroom impact of the \$162 million payment. The budget contained \$84.3 million in cuts to central office and districtwide programs and \$40 million in cuts from schools. In the future, annual payments to the state could be even higher.

What is Chapter 41?

The Chapter 41 law, commonly known as the "Robin Hood" plan, was passed by the Legislature in 1993 in an attempt to equalize disparities between property-wealthy and property-poor districts. Under the law, the state receives local revenue from property-wealthy districts with revenue that exceeds a state-set level and redistributes those funds to pay for public education — a process known as "recapture." Though nearly 80 percent of HISD students come from low-income families, rising property values in Houston and an outdated school finance system caused HISD in 2016 to go into recapture.

Why is HISD considered wealthy if nearly 80 percent of the district's students are economically disadvantaged?

A district's wealth is measured in terms of the taxable value of property within the district's borders, divided by the number of students in weighted average daily attendance (WADA). WADA is higher than actual enrollment. Weights are added to average daily attendance (ADA) for additional services such as at-risk, bilingual, special education, career and technology, and gifted and talented services. If a district's wealth per WADA exceeds limits established under the law, the district is considered "property wealthy."

What is an attendance credit? What does purchasing attendance credits mean?

Purchasing attendance credits means HISD is paying the state the cost of educating students not in HISD. The state uses HISD's local property tax dollars instead of state general revenue to fund public education.

Doesn't recapture make funding in Texas more fair and equitable?

Not exactly. The purpose of recapture was to ensure similar revenue for similar tax effort. This meant that ultra-wealthy districts had to raise their tax rates, and the excess revenue raised was shared across the state. The problem is that as property values have risen, along with the costs of educating kids — more importantly, high-needs kids — state formulas haven't kept up. It's especially unfortunate for HISD. HISD educates more low-income children than any Texas district's total student population.

What are the options for paying the projected \$162 million owed to the state?

At its August meeting, the Board called an election seeking voter approval to send local tax dollars to the state. This referendum is necessary; otherwise, the district would not be able to adopt a tax rate or collect taxes. The election will be Nov. 8, 2016. Here are the two options pending the outcome of that election.

- **Option 1:** If voters approve the measure, HISD will begin paying the \$162 million next spring. The district will continue to make annual recapture payments for the foreseeable future.
- **Option 2:** If HISD voters do not approve the measure, HISD would then be subject to detachment of about \$18 billion worth of commercial property next July. The law allows the Texas Education Agency to detach the most valuable commercial properties within HISD and reassign those properties to other school districts. HISD would lose that revenue from the business community, and the local share would possibly increase.

How will recapture affect HISD campuses?

Because the majority of HISD's budget is spent directly on schools, there was no way to implement the state-mandated cuts without impacting classrooms. The 2016-17 budget includes a \$179-per-student funding loss for schools, causing a \$40 million cut to HISD's campuses.

Who receives the money HISD must pay in recapture?

The state uses recapture to fund public education statewide, lessening the dollars it must contribute from its general fund. As a property-wealthy district, HISD pays the state more than it receives in aid.

Is there anything that HISD can do to change the current funding system?

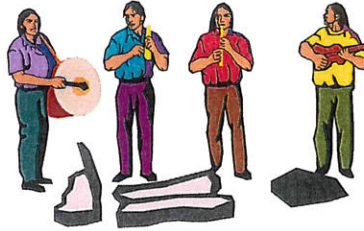
In 2011, HISD was among 600 school districts that filed a lawsuit against the state contending that the current system failed to provide adequate funding. On May 13, the Texas State Supreme Court dealt a setback to that effort and ruled the current system is constitutional, but flawed. The future of the state's school finance system now rests with the Legislature. You may voice your opinion with your HISD board member and state lawmakers by explaining how recapture impacts your home and your community.

Can HISD lower property values to avoid recapture in the future?

No. Property values are determined by the Harris County Appraisal District.

Can the district change its tax rate to get out of recapture?

No. If the district raise its tax rate, recapture increases. And if it lowers the rate, it would face a penalty.



Parker's 13th Annual
Open Mic Concert
Thursday, November 10, 2016
Calling all Family Members, Moms, Dads, Uncles, Aunts
And Alumni (16 yrs. and older)

Hey kids, do you have a family member who plays a musical instrument? Is your uncle, aunt, mom or dad a great singer? Does grandpa like to kick out the jams? Well, tell them that they are needed to perform at this year's 13th Annual Open Mic Concert! Just think how much fun it will be to see your father or mother dust off that old trombone, guitar or Sarrusaphone and perform for all your friends at Parker Elementary. It's a great show every year, but we need you to "convince" your family members to join us. Space is limited, so return this form ASAP to the Magnet Office. Each Performer will perform one selection.

Name: _____ Child's Name _____

Relationship to child: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____ Daytime Phone _____

What instrument do you play? _____

What schools did you attend? _____

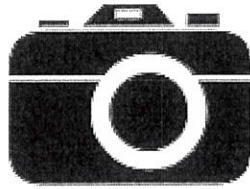
Who did you study music with? _____

Brushes with Greatness?! _____

What song (s) would you like to perform tonight? _____

What is your favorite breakfast cereal? _____

Please return this form to the Magnet Office by Nov.4, 2016

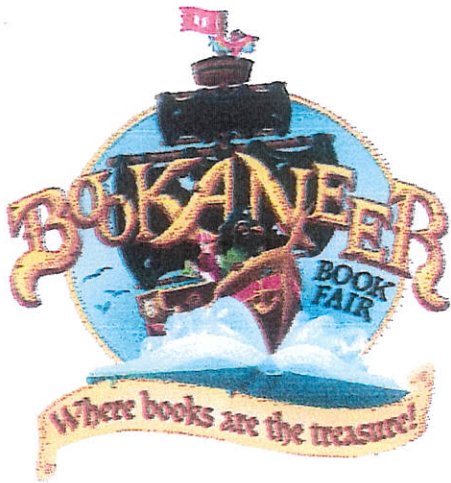


Picture Day

Tuesday, November 1, 2016

Because of construction, we have to make some adjustments. Please note:

- Class pictures and individual pictures will be taken on Tuesday, November 1, 2016.
- Ordering information for the **Class Group pictures** will be sent at a later date.
- There will be **NO** Spring pictures taken this school year.
- There will be **NO RETAKES.**
- November 1, 2016 will be **the only picture day** for the 2016-2017 school year.
- Please have your child at school on time. Picture taking starts at 7:55 a.m.
- **Fall Individual Portrait orders must be pre-paid.** On November 1st, please return payment with the attached order form/envelope. You may also prepay online (see order form for instructions). Class Group Portrait money is not being accepted at this time.
- Please enclose **exact** cash amount in envelope.
- **LATE ORDERS WILL NOT BE TAKEN.** If you do not send your money on November 1st, you must contact 1st Photo Texas direct @832-414-8968.
- **Uniforms are not required for pictures on Tuesday, November 1st.**



Dear Families,

Our school is challenging students to read at least 100,000 minutes by November 3. If every student reads 15 minutes each day for the next 9 days, we would easily have more than 100,000 minutes. Let's see how many we can really read! If students read 100,000 minutes by November 3, I have agreed to let them dress up as their favorite book character on November 4!

I am hoping that when the student body sees that I am willing to do something wacky, just to get them to read more, it tells them that I consider reading to be very important.

Good reading skills provide all children with a valuable educational advantage. Allowing kids to choose their own books by connecting them with books they want to read will motivate them to practice more. I hope that letting the students dress as their favorite character will rally our entire school community around a reading goal and get everyone more focused on the importance of reading.


You can count time you spend reading aloud to your child. Reading together also strengthens the connection between you and your child – here are a few ways you can promote reading in your own home:

- Encourage your child to choose the books they want to read.
- Share the books that you loved as a kid with your own child.
- Start a Family Book Club and enjoy the same book together.
- Visit the Book Fair with your child.
- Encourage reading every day with library visits, story-time at home, and conversations about books. Let your child see you reading.



We hope your family makes reading a big part of your family fun.

Sincerely,
Lori Frodine



Name: _____
Track your reading minutes,

	Date	Minutes Read
1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____
11.	_____	_____
12.	_____	_____
13.	_____	_____
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19.	_____	_____
20.	_____	_____

SCHOLASTIC
open a world of possible

USED CHILDREN'S MAGAZINES NEEDED

IF YOU HAVE USED CHILDREN'S
MAGAZINES THAT YOU NO LONGER
NEED, PLEASE DELIVER THEM TO MR.
BERRY SO THEY CAN BE SHARED
WITH OTHER CHILDREN THROUGH
THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY!

SOME EXAMPLES:

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS
RANGER RICK JR.

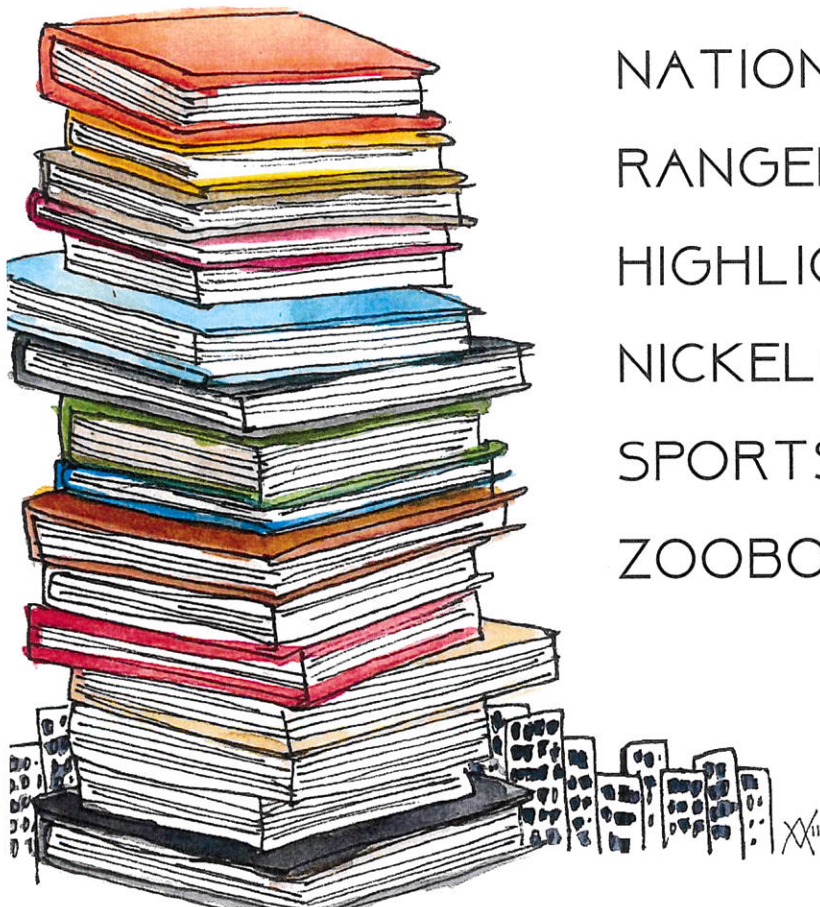
HIGHLIGHTS

NICKELODEON MAGAZINE

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED KIDS

ZOOBOOKS

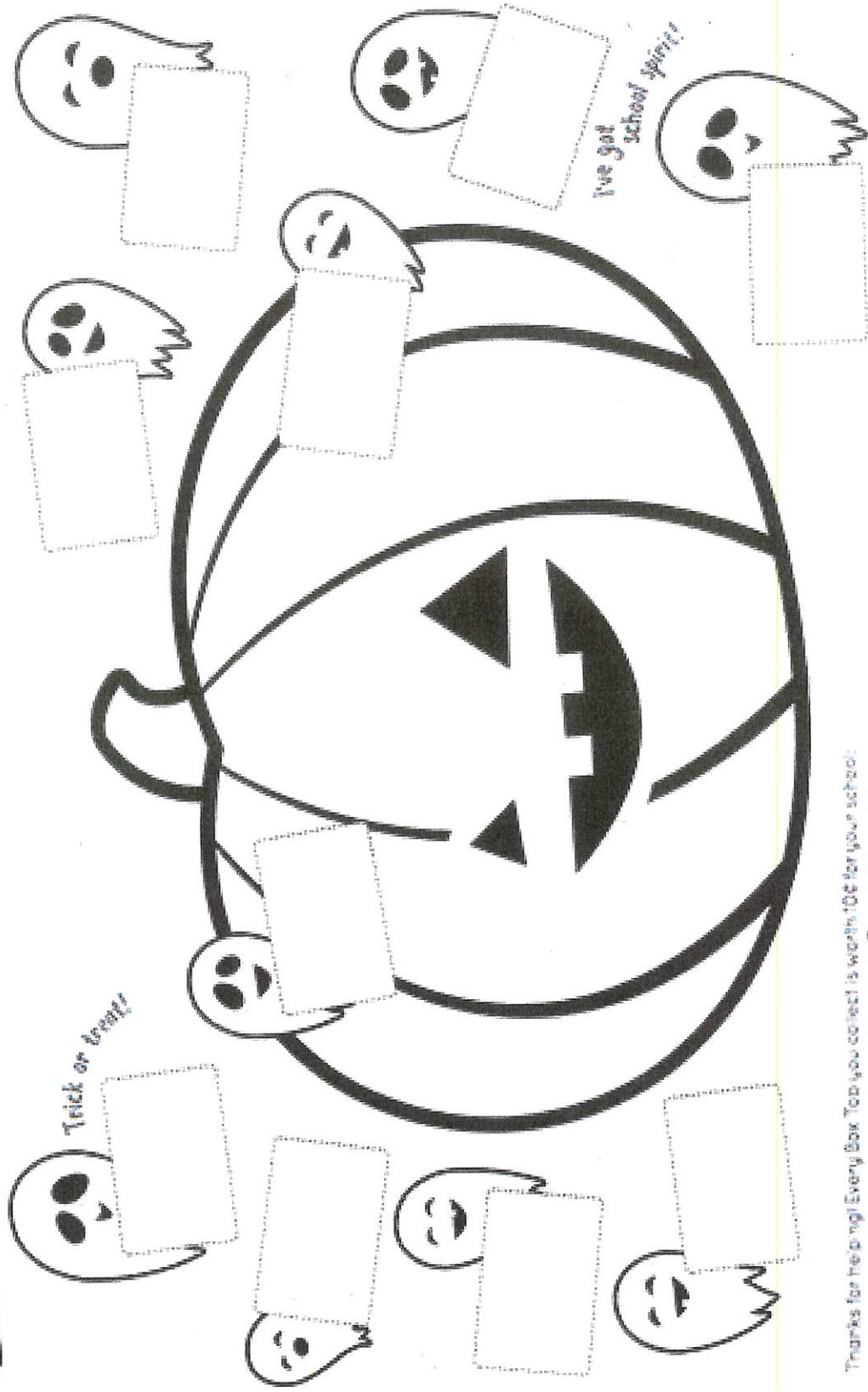
THANK
YOU!





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Name: _____ Teacher: _____ Grade: _____