



HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Name of the School

0000 Name of Street • Houston, Texas 77000-0000

First and Last Name

Job Title

www.HoustonISD.org
www.twitter.com/HoustonISD

October, 2017

Dear Parents,

HISD's Vanguard (VG) Neighborhood and VG Magnet programs serve students who have been identified as gifted and talented in general intellectual ability. These Vanguard programs offer a differentiated curriculum designed to meet the needs of gifted students by modifying the depth, complexity, and pacing of the general school program.

HISD screens kindergarten and fifth grade students who were not previously identified in what is called Universal Testing. This letter is to inform you that this process begins the week of October 30, 2017. The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) and Iowa/Logramos Assessments are administered universally to all kindergarten and fifth grade students for Gifted and Talented (G/T) identification. The CogAT has been scheduled for October 30—November 10, 2017. The Iowa/Logramos has been scheduled for November 1—December 1, 2017.

The universal testing of kindergarten and fifth grade students allows identified students to receive G/T services in HISD VG Programs during the Spring of their current school year. Identified students maintain their G/T status throughout their tenure in HISD and identification is transferable from one HISD campus to another as long as the student is continuously enrolled in a HISD school.

Upon completion of the G/T identification process, parents are notified and will receive a copy of the completed Matrix. In the event that you are not notified, you may contact your school's Vanguard Coordinator. If a student does not qualify for G/T services, parents can request a Matrix Review with the Vanguard Coordinator at their enrolled/current campus and/or request that the student be tested once per year.

Matrix Review Procedures for G/T Identification

A Matrix Review process is in place in accordance with state rule (19 TAC §89.1 (5)). If your student is not identified as G/T, parents of non-qualified students can request a review by bringing forth the final report card for the current school year. The Vanguard Coordinator will contact you if the student's status changes. If you have further questions about the G/T Identification process or testing schedule, please contact the Vanguard Coordinator at your campus.

Sincerely,

Carol Kehlenbrink
Campus Vanguard Coordinator

Parker Elem.
Campus Name

713-726-3634
Phone

ckehlenb@houstonisd.org
Email

2017–2018 TITLE I, PART A PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY

Houston Independent School District (HISD) will implement the following Every Student Succeeds Act requirements:

1. Conduct a meaningful consultation with parents of participating children to implement programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents at all of its Title I, Part A schools.
2. Develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of participating children the district's written parent involvement policy. The district will incorporate this policy into the district's plan.
3. Provide technical assistance for all of its Title I, Part A schools to develop jointly with parents the school's written parental involvement policy including the school-parent compact.
4. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist its Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
5. Support its Title I, Part A schools to build the schools' and parents' capacity for active parental involvement and promoting parenting skills and family literacy to improve academic achievement.
6. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies for the Title I, Part A program with parental involvement strategies under other programs when feasible.
7. Conduct with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy and its program in improving the academic quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The district will use the findings of such evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, the parental involvement policies.
8. Identify any barriers to greater participation by parents in activities of participating children at its Title I, Part A schools with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background.
9. Ensure that all parent notifications and school reports will be in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Houston Independent School District is committed to working together with parents, students, the community and other stakeholders to improve student academic achievement. The goal of HISD is to ensure that all students graduate from high school ready to succeed in college and/or the career of their choice. The district recognizes that parents play an extremely important role as their child's first teacher and are valued partners in the educational process. As a result, parents will be included in appropriate decision-making opportunities to support student academic achievement. Partnerships with parents and the community are vital. Therefore, HISD encourages the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. HISD wants parents to:

- Stay informed about their child's academic well-being through various forms of communication.
- Work in partnership with school staff to help their child to achieve at the highest levels.
- Communicate to their child the importance of being prepared for college and a career.

The HISD curriculum is based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and includes non-negotiable objectives that must be taught at every grade level. However, individual schools are held accountable for innovative instructional programs and its instructional results. Every HISD student will be provided equal access to rigorous instruction and academic programs. HISD recognizes that some students

may need additional assistance which is available through the Title I, Part A program to obtain high academic achievement.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN DEVELOPING THE POLICY

All school and district activities will promote and encourage parental involvement. The district will offer Parent Consultation Meetings to collaborate with parents and other stakeholders about the policy. Parent Consultation Meetings will consist of volunteers such as parents, guardians, Title I Coordinators, Title I Campus Contacts or other campus staff members, administrators, members of the community and central office staff to update the District Parental Involvement Policy. The goal is to have parent participation in the decision-making process regarding the Title I, Part A program.

CAPACITY BUILDING AND COORDINATION

The purpose of capacity building is to ensure long-term continuous parental involvement. Capacity building activities and trainings (i.e. Literacy Night, Math and Science Camp, Reading Skills and Homework Help) will be provided to parents to increase academic achievement through districtwide and campus efforts. The district will coordinate these efforts and strategies with other federal and state programs in a variety of ways.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACTS

A School-Parent Compact is an agreement that outlines how parents, staff, and students will share responsibility for improved academic achievement. Each school must share the responsibility with parents for high student academic performance by developing a School-Parent Compact cooperatively and collaboratively with parents.

Parents will receive the School-Parent Compact from their child's school with a list of responsibilities. Teachers, parents, and students will each have specific responsibilities for helping students achieve their goals. Student responsibilities may vary by grade level. Communication between parents and school personnel must be in the language parents understand.

The School-Parent Compact is strongly encouraged to be discussed at all school events. Per the United States Department of Education (USDE) statute, in elementary schools the School-Parent Compact shall be discussed, at least annually, at parent-teacher conferences as the compact relates to the individual child's achievement.

TYPES OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

There are many ways in which parents can become involved with their child's education. HISD values contributions that take place at home, at school and in the community. Reading to children at home and talking with them at family meals are as important as volunteering at school and serving on advisory committees. Many types of parental involvement are needed in a school-home-community partnership to ensure that all children succeed. Each Title I, Part A campus is responsible for creating meaningful ways for parents to be involved in their child's education. Parents are encouraged to participate in a variety of parental involvement activities such as the Read Houston Read program, the PTA/PTO/PAC groups and serve as a campus volunteer. The Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is a best practice that allows parents to be involved in an organized, ongoing and timely way in planning, reviewing and improving Title I, Part A

programs. For the safety of all students, all volunteers are required to register through the Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) program.

MATCHING PROGRAMS TO THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

Each year, HISD will determine the needs of parents and children in the community through a variety of measures. This includes a districtwide Annual Consultation Meeting which is required for parents to consult in the design, planning and implementation of its Federal Programs. In collaboration with the Family and Community Empowerment (FACE) Department, a variety of workshops and programs will be made available to parents to improve the involvement in their child's education and academic achievement. Parents will be notified about these opportunities through the schools. Parents may also contact the Department of External Funding or their local school office at any time to express an interest in a particular type of workshop or to make other suggestions.

STAFF-PARENT COMMUNICATION

For Title I, Part A campuses, communication with parents is important. To facilitate excellent communication between parent and school personnel, the school may utilize the following strategies: monthly newsletters, written notifications, phone calls, emails, social media engines and podcasts. Communication between parents and school personnel must be in the language parents understand. To better assist campus-parent communication, the district may provide training for school personnel on beneficial communication skills with parents.

ANNUAL MEETING FOR TITLE I, PART A PARENTS (TO BE HELD DISTRICTWIDE AND IN EACH SCHOOL)

An Annual Meeting for Title I, Part A parents will be held as a stand-alone campus meeting separate from Open House or any other school/parent meeting. The district will provide training for schools on Title I, Part A Section 1118 and best practices in conducting the Title I, Part A Annual Meetings where parents are informed on how funds are used on their campus for parental involvement activities. This Annual Meeting must be offered at times that are most convenient for parents.

EVALUATION

In collaboration with parents, HISD will conduct an Annual Consultation Meeting to review the content and effectiveness of all federal programs, and parents will be asked for their input. The district will evaluate the Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Program by collecting information from parent surveys. The parent survey results will measure any increase in parental involvement and identify any barriers to effective parental participation. Annually, HISD will review and revise, as necessary, the district Parental Involvement Policy on the basis of this annual review.

CONCLUSION

HISD is committed to ensuring that parents are partners in all Title I, Part A schools. "Parents as Partners" is one of the Core Values of the district's ideology and will be supported by the Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Program promoted by empowering parents, principals, and school and district staff.

Parker PTO Needs Your Support!!

To become a PTO member, you must **JOIN online!!**

www.ParkerPTO.org



WIN A POPSICLE PARTY FOR YOUR CLASS!!

every homeroom with 100% PTO Membership

WIN A \$100 GIFT CARD FOR YOUR TEACHER!!

every homeroom with 100% PTO Membership

**LET'S HAVE SOME FUN REACHING OUR GOAL OF
100% PARKER FAMILY PTO MEMBERSHIP**

Contest Ends October 19th

www.ParkerPTO.org

Memberships begin at \$20 per family.

Any questions? Please call/email Trisha Kennedy, Communications VP
832.788.6583 or communicationsvp@parkerpto.org



Westbury High School
CHEERLEADER/STUNT TEAM

Mini Cheer
CLINIC

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 7, 2017

TIME: 9AM TO 3PM

COST: \$25.00 PER PARTICIPANT (EARLY BIRD)
\$30.00 PER PARTICIPANT AFTER OCT. 1

FOR

WHS Homecoming Football Game
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2017
BUTLER STADIUM



For any questions contact Erica Rose, Cheer Coach, at
erose4@houstonisd.org

Future Westbury Cheerleader/Stunt Team Clinic

WOULD YOU LIKE TO Perform WITH THE Varsity Cheerleaders at Westbury??



When: Friday, October 13, 2017 Game
 Saturday October 7, 2017 Clinic
Where: WHS Homecoming Football Game
Place: Butler Stadium
Time: Check in @ 6:00PM / Perform at 7:00 PM
Cost: \$25.00 per participant (EARLY BIRD PRICING)
 \$30.00 per participant after October 1, 2017
Who: any Pre-K through 6th Grader
 **Shirt Order will be October 7th at the end of the Clinic



Participation in the clinic includes the following:

- ☆ Cheer instructions from the Westbury High School Varsity Cheerleaders (Includes Cheer/Dance/Jumps/Motions)
- ☆ Perform in a choreographed routine at the football game. (Cheer/Chant) 1st & 2nd Quarter
- ☆ Receive a Future Varsity Cheerleader T-Shirt.
- ☆ Admission into Westbury HS Varsity Football Game (Parents/guests will need to purchase their own tickets into the game) \$6 at Westbury High School
- ☆ Parents will have the opportunity to take pictures of their daughter and her Cheerleader Buddy & Mascot Friday, after the performance.

***** Important ***:** Each participant **MUST** attend the clinic on Saturday, October 8th from 9am to 3:00pm in the Westbury High School GYM in order to perform at the game on Friday. Check-in for the clinic on Saturday will begin at 8:45am outside of the GYM. Park and enter the school and head towards the gymnasium. The 2017-2018 Cheerleaders will be there to help direct you. You do not need to stay with your child, but are more than welcome to stay in the bleachers while they practice. Specific instructions about the performance on Friday night will be given out at the clinic on Saturday. *Suggestion bring a light snack for breaks and water.*

☆ For any questions contact Erica Rose, Cheer Coach, at Erose4@houstonisd.org



DETACH THIS PORTION AND INCLUDE WITH PAYMENT.

You **MUST** return this completed form with Cash or Money Order made payable to Westbury Cheer Booster Club – and it must be RECEIVED NO LATER THAN Saturday October 8, 2016 at 9:45 am.

Mail to: Erica Rose, Cheer Coach, 11911 Chimney Rock Rd, Houston, TX 77035 or drop off at the Westbury High School front office to the attn. of Cheer Coach Rose. Remember, this form & payment are due October 5th to guarantee t-shirt size. Thank you! Checks made out to Westbury Cheer Booster Club

Name of Child: _____ 2nd Child: _____ (Please print clearly.)

Parent/Guardian: _____

Phone Number: _____

Money Order: _____ or Cash _____

Name of Westbury Cheerleader who recruited you (If applicable): _____

T-Shirt Size (Please Circle) –
 Youth XS / Youth Small / Youth Medium / Youth Large / Youth XL / Adult Small / Adult Medium / Adult Large

**** All participants MUST wear BLUE JEAN SHORTS/Blue Shorts and their FUTURE Cheerleader T-SHIRT for the performance on Saturday Night. Wear comfortable, unrestrictive clothing to the clinic on Friday.**

***** CLINIC RELEASE FORM ON BACK MUST BE FILLED OUT! THANK YOU!**

Houston Independent School District

Westbury High School

Permission Slip and Medical Release for Westbury Cheer Clinic

I hereby give my consent for _____ (print Future Cheerleader's name) to participate in the Future Cheerleader Clinic & Homecoming Performance. I understand that my child does not need a physical examination and that I am responsible for the health and ability of my child in allowing them to participate. I recognize that Houston Independent School District, its trustees, agents, and employees have sovereign or governmental immunity under Texas law. I understand that the District, its trustees, agents and employees are not waiving any sovereign or governmental immunity that it or they have under Texas or other applicable laws.

I, _____, the parent/guardian of _____, authorize the director to give permission for any emergency medical services deemed necessary for my child. I understand that any medical expenses incurred will be my responsibility.

The following pre-existing medical conditions or allergic reactions to medication are provided for your information:

The following other pertinent information is also provided for your information:

Medical Insurance: Yes___ No___ Company_____

Physician: _____ Phone Number: _____

Emergency Phone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Address: _____

Phone: _____ Student DOB: _____

I, the undersigned, have read this Release and Permission Form and understand all of its terms. I have executed it voluntarily and with full knowledge of its significance. This Release and Permission form are executed on the behalf of my child/ward, _____. This Release and Permission Form is effective while my child is participating in the clinic and performing at the game.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date