## **HISD PRESS RELEASE**

## Interim Superintendent Lathan to receive Audrey H. Lawson IMPACT Award

Award being presented at Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church scholarship luncheon

March 22, 2018 – Houston Independent School District Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan will receive the Audrey H. Lawson IMPACT Award this weekend at the annual scholarship luncheon and fashion show hosted by Houston's historic Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church.

Lathan is among six community leaders selected for the impact they have on the local community. Other honorees include NASA's Chief Education Officer Adena Williams Loston, Metropolitan Transit Authority General Counsel Cydonii Fairfax, NASA General Counsel Sumara Thompson-King, commercial and residential real estate broker Courtney Johnson Rose and author and Pastor Mia K. Wright.

"I am honored and humbled to be in such great company," Lathan said, "And I want to thank Wheeler Avenue Inner City Visions, Inc. and the Women's Guild for recognizing me and the other outstanding women who work very hard to uplift our respective communities." The annual luncheon and fashion show is named for late community leader and activist Audrey Lawson, who was the wife of the founding pastor of Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church, Rev. William A. Lawson. An HISD middle school also bears Audrey Lawson's name.

The annual scholarship luncheon has already taken in a record \$103,000 this year to assist local students achieve their higher education goals.

The event takes place Saturday, March 23 at 11:30 a.m. at the Hilton Americas-Houston, 1600 Lamar St., 77010. Honorary chairs are business owners Richard and Aundrea Young.

Media is invited to attend the luncheon.

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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 284 schools and more than 214,000 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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