

**HISD Board of Education Runoff Election Results**

Elizabeth Santos and Sergio Lira were elected to the Houston Independent School District Board of Education on Saturday, according to unofficial results reported by the Harris County Clerk’s Office.

 Santos defeated Gretchen Himsl to win the District I seat being vacated by Anna Eastman, and Lira defeated Jesse Rodriguez for the District III seat. The results will be official once they are canvassed by the Board.

 Santos is a product of HISD, attending Janowski and Herrera elementary schools, Burbank Middle School, and Sam Houston Math, Science and Technology Center. She’s a UH-Downtown grad and has spent the last 10 years as a teacher in HISD.

 “As a graduate of Herrera, Burbank, Sam Houston, a volunteer and a 10-year veteran teacher in the schools where my family and I graduated, and now an HISD School Board trustee, my heart has always been with our children and with the community,” Santos said. “I am grateful for the relationships and driving force behind our campaign -- our District I community.”

 Lira is an assistant principal at Bellaire High School. He’s a graduate of the University of St. Thomas and UH-Clear Lake, and completed his doctorate in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at the University of Houston in 2015.

 “I would like to thank all of my supporters, volunteers and HISD,” said Lira. “I look forward to working with Superintendent Carranza and the school board to ensure that we provide adequate resources to District III. We will work together as a team to do what is right for all students.”

**Santos, Lira, new District V trustee Susan Deigaard, and re-elected trustees Wanda Adams, Anne Sung, and Holly Maria Flynn Vilaseca will be sworn in at 11:30 a.m. on January 18 in the Manuel Rodríguez Board Auditorium at the Hattie Mae White Educational Support Center, 4400 W. 18th St. A reception will follow.**

Lira will fill the unexpired term of the late District III Trustee Manuel Rodríguez Jr., which runs through 2019.

 The HISD Board of Education is comprised of nine trustees each of whom serves a four-year term.

 Click [here](http://www.houstonisd.org/cms/lib2/TX01001591/Centricity/Domain/7897/Board_districts_1516.pdf) to see a map of HISD trustee districts.

The Houston Independent School District Board of Education during its December meeting on Thursday will consider a plan to rebuild four elementary schools that sustained the most severe flood damage as a result of Hurricane Harvey.

The board’s regular monthly meeting begins at **5 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 14, 2017**, in the Manuel Rodríguez Jr. Board Auditorium of the Hattie Mae White Educational Support Center, 4400 W. 18th St. Click [here](http://www.houstonisd.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=51135&dataid=212834&FileName=121417OA_POST.pdf) to view the full agenda.

Facilities assessments of the four elementary schools — Braeburn, Scarborough, Kolter, and Mitchell — found significant property damage, as well as a strong need to raise the elevation of the buildings to prevent potential future flood damage.

The cost to replace the four schools is estimated at $126 million. It would be funded by a combination of Operations reserves and Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) funds.

“Based on the catastrophic flood damage and the elevation increase each campus would need to prevent future flooding, we’ve decided that the best use of HISD resources is to rebuild these four buildings,” HISD Chief Operating Officer Brian Busby said. “These are identical campuses that were all built the same year. Now they will be rebuilt to better handle any potential future flooding.”

 The first day of the 2017-2018 school year for HISD initially was planned for Monday, Aug. 28, but that start date was delayed as a result of flooding from Hurricane Harvey. Most HISD schools opened on Sept. 11, but some — such as the four above — were further delayed or even relocated to temporary campuses as crews worked to repair buildings that sustained the most significant damage during the storm.

The proposal going before trustees calls for the four schools to be demolished and rebuilt at their current sites. The plan would require the students and staff to remain in their current temporary locations until new facilities can be reconstructed at their original location.

If the plan is approved by the board, the four schools could be completed and open to students as early as 2020.

Three additional HISD schools — Robinson and Hilliard elementary schools and Liberty High School — also were relocated as a result of damages sustained during Hurricane Harvey.

Renovations at the original Robinson Elementary are wrapping up this month, and students are expected to return to their home campus when they return from winter break. Renovations at Hilliard are ongoing. District officials opted to renovate both schools because of the age and sustainability of both buildings.

Liberty High School had been located in a facility leased but not owned by HISD. The school was temporarily relocated to Sharpstown International School. District administrators now are reviewing long-term relocation options for the campus.

The board meeting will be broadcast live online at [www.hisdtv.org](http://www.hisdtv.org) and on the HISD Channel, which can be found on Comcast Channel 18 or U-verse Channel 99.