

HISD hosting community meetings on Improvement Required campuses

Feb 2, 2018 –  HISD Board of Education President Trustee Rhonda Skillern-Jones, Trustee Jolanda Jones, and Trustee Wanda Adams are hosting a series of community meetings at schools currently in “improvement required” status, or IR, as designated by the Texas Education Agency.

Ten HISD campuses have struggled academically for five or more years and must meet all state standards this year. HISD is recommending changes at these 10 schools as well as at four additional low-performing campuses. State law says if any school currently in IR for the fourth year or more does not meet state standards this year, the state will close it or appoint a Board of Managers to run the school district.

  “The state has yet to tell us what their standards are,” said HISD Board of Education President Trustee Rhonda Skillern-Jones. “So as much as these students are accelerating academically and raising the bar on their campuses, we’re shooting in the dark at a moving target.”

 Senate Bill 1882 provides options that could prevent these sanctions: forming an outside partnership or closing and restarting a campus.

The current recommendation is for eight schools to be managed by outside organizations such as a nonprofit or an institution of higher education. They are Dogan and Mading elementary schools, Henry Middle School, and Kashmere, Madison, North Forest, Wheatley and Worthing high schools. The remaining six – Blackshear, Highland Heights, Hilliard and Wesley elementary schools, Cullen Middle School and Woodson PK-8 – would be closed and reopened to serve limited grades.

HISD trustees and administrators will discuss the recommendations during this series of community meetings on campuses that could potentially be affected.

 “We want to be clear that these recommendations are just that: recommendations,” Skillern-Jones said. “We are committed to doing everything in our power under the law to keep these schools open. We are also committed to keeping these school communities informed and engaged as we navigate this process together.”

 All meetings will begin at 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Wheatley High School

4801 Providence St.

Wednesday, Feb. 14

Cullen Middle School

6900 Scott St.

Thursday, Feb. 15

Highland Heights Elementary School

865 Paul Quinn St.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Madison High School

13719 White Heather Dr.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

Mading Elementary School

8511 Crestmont St.

Tuesday, Feb. 27

Wesley Elementary School

800 Dillard St.

Tuesday, Feb. 27

Blackshear Elementary School

2900 Holman Ave.

Wednesday, Feb. 28

Kashmere Gardens Elementary School

4901 Lockwood Dr.

Thursday, March. 1

Dogan Elementary School

4202 Liberty Rd.

Tuesday, March 6

North Forest High School

10725 Mesa Dr.

Tuesday, March 20

Henry Middle School

10702 E Hardy Rd.

Wednesday, March 21

Hilliard Elementary School

10719 Seneca St.

Wednesday, March 21

Worthing High School

9215 Scott St.

 \*Both Worthing High School and Woodson PK-8 will be discussed at this meeting