HISD Office of Public Affairs & Communications

PRESS RELEASE

Houston Independent School District Delivers Remarkable Improvements on 2024 Texas Accountability Ratings

After one year of district transformation, dozens of schools serving tens of thousands of students across HISD made remarkable strides in academic achievement.

Today at Hilliard Elementary School, HISD Superintendent Mike Miles released the 2024 Texas Accountability Ratings for individual schools. The district has seen dramatic progress: the number of "A" and "B" rated schools increased by 82%, from 93 in 2023 to 170 in 2024. Meanwhile, the number of "D" and "F" rated schools fell by nearly two-thirds, from 121 schools in 2023 to 41 in 2024.

HISD made the decision to release its individual school ratings after a court blocked the Texas Education Agency from releasing the 2024 Texas Accountability Ratings.

"We are incredibly proud of what we've been able to achieve in one year," said HISD Superintendent Mike Miles. "Across the district, schools delivered significant improvements in student achievement on state assessments. Together with our dedicated teachers, principals, and everyone at HISD, we will continue to provide high-quality instruction that builds on this growth."

Over the past year, the district embraced significant systemic changes through the New Education System (NES), which was introduced in 85 schools. This initiative transformed both instructional methods and the professional development of educators. In 2023, only 11 NES schools received "A" or "B" ratings. In the latest ratings, 53 NES campuses now earn an "A" or "B" rating, a remarkable 480% increase. Moreover, HISD's investment in educators led to dramatic growth across all district schools. Over the past year, 55 HISD schools have gone from a "D" or "F" rating to an "A" or "B" rating. In 2024, these schools served over 27,000 of Houston's students, more than enough to fill the Toyota Center.

"As both a parent and a parent advocate, I'm proud to see the remarkable progress HISD has made in improving school performance and student achievement," said Janice Thomas. "Our collective efforts—parents, educators, and community members—are creating a new era of excellence in our schools. Together, we're ensuring that more families can confidently send their children to school, knowing they're receiving the education and support they deserve to thrive."

When looking at specific schools, HISD made real progress at schools that have historically struggled with student achievement. Wheatley High School, whose long history of low accountability scores led to the state intervention, achieved a "B" rating, up from its

previous "D" rating. Wainwright Elementary School made even more dramatic progress as one of three HISD schools that went from "F" to "A."

"Our children and community deserve a quality education, and I am encouraged to see more schools providing that much-needed quality education," said Pastor D.Z. Cofield. "These improvements are not just numbers—they represent the countless lives being positively impacted by this transformative approach to education."

HISD is also seeing progress in entire feeder patterns between high schools and their corresponding elementary and middle schools. The North Forest High School feeder pattern represents a community that has long been neglected by the education system. This feeder pattern contains four elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school, serving over 3,000 students, nearly 70% of whom are socioeconomically disadvantaged. In 2023, every school in this feeder pattern was rated a "D" or "F." Every school in the North Forest feeder pattern adopted the NES model. One year later, there are zero "D" and "F" rated schools in the North Forest community.

"The rise in 'A' and 'B' rated schools and the decline in lower ratings signal a transformative shift in education that benefits not just students, but entire neighborhoods," said Jason Skaer, Executive Director of the Youth Development Center. "Part of what is driving this academic success is our combined commitment to reach the whole kid and the whole community with essential services that clear the way for learning to be a priority for every student. This progress ensures that every student, regardless of their background or community, has the opportunity to excel and thrive. We are seeing a revitalization in education that will resonate throughout our communities for years to come."

To see the 2024 Texas Accountability Ratings for each school, please refer to the attached PDF.

The Houston Independent School District is the largest school district in Texas and the eighth-largest in the United States, with 276 schools and nearly 190,000 students. The 333-square-mile district is one of the largest employers in the Houston metropolitan area, with more than 27,000 employees.

