

**More HISD schools meet state standard**

*Number of schools with “Improvement Required” rating declines to lowest number since new state standards*

Aug. 15, 2017 - Houston ISD schools continue to make significant improvements.  The number of Houston ISD schools meeting state standards is now the highest it has ever been under Texas’ tougher new accountability system that was introduced in 2012.

According to the ratings released today by TEA, 90 percent of HISD schools rated (251 out of 278) earned a “met standard” rating for the 2016-2017 school year.  At the same time, 11 fewer schools received an “improvement required” rating.  HISD earned a “met standard” district rating.

This is the fifth year in which Texas has rated schools using the current accountability system, which considers four factors for the student body as a whole, and for racial and ethnic minority groups. Those factors include:

* Performance on the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR)
* Student progress from year to year
* Closing performance gaps
* Postsecondary readiness

Nearly half (18 out of 38) of our schools that were considered “improvement required” last year achieved a “Met Standard” rating in 2017.  Those schools are: Bellfort Early Childhood Center, The Advanced Virtual Academy (AVA), Foerster, Gallegos, Bruce, Martinez C, Young, Cook, Lewis, and Kashmere Gardens Elementary schools.  Also on that list: E-Stem Central, HS Ahead, Edison, and Forest Brook Middle schools, and Liberty, Milby, and Westbury High Schools.

One campus rated “Improvement Required” last year was not rated this year (Harper Alternative).  Additionally, Victory Prep North and South were rated “Improvement Required” in 2016 prior to joining HISD. Both were rated “Met Standard” for the 2016-17 school year.  This means in all, 21 campuses came off of “Improvement Required” for 2017.

This progress, in spite of the toughest standards since the inception of the state’s new accountability system began in 2013.  The 90 percent of our schools that met standard is the highest the district has seen.  And that percentage includes additional schools added to our total number of schools.