

**NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
HARRIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Harris County Department of Education will be held on the **15th of October 2025 at 1:00 p.m.** for the Board to conduct the business of that meeting. The meeting will be held in Conference Room 401 of the Administration Building, 6300 Irvington Boulevard, Houston Texas. Such a meeting is a **REGULAR BOARD MEETING**.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action might be taken are on the Agenda following.

Additionally, from time to time an issue will be raised concerning an item on our agenda that had not been anticipated. The issue, while within the scope of the agenda topic, may be one that is required or authorized by law to be considered in executive session rather than in public session. In order for the Board to consider such issue in executive session, rather than postpone consideration of it until the next board meeting, the Board lists below most if not all be all of the sections of the Open Meetings Act that address the purposes for which the Board may lawfully meet in executive/closed session. The Board's purpose is not to meet in executive session to consider matters not on the agenda for the meeting. Instead, its purpose is to efficiently and timely conduct its business in accordance with the law.

Therefore, if, during the course of the meeting on agenda items covered by this Notice, the Board should determine that a closed or executive meeting or session of the Board should be held or is required in relation to any item included in this notice, then such closed or executive meeting or session as authorized by Section 551.001 et seq. of the Texas Government Code (the Open Meetings Act) will be held by the Board at the date, hour, and place given in this notice or as soon after the commencement of the meeting covered by this notice as the Board may conveniently meet in such closed or executive meeting or session concerning any and all subjects and purposes authorized by Sections 551.071-551.084, inclusive, of the Open Meetings Act, including, but not limited to:

- Section 551.071 For the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's attorney on any or all subjects matters authorized by law.*
- Section 551.072 For the purpose of discussing the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property.*
- Section 551.073 For the purpose of considering a negotiated contract for a prospective gift or donation.*
- Section 551.074 For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear complaints or charges against a public officer or employee.*
- Section 551.076 To consider the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation of security personnel or devices.*
- Section 551.082 For the purpose of considering discipline of a public school child or children or to hear a complaint by an employee against another employee if the complaint or charge directly results in a need for a hearing.*
- Section 551.083 For the purpose of considering the standards, guidelines, terms or conditions the Board will follow, or instruct its representatives to follow, in consultation with representatives of employee groups in connection with consultation agreements provided for by Section 13.901 of the Texas Education Code.*
- Section 551.084 For the purpose of excluding witness or witnesses from a hearing during examination of another witness.*

Should any final action, final decision, or final vote be required in the opinion of the Board with regard to any matter considered in such closed or executive session, then such final action, final decision, or final vote shall be at either: a) the open meeting covered by this notice upon the reconvening of this public meeting, or b) at a subsequent public meeting of the Board upon notice thereof, as the Board shall determine.

James Colbert, Jr., County School Superintendent



The Board of Trustees
October 15, 2025
Agenda of Regular Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Harris County Department of Education will be held October 15, 2025, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order shown on this meeting notice.

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

1. **Invocation** - Thelma Banks, Manager, School Based Therapy Services
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the US flag** - Laura Caballero, Receptionist, Facilities
3. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag** - Laura Caballero, Receptionist, Facilities
4. **Open Forum** - Gov't Code 551.007 - Public Participation. Pursuant to Policy BED (Local), a citizen who wishes to speak may do so by completing a participation request card available at the Board room at least 10 minutes prior to a regular Board meeting.
5. **Public Hearing** for the purpose of considering the proposed Tax Rate of \$0.004798 per \$100 assessed property value for Tax Year 2025 (Fiscal Year 2025-2026). The no-new-revenue-rate (NRRR) has been calculated at \$0.004725 per \$100 assessed property value. The recommended tax rate is below the voter approval rate (VAR) of \$0.005127.
6. **Consider approval to adopt tax rate of \$.004798 per \$100 valuation for Tax Year 2025 (FY 25-26)** in accordance with the Truth in Taxation laws codified in Chapter 26 and amended by the 88th Legislature.
Language Required in the Motion Setting This Year's Tax Rate:
This year's proposed tax rate exceeds the no-new-revenue tax rate. The vote on the ordinance, resolution, or order setting the tax rate must be a record vote and 60% of the governing body must vote in favor of the adoption of the tax rate. A motion to adopt the ordinance, resolution, or order must be made in the following form: I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.004798, which is effectively a 1.54 percent increase in the tax rate.
7. **REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**
 - A. **Principals' Month** — Dr. Charles Ned, Senior Director, Schools Division
 - B. **Head Start Awareness Month** — Venetia Peacock, Senior Director, Head Start Division

- C. **Employee of the Month** - Dr. Tyrone Sylvester, Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources
 - D. **Superintendent Monthly Report** - James Colbert, Jr.
 - E. **Annual Division Update** - School Based Therapy
 - F. **Annual Division Update** - Maintenance & Operations
 - G. **Other reports from Board members** concerning attendance or participation in a board or HCDE-related conference, event, activity, or committee; accolades for an HCDE staff member or other deserving person.
 - H. **Report of Board Committees** - Committee Chairs
 - I. **Monthly Financial Reports through 09/30/2025** - Dr. Jesus Amezcua, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services
8. **ACTION ITEMS - CONSENSUS**
- A. Consider approval of the following Business Services items:
 - 1. Disbursement Report
 - 2. Budget Amendment Report
 - 3. Monthly Investment Report for September 2025
 - B. Consider approval of the following Board Meeting Minutes:
 - 1. September 10, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
 - 2. September 22, 2025 Called Board Meeting Minutes
 - C. Consider approval of the following items for the HCDE Choice Partners Cooperative:
 - 1. **Consider approval of the Contract Award for job no. 25/052TC for Commercial Printing, Copying Services and Related Items for the period of 10/15/2025 through 10/14/2026 with the following vendors:** Butler Business Products, LLC (25/052TC-01); GATEWAY PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPLY, INC. dba LIBERTY OFFICE PRODUCTS, DANIEL OFFICE PRODUCTS, GORILLA OFFICE SUPPLIES (25/052TC-02); Long Plan Printing Inc dba LP Printing (25/052TC-03); Musigraphics (25/052TC-04); Louis A Hernandez Inc. dba Reliant Business Products (25/052TC-05); Richmond Printing LLC (25/052TC-06); and Color One Systems, Inc. (25/052TC-07).
 - 2. **Consider approval of HCDE Interlocal Agreements with:** Canyon Lake Community Library District, Canyon Lake, Texas; City of Hutto, Hutto, Texas; Kaufman County, Kaufman, Texas; La Vega ISD, Waco, Texas; City of Midlothian, Midlothian, Texas; Milano ISD, Milano, Texas; and Matteson School District #162, Richton Park, Illinois

D. Consider ratification /approval of the following items for Internal Purchasing:

1. **Consider ratification of Amendment for Information Technology Services** to increase years two and three of the three-year subscription agreement with DocuNav Solutions (Contract # DIR-CPO-4449) in the amount of \$46,733 for an aggregate total of \$318,324 for the period of 06/30/2024 through 06/27/2027.
2. **Consider approval of Contract Award for job no. 25/047GM Advisors, Coaches, Consultants, Counselors, Speakers, and Trainers for the period of 10/15/2025 through 10/14/2030 with the following proposers:** A Yance Life Transition Center; Annette Baird; Back to Eden Fellow Program; Jim Cunningham Design; Bickham Services Unlimited LLC dba RB Empowerment Group; Karavias Consulting LLC; Kelly Services, Inc.; Lois Rose; Space Leadership Institute; TCASE Services, Inc; The B.A.L.A.N.C.Ed Classroom; The Christopher Quinn Group, Inc.; and Therapy Focused, PLLC.

E. Consider ratification and approval of the following Interlocal Contracts:

1. **Consider ratification of Interlocal (Revenue) Agreements for FY 2026 in the aggregate amount of \$1,102,550 for ABS West annual contracts with the following districts:** Conroe ISD for 12 out-of-county annual contracts (\$29,750 each); Tomball ISD for one in-county annual contract (\$24,050 each); Harmony School of Advancement for one in-county annual contract (\$24,050 each); Harmony School of Enrichment for one in-county annual contract (\$24,050 each) for the period of 08/25/2025 through 06/04/2026; Houston ISD for 13 in-county annual contracts (\$24,050 each) for the period of 08/12/2025 through 06/30/2026; and Pasadena ISD for 15 in-county annual contracts (\$24,050 each) for the period of 07/01/2025 through 06/30/2026.
2. **Consider ratification of Interlocal (Revenue) Agreements for FY 2026 in the aggregate amount of \$972,400 for ABS East annual contracts with the following districts:** Alvin ISD for one out-of-county annual contract (\$31,250 each) for the period of 09/08/2025 through 06/04/2026; Cleveland ISD for three out-of-county annual contracts (\$29,750 each); Crosby ISD for four in-county annual contracts (\$24,050 each); Dayton ISD for 12 in-county annual contracts (\$24,050 each); Galena Park ISD for two in-county annual contracts (\$24,050 each); and Sheldon ISD for two in-county annual contracts (\$24,050 each) for the period of 08/25/2025 through 06/04/2026; Houston ISD for eight in-county annual contracts (\$24,050 each) for the period of 08/12/2025 through 06/30/2026 and **Amendment** for Dickinson ISD from three to six out of-county annual contracts for an increase to the aggregate amount from \$89,250 to \$178,500 (an increase of \$89,250) for the period of 08/25/2025 through 06/04/2026.
3. **Consider ratification of Interlocal (Revenue) agreement with Tejano Center for Community Concerns in the amount of \$175,400 for the period of 09/01/2025 through 08/31/2026** for HCDE's Business Services (Accounting, Business, E-rate, Human Resources, Purchasing and Superintendent administrative support) to provide ongoing support and streamline processes.
4. **Consider ratification of Interlocal (Revenue) Agreements for FY 2026 in the aggregate amount of \$101,950 for School-Based Therapy Services with the following districts:** Pasadena ISD (three students served in FY 2024) for Music Therapy in the amount of \$4,160 for the period of **07/01/2025 through 06/30/2026**; Dayton ISD (51 students served in FY 2024) for Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy in the amount of \$96,080; Hempstead ISD (new contract) for Music Therapy in the amount of \$1,710 for the period of **08/16/2025 through 08/15/2026**.

5. **Consider ratification of Interlocal (Revenue) Agreement for HCDE Records Management Services and Aldine ISD**, in the amount of \$45,000, upon full execution of the agreement for the term of 12 months.
6. **Consider ratification of the Interlocal (Expenditure) Service Agreement between Houston Independent School District and Harris County Department of Education for the period of 08/01/2025 through 07/31/2026** to serve dual-enrolled students at Dogan and Fonwood Head Start at Houston Independent School District's campus, including to provide food services for HCDE staff and students in the amount of \$40,000.
7. **Consider ratification of Interlocal (Revenue) Agreements for FY 2025 in the aggregate amount of \$28,000 for ABS West with the following district:** Fort Bend ISD to increase the aggregate amount from \$14,000 to \$28,000 (an increase of \$14,000 for a total of four units) for the period of 06/11/2025 through 07/10/2025.
8. **Consider ratification of Interlocal (Expenditure) Agreements for FY2026 in the aggregate amount of \$10,000 for CASE for Kids Project CASE Debates** for the period of 09/01/2025 through 08/31/2026 with the following districts: Alief ISD (\$7,500) and Goose Creek Consolidated ISD(\$2,500) (a maximum of 100 students served).
9. **Consider ratification of Interlocal (Revenue) Agreement for FY 2026 for Fortis Academy with the following district:** Cleveland ISD for one out-of-county annual contract (\$8,200) for the period of 08/25/2025 through 06/04/2026.
10. **Consider ratification of Interlocal (Non-Monetary) Agreement for FY 2026 for Fortis Academy with the following districts:** Sheldon ISD for four in-county annual contracts and Spring Branch ISD for three in-county annual contracts for the period of 08/25/2025 through 06/04/2026.
11. **Consider ratification of the Participation Agreement between HCDE Records Management Services and Kairos Christian Academy** in the amount of \$400 for the period of 10/01/2025 through 09/30/2026.

9. **ACTION ITEMS - NON-CONSENSUS**

1. **Consider approval of two new Full-Time Employee (FTE) positions for the Special Schools Division for two Educational Aides.**
 2. **Consider approval of Amendment to Services Agreement between Harris County Department of Education and ChildCare Careers, 25/013YR-03**, to increase the amount from \$70,000 to \$120,000 for the period of 09/08/2025 through 12/31/2025 to provide substitute teachers and teacher assistants for the Head Start program.
10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** Under the Texas Government Code pursuant to any and all purposes permitted by Sections 551.001-551.084, including, but not limited to: 551.071; 551.074
- A. **Deliberate** the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline and/or dismissal of HCDE employee
 - B. **Deliberate** the purchase, exchange, sale and/or value of real property(ies) and obtain legal advice regarding the same.

11. **RECONVENE** for possible action on items discussed in executive session
12. **Discussion and possible action regarding future agenda items**
13. **INFORMATION ITEMS**
 1. **Risk Assessment Report for Fiscal Year 2025**
 2. **Submission of grant proposal to the Texas Education Agency in the amount of \$1,521,224** to support the CASE for Kids 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Cycle 11, Year 5 continuation application. The program provides academic and enrichment activities at nine campuses in the Harris County area, serving 936 students and 360 family members.
 3. **Submission of grant proposal to Texas Education Agency** in the amount of \$2 million to support CASE for Kids' 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Cycle 12 Year 3 application. Requested funds will provide academic and enrichment services for 750 students and 400 family members.
 4. **Submission of grant application to the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities** in an amount not to exceed \$7,500 to support School-Based Therapy Services' training, The Write Approach to Handwriting, a workshop that will explore the neurological and developmental foundations of dysgraphia and its far-reaching impact on handwriting, written expression, reading fluency, and emotional regulation. The workshop is scheduled for 02/20/2026 and will serve 175 occupational therapy practitioners and educators.
- A. **Human Resources**
 1. Personnel
 2. Employee Count
14. **ADJOURN** - Next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Colbert, Jr.", is positioned above the printed name.

James Colbert, Jr.
County School Superintendent