

ADMINISTRATION, MISSION STATEMENT, AND GOALS

ADMINISTRATION

JAMES COLBERT, JR. | *County Superintendent*

JESUS AMEZCUA, CPA, Ph.D. | *Assistant Superintendent for Business Services*

JONATHAN PARKER | *Assistant Superintendent for Academic Support*

CJ RODGERS, Ed.D. | *Assistant Superintendent for Education and Enrichment*

DANIELLE BARTZ | *Chief of Staff*

DANIELLE CLARK | *Chief Information Officer*

TYRONE SYLVESTER, Ed.D. | *Chief Human Resource Officer*

MICHELLE WILLIAMS, Ed.D. | *Chief Operating Officer*

MISSION STATEMENT

Harris County Department of Education supports Harris County by enriching educational opportunities and providing value through services.

GOALS

1. Impact education by responding to the evolving needs of Harris County.
2. Deliver value to Harris County by utilizing resources in an ethical, transparent, and fiscally responsible manner.
3. Advocate for all learners by using innovative methods to maximize students' potential.
4. Provide cost-savings to school districts by leveraging tax dollars.
5. Recruit and maintain a high-quality professional staff.

It is the policy of Harris County Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, limited English Proficiency, or handicapping condition(s) in its programs.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AMY FLORES HINOJOSA

President

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Harris County Department of Education

Programs and Services

HCDE serves all 25 school districts in Harris County and surrounding area through its programs and services. Other Texas ISDs, cities, counties, charter schools and non-profit organizations also utilize the services that HCDE offers.

Responding to and serving the needs of learners of all ages, socio-economic status, ethnic backgrounds, educational or developmental delays, and at-risk behaviors requires the Department to be an institution of great flexibility as evidenced by the activities described below. Affordable and highly flexible programming and products are developed with clients in mind. Information can be found on:

<https://hcde-texas.org/>

Examples of client populations include:



Academic and Behavior Schools

serve children, youth, and young adults ages 5-22 with severe emotional disturbances, intellectual disabilities, pervasive developmental disorders, and other health impairments.



Adult Education prepares age 16-plus youths and adults to read and speak English, and/or to complete a high school General Equivalency Diploma education.



Center for After-School, Summer and Enrichment – (CASE)

serves elementary, middle, and high school students delivering quality after-school learning opportunities.



Center for Safe and Secure Schools

focuses on the emergency management cycle including prevention / mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.



Center for Educator Success

transforms educator talent pipelines by partnering with districts to reimagine a comprehensive approach to educator recruitment, growth, and advancement with the leadership to inspire a new generation of educators to lead in ways which generate real results and opportunities for all children.



Center for Grant Development

supports efforts to locate and obtain funds which forward new programs, program enhancement and expansion needs.



Choice Partners - Cooperative

offers quality, legal procurement, and contract solutions to meet government purchasing requirements.

<http://www.choicepartners.org/>



Fortis Academy

serves youth after proper treatment from substance abuse as an alternative from reinserting into the original environment before treatment.



Head Start (Early Head Start)

serves 0–5-year-old economically-disadvantaged children and their families, with over 10 percent of those having an identified disability requiring intervention.



Highpoint School

serves client school districts' adjudicated youth by providing intensive counseling and a technology-driven curriculum in a strict disciplinary environment.



Records Management

assists agencies achieve and maintain compliance with State of Texas Local Government Records Act of 1989.



School Finance Council

is designed for school business officials and provides updates on finance issues and training information regarding various business office matters.



School-Based Therapy Services

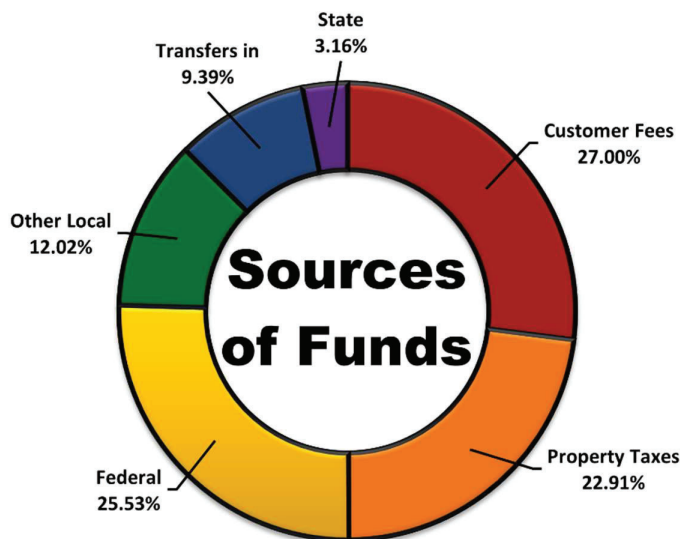
serves individuals ages 0-22 years of age with identified disability groups, diagnosed disabilities, developmental delays, or at-risk for delays from diverse socio-economic families.

ANNUAL BUDGET

The Department's annual budget (all funds) for the fiscal year 2025-2026 is **\$156,736,471**. The Department utilizes Governmental, Proprietary, and Fiduciary fund types. The Department's Governmental fund type is comprised of *General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Fund* and *Capital Project Fund*. The Proprietary Fund includes the *Internal Service Fund* and *Enterprise Fund*. The Fiduciary fund type includes *Agency Funds*.

It is important to note that the Department approves the annual budgets for the General Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Internal Service Funds and Debt Service Funds. Special Revenue Funds adopt project-length budgets which might not correspond to the Department's fiscal year end. (See chart below.)

	Governmental				Proprietary		
	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Internal Service Fund	Enterprise Fund	Total
Estimated Revenues	\$ 77,965,969	\$ 43,637,357	\$ 3,882,929	\$ 934,560	\$ 7,495,429	\$ 10,643,990	\$ 144,560,234
Appropriations	\$ 72,945,453	\$ 43,637,357	\$ 3,882,929	\$ 10,422,967	\$ 7,495,429	\$ 4,782,512	\$ 143,166,647
Transfers Out	\$ 5,955,076	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,614,748	\$ 13,569,824
Total Appropriations and Other Uses	\$78,900,529	\$43,637,357	\$3,882,929	\$10,422,967	\$7,495,429	\$12,397,260	\$156,736,471
Appropriations from Fund Balance:	(\$934,560)	\$0	\$0	(\$9,488,407)	\$0	(\$1,753,270)	(\$12,176,237)
Projected Fund Balance Beg.	\$ 34,246,495	\$0	\$756,780	\$9,488,407	\$1,296,525	\$1,753,270	\$47,541,477
Projected Fund Balance End.	\$ 33,311,935	\$ -	\$ 756,780	\$ -	\$ 1,296,525	\$ -	\$ 35,365,240



Fiscal Year ending
August 31, 2026:

All Funds
Estimated Revenues

\$144,560,234

Local Sources

Local sources of revenue generate **\$82,029,658**, or **56.7** percent of total revenues. Local sources include charges for service fees at \$28,392,015, property taxes for \$33,117,193, and local grants for \$8,417,460. Charges for services are a significant source of revenue for the Department and in fiscal year 2026, these constitute 27 percent of total revenues. Property taxes (what you, as a citizen, pay for supporting education in Harris County) account for **22.9** percent of total revenues.

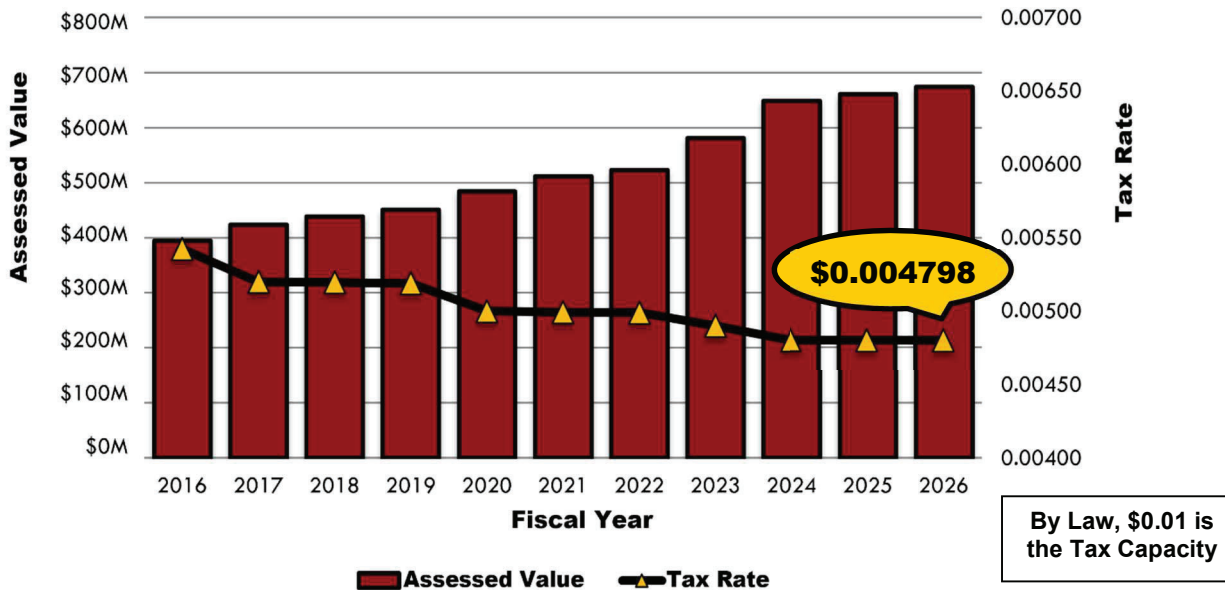
State Sources

State sources of revenue total **\$4,564,623** or **3.2** percent of total revenues. TRS on behalf is \$4,000,000.

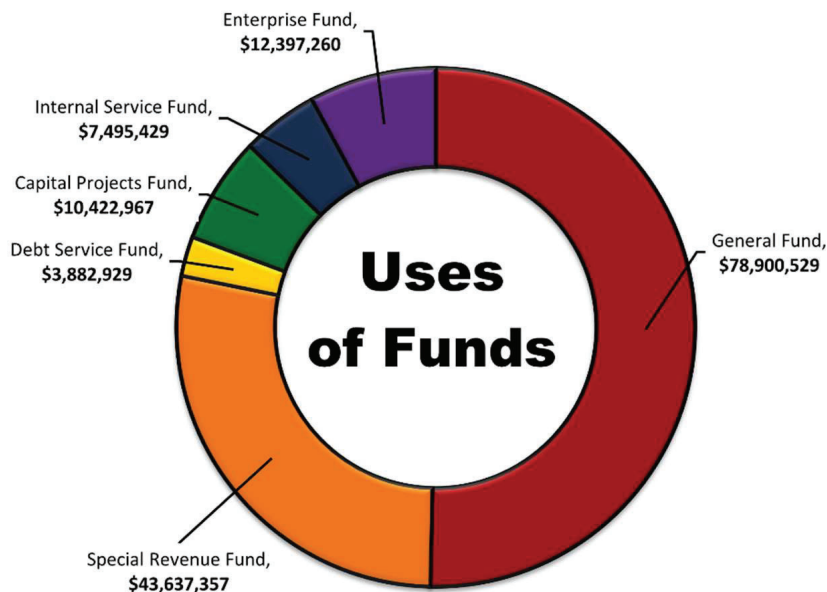
Federal Sources

Revenues from federal sources constitute **\$36,900,700** or **25.5** percent of total revenues. These federal sources include pass through grants for the Adult Education, After School, and Head Start programs, and various non-major governmental funds. The three major grants are Head Start \$27,277,378, CASE \$9,341,902, and Adult Education \$6,241,108.

PROPERTY VALUES AND TAXES



The Department's proposed tax rate for the 2025 tax year is **\$0.004798** per \$100 assessed property valuation. The 2024 tax rate was **\$0.004799**. The *preliminary* property value estimate is **\$689** billion resulting in a tax levy of **\$33** million. The 'current tax' collection rate for fiscal year 2024-2025 was projected at 99%. A **99%** collection rate is projected for fiscal year 2025-2026.



Fiscal Year ending
August 31, 2026:

Estimated
Appropriations

\$156,736,471

General Operating Fund – The General Fund budget includes one (1) planned capital expenditure from fund balance. The 2025-2026 appropriation levels for the General Operating Fund are projected at \$72,945,453 and estimated other uses (transfers to other funds) at \$5,955,076, for a total of **\$78,900,529**; this represents a \$3,435,988 increase from 2024-2025 amended budget as of March 31, 2025. Total FTEs are 544.7.

Special Revenue Funds – Appropriations for these funds are restricted to or designated for specific purposes by a grantor. For 2025-2026, the Department's appropriation is **\$43,637,357**. The Department provides information to the Board of Trustees on all grants, but they do not approve an annual budget for these funds. The NOGA (Notice of Grant Award) is the guiding budget received for these funds. Total FTEs are 547.5.

Debt Service Fund – The Department budgeted **\$3,882,929** for 2025-2026 in this fund. Resources in the Debt Service Fund must be used to pay for general long-term debt principal and interest for debt issues and other long-term debts for which an M&O tax has been dedicated. A transfer is projected from the General Fund to the Debt Service Fund. Total principal outstanding debt as of August 31, 2025, is **\$55,945,000**.

Capital Project Fund: In fiscal year 2025-2026, in addition to the final costs of the 2020 Capital Improvement Plan, HCDE is upgrading facilities in various capacities to better serve our students and community. Replacement equipment such as HVAC units for ABS West, a backup generator for the Ronald Reagan Building, and various technology equipment and furnishings. Total appropriations are **\$10,422,967**

Internal Service Fund – The Department allocates facility charges to all divisions and utilizes an Internal Service Fund. Workers' Compensation totals \$575,000. The Facilities Support Services totals \$6,064,292 which includes facilities and utilities. The total Internal Service Fund is **\$6,920,429** for fiscal year 2025-2026. Total FTEs are 49.

Enterprise Fund- is a Proprietary Fund comprised of the Choice Partners Cooperative. Estimated operating expenses are 4.7 million with revenues at 10.6 million; expected transfer to the General Fund (***supplementing general operating costs thereby reducing our tax burden***) is **\$7,614,748**. Choice Partners Cooperatives offers quality, legal procurement, and contract solutions to meet the purchasing needs of school districts and other governmental entities with legal, competitively bid contracts. Total FTEs are 22.5.

Fund Balance Type	One Time Use of Fund Balance Detail	Cost
Restricted	2020 Capital Improvement Plan: Remainder, Retainage	\$ 8,817,410
Unrestricted	Supplement to General Fund from Prior Year Revenues	1,753,270
Unrestricted	Generator for Ronald Reagan Building	934,560
Restricted	ABS West: 3 roof top AC Units	493,240
Restricted	Special Schools: Security Equipment/Radios	177,757
Restricted	Special Schools: Replacement iPads	53,000
Restricted	Coolwood HeadStart: Automated Gates	50,000
Restricted	HR & Research Institute: Qualtrics Upgrade	45,000
Restricted	Conference Center: Stage Lighting Upgrade	35,000
Restricted	ABS East & ABS West: Styrolite Safety Chairs	20,000

One-Time Use of
Fund Balance:

\$ 12,176,237

Harris County Department of Education
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - All Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2026

	Governmental Funds				Proprietary Funds		Total
	General Funds	Special Revenue Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Internal Service Fund	Enterprise Funds	
EST. REVENUES & OTHER Sources							
Revenues							
Customer Fees & Charges	\$ 28,392,015	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,643,990	\$ 39,036,005
Property Tax Rev-Current	33,017,193	-	-	-	-	-	33,017,193
Property Tax Rev-Delinquent & P&I	100,000	-	-	-	-	-	100,000
Investment Earnings-HCDE	1,300,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,300,000
Other Local Revenues	159,000	-	-	-	-	-	159,000
Local Grants	-	8,417,460	-	-	-	-	8,417,460
Total Local Revenues:	62,968,208	8,417,460	-	-	-	10,643,990	82,029,658
Facility Support Services	-	-	-	-	6,920,429	-	6,920,429
Workers Compensation	-	-	-	-	575,000	-	575,000
Total Inter-Departmental Revenues:	-	-	-	-	7,495,429	-	7,495,429
State TEA Supplemental Compensation	200,000	-	-	-	-	-	200,000
State TEA Employee Portion Health Ins	345,050	-	-	-	-	-	345,050
State TRS On Behalf Payments	4,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	4,000,000
State Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total State Revenues:	4,564,623	-	-	-	-	-	4,564,623
Federal Grants	-	34,082,310	-	-	-	-	34,082,310
Indirect Cost - Federal Grants	2,818,390	-	-	-	-	-	2,818,390
Total Federal Revenues:	2,818,390	34,082,310	-	-	-	-	36,900,700
Total Revenues:	70,351,221	42,499,770	-	-	7,495,429	10,643,990	130,990,410
Other Financing Sources							
Transfers In-							
Fund 711 - Choice Partners	7,614,748	-	-	-	-	-	7,614,748
Fund 697- Capital Projects	-	-	-	934,560	-	-	934,560
Fund 288 - CASE After School Partnership	-	550,787	-	-	-	-	550,787
Fund 205 - Head Start	-	388,800	-	-	-	-	388,800
Fund 498 - OMNY Award	-	198,000	-	-	-	-	198,000
Fund 599 - Debt Service Payment (PFC)	-	-	3,882,929	-	-	-	3,882,929
Total Transfers In	7,614,748	1,137,587	3,882,929	934,560	-	-	13,569,824
Bond Issuance-Fund 697 Capital Project	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Other Sources:	7,614,748	1,137,587	3,882,929	934,560	-	-	13,569,824
Total Revenues & Other Sources:	77,965,969	43,637,357	3,882,929	934,560	7,495,429	10,643,990	144,560,234
EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES							
Expenditures							
Board of Trustees	190,776	-	-	-	-	-	190,776
Superintendent's Office	797,098	-	-	-	-	-	797,098
Assistant Supt Education & Enrichment	356,655	-	-	-	-	-	356,655
Center for Safe & Secure Schools	1,084,113	305,005	-	-	-	-	1,389,118
Adult Ed. (Local & Grant)	563,715	6,241,108	-	-	-	-	6,804,823
Center for Grant Development	668,120	-	-	-	-	-	668,120
Research & Evaluation	704,837	-	-	-	-	-	704,837
Center For Educator Success	2,851,340	110,000	-	-	-	-	2,961,340
Chief of Staff	358,103	204,464	-	-	-	-	562,567
Education Foundation	300,000	-	-	-	-	-	300,000
Community Development	147,295	-	-	-	-	-	147,295
CASE Local	883,777	9,341,902	-	-	-	-	10,225,679
Business Services	2,458,547	-	-	-	-	-	2,458,547
Department Wide	8,351,736	-	-	-	-	-	8,351,736
Retirement Leave Benefits	200,000	-	-	-	-	-	200,000
State TEA On Behalf Payments	4,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	4,000,000
State TEA Employee Health Insurance	345,050	-	-	-	-	-	345,050
Purchasing Support	1,040,633	-	-	-	-	-	1,040,633
Workers Compensation (Fund 753)	-	-	-	-	575,000	-	575,000
Debt Services (Fund 599)	-	-	3,882,929	-	-	-	3,882,929

Harris County Department of Education
 Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - All Funds
 For the Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2026

	Governmental Funds				Proprietary Funds		Total
	General Funds	Special Revenue Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Internal Service Fund	Enterprise Funds	
EXPENDITURES & OTHER USES							
Chief Information Officer	310,185	-	-	-	-	-	310,185
Technology Services	4,711,943	-	-	-	-	-	4,711,943
Client Engagement	804,030	-	-	-	-	-	804,030
Communication	1,445,138	-	-	-	-	-	1,445,138
Human Resources	1,414,240	-	-	-	-	-	1,414,240
Assistant Supt Academic Support	386,957	35,000	-	-	-	-	421,957
Therapy Services	16,131,494	22,500	-	-	-	-	16,153,994
Head Start - Local	8,000	-	-	-	-	-	8,000
Head Start Grant	-	27,277,378	-	-	-	-	27,277,378
Special Schools & Services-							
Special Schools Administration	1,126,829	-	-	-	-	-	1,126,829
Academic & Behavior School-East	6,320,131	-	-	-	-	-	6,320,131
Academic & Behavior School-West	5,850,200	50,000	-	-	-	-	5,900,200
Fortis Academy / Other	1,733,445	-	-	-	-	-	1,733,445
Highpoint East School	4,584,953	50,000	-	-	-	-	4,634,953
Facilities Support Services							
Facilities-Construction Services	255,162	-	-	7,190,405	-	-	7,445,567
Records Management Services	2,560,951	-	-	-	-	-	2,560,951
Facilities - Choice Partners	-	-	-	-	-	4,782,512	4,782,512
Facilities - Operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Facilities and Asset Replacement Schedule	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Facilities - Local Construction	-	-	-	3,232,562	-	-	3,232,562
Facilities - Internal Service (Fund 799)	-	-	-	-	6,920,429	-	6,920,429
Total Expenditures:	72,945,453	43,637,357	3,882,929	10,422,967	7,495,429	4,782,512	143,166,647
Other Uses							
Transfers Out-							
Fund 199-General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	7,614,748	7,614,748
Fund 288-CASE	550,787	-	-	-	-	-	550,787
Fund 205-Head Start	388,800	-	-	-	-	-	388,800
Fund 599-Debt Service-PFC	3,882,929	-	-	-	-	-	3,882,929
Facilities-Local Construction	934,560	-	-	-	-	-	934,560
Fund 498-OMNY Award	198,000	-	-	-	-	-	198,000
Fund 697-Capital Projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Other Uses:	5,955,076	-	-	-	-	7,614,748	13,569,824
Total Expenditures & Other Uses:	78,900,529	43,637,357	3,882,929	10,422,967	7,495,429	12,397,260	156,736,471
Expenditures from Fund Balance:	(934,560)	-	-	(9,488,407)	-	(1,753,270)	(12,176,237)
Projected Fund Balance Beginning:	34,246,495	-	\$756,780	9,488,407	1,296,525	1,753,270	47,541,477
Projected Fund Balance Ending:	\$ 33,311,935	\$ -	\$ 756,780	\$ -	\$ 1,296,525	\$ -	\$ 35,365,240

For additional questions about the HCDE Budget and Financial Information, please view our
Transparency Page located at <https://www.hcde-texas.org/Page/191>

For questions about the reports, please contact:
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