

Schools Division



Harris County
Department of
Education

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Contract renewals with Harris County Department of Education will begin in the next few months, and we are excited about our partnership with you for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Our AB Schools educators have a clear understanding of student individual educational plans and using those student behavior intervention plans to address targeted behaviors. Melissa James, our behavior specialist, is working to coach teachers at both AB School East and West on ways to address behavior more effectively. Coupled with ongoing training in mental health and Applied Behavior Analysis, our teachers and principals are equipped to meet student needs.

Below are a few of our additions to our Academic and Behavior School programs:

- SIRE Horsemanship (Equine Assisted Activities) pilot program at HCDE campuses supports students by improving emotional regulation and reducing anxiety.
- The music program at AB School West is an additional program to support changes in behavior.
- Unique learning system helps our special needs students access the general education curriculum.

Additional good news is our partnership with University of Houston Downtown, where students are working to mentor and host discussion groups with students that attend our Highpoint campus. Through this strong partnership, our transition specialist and intern at Highpoint are routinely surveying students and learning about their concerns. As they learn about student challenges, they are making time for group discussion to give students strategies to handle social-and-emotional challenges that may keep our students from achieving academic success.

Fortis Academy, our newest campus, is growing as our district partners learn that time and effort spent to support students therapeutically helps students as they work to stay sober and graduate. An exciting highlight for Fortis Academy is a price adjustment, making the value of supporting students with therapy becomes more feasible.

Looking towards the future, we see great promise in our partnership with you. I look forward to visiting with you soon.

“We Provide
Alternative
Pathways for
Student
Success
Ages 5-22
in Grades
K-12”



Thank you for allowing us to serve your students in FY2019.

Sincerely,

Anthony Mays, Senior Director of Schools Division

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6300 Irvington Blvd | Houston, Texas 77022 | Tel: (713) 696-8218 | www.hcde-texas.org