KNOW THE FACTS:

What an HISD Board of Managers Takeover Could Mean for Our Jobs

How can the Board of Managers (BOM) affect my pay, benefits and working conditions?
The appointed BOM duties include significant responsibilities, like “amending the school district’s budget, reassigning staff, or relocating academic programs.” The appointed BOM would have complete authority over HISD’s billion dollar budget.

The last few years we have benefited from having former educators on the HISD school board who know about the struggles we face firsthand. We’ve stopped increases to employee health insurance premiums, moved the minimum wage in HISD to $14 per-hour, and won raises for teachers.

Media reports have indicated that Houston’s largest corporations and charter schools are recommending BOM candidates to TEA. These are the same people who talk a good game about supporting teachers and support staff, but who push a “test-and-punish” model of education.

How are we going to maintain our voice in HISD if a BOM takes over?
HFT members have been working on building a strong voice for years, and we have a plan to keep building our strength. Currently one of our executive board members, Traci Latson, is co-chair of the District Advisory Committee (DAC). Additionally, for the last few years, HFT members have held the majority of teacher seats on the DAC. Voting for next year's DAC starts Monday, November 18, and HFT members are, again, running for election. Watch your email for a list of HFT members who will be on the ballot. We have done this before and we know how to stay strong.

At the campus level, it’s important for members to get involved in their campus SDMC to speak up for our rights to planning time, duty-free lunch, lesson planning time, and to advocate for our students. Each campus SDMC should be elected by educators on that campus. What you hear at your campus SDMC helps to inform our advocacy at the DAC and at HISD Consultation meetings. You can make a difference on your campus by joining the SDMC.

What can we do to oppose a Board of Managers takeover?
Join the Houston Federation of Teachers today!
Our members are leading the fight to maintain local control of our schools and our district.

To join, go to:

Send a letter to TEA Commissioner Mike Morath today!
go.aft.org/stand4houston

#HISDproud
#QuestionsforMorath