

Katy Independent School District
Harvey - One Year Later



Stronger Together!
#katystronger

KATY ISD AND TROPICAL STORM HARVEY

- ✓ Established and coordinated **3 shelters** (Cinco Ranch JH, Cinco Ranch HS and Morton Ranch HS) for evacuees- August 28 through September 1 (sheltered 4,000 individuals).
- ✓ Utilized Katy ISD **bus drivers and buses to assist** county emergency operations **with rescues during the storm** (450 individuals rescued).
- ✓ Assisted in **organizing faith-based groups to provide additional shelter options** to families displaced by the storm.
- ✓ **Created a call center** to direct flood victims to shelters, help people locate family and friends, answer questions about school closings, accept donations, and answer many other disaster-related questions.
- ✓ **Quickly identified an educational facility to house the 900+ students and staff of Sue Creech Elementary** whose school was flooded as a result of Tropical Storm Harvey. **A lease agreement for the University of Houston's Cinco Ranch campus was negotiated and secured within a one week timeframe** — allowing teaching and operations staff time to prepare the

alternate site for the re-opening of school on September 11, and welcome students to a safe and productive learning environment.

- ✓ **Relocated the approximate 900 students and staff of Bear Creek Elementary to Paetow High School for a two week period following damage to the school's neighborhood lift pumps and water treatment plant as a result of Harvey.** Bus service was also provide for every student who needed it. This transition ensured that instruction and students' daily school routine would go uninterrupted as their neighborhoods recovered from the impact of the storm.
- ✓ Provided **free lunch** to all Katy ISD students during the district's closure.
- ✓ **Extended the free meal service** to all Katy ISD students through October 31.
- ✓ Established a **Harvey absence code** to allow staff affected by the storm to use work time to take care of their homes and vehicles without being penalized.
- ✓ Encouraged **staff to participate in a "Day of Service"** on Friday, September 8 to assist Katy ISD families impacted by the storm.
- ✓ **Provided daily bus service to 2,400 displaced students** back to their home campuses.
- ✓ **Developed and recommended to the Board of Trustees a resolution** to allow homeowners and businesses with flood damage to seek **reappraisals of their properties**. The resolution was approved unanimously by the Board in September.
 - Katy ISD was the first school district in the state to consider the issue of whether to support reappraisals for its tax payers. By adopting the resolution, the District, the Board, and the Superintendent send a clear message of support to those most affected in the community (those with flooded homes). This resolution allowed tax payers to

take advantage of decreased property taxes owed to Katy ISD for the period of time which their homes were damaged due to the flooding.

- After taking the lead on this issue, many other ISDs in the area passed similar resolutions to allow the same. Katy ISD prides itself in taking care of the parents, kids, and taxpayers which make up its community.