

## KISD sets 'College and Career Night' for October 9

**FROM STAFF REPORTS**

Katy ISD and the Texas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (TACRAO) will host "College & Career Night" on Wednesday, October 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Leonard E. Merrell Center, 6301 S. Stadium Lane in Katy. "College & Career Night" is designed for high school

students to explore college and career possibilities by meeting and engaging with representatives, gathering scholarship information, and discovering financial aid opportunities.

Families will have the opportunity to learn about a variety of college and career paths students can take after graduation. Over 200 representatives from community

colleges, universities, institutes, military academies, and many more will be present to showcase their programs.

To register, download the flyer from [katisd.org/cms/lib/TX50010808/Centricity/Domain/3789/0905%20College%20and%20Career%20Fair.pdf](https://katisd.org/cms/lib/TX50010808/Centricity/Domain/3789/0905%20College%20and%20Career%20Fair.pdf) and scan the QR code. The "clear bag" policy is in effect for this event.

## Referral window open for kindergarten students for gifted and talented screening

**CONTRIBUTED REPORT**

Parents of kindergarten students interested in having them screened for the District's Challenge (Gifted and Talented, GT) program have until September 19 to complete the referral. The referral checklist may be accessed on My Katy at [launchpad.classlink.com](https://launchpad.classlink.com).

Katy ISD uses the Challenge program for elementary GT services, the district said in a September 6 press release. Kindergarten students receive 60 minutes per week of targeted instruction aimed at building students' creativity and productive thinking skills.

"Katy ISD is a community of learners, and our GT program offers the necessary support for our students who require tailored instruction," said Danielle Sanchez, Director of Gifted & Talented and Advanced Academics in Katy ISD. "By referring kindergarten students for screening, parents can ensure that their students receive this support early in their education."

To be identified for GT services,



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATY ISD

Parents of kindergarten students interested in having them screened for the District's Challenge Gifted and Talented program have until September 19 to complete the referral.

multiple indicators are collected, including information from parents and teachers, and standardized test scores. Students will be screened from October through February, and services will begin in March 2025 for identified students.

Parents can contact their student's counselor if they have any questions.

Visit Katy ISD's Elementary Screening Process FAQs at [katisd.org/Page/4406](https://katisd.org/Page/4406) for more information.

## Legacy Parent Academy holds first informational session on September 11

Presentation covers mental health and suicide prevention

**FROM STAFF REPORTS**

Legacy Parent Academy invited parents and guardians, as well as concerned community members, to join Katy ISD and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention for a webinar, "It's Real: Teens and Mental Health" on Wednesday, September 11. The presentation covered what mental health is, noticing signs of someone needing help and tips for having a caring conversation with someone you might be worried about. This presentation was to be recorded and available on the Katy ISD website under Legacy Parent Academy at [katisd.org/Page/10257](https://katisd.org/Page/10257) following the live webinar.

The Katy ISD Legacy Parent Academy is a series of informational sessions designed to assist parents by raising awareness on various social-emotional and academic topics that impact the district's students and campuses district-wide, according to the district's website. Academy participants will gain factual knowledge pertinent to each topic while also learning strategies and proven techniques to assist in supporting students.

"We continue to provide our families with information on social-emotional topics because we know that these things can impact students' learning and performance in school," said Anne McHale Miller, LCSW-S, Coordinator for School Leadership and Support in Katy ISD. "This year's offerings will be a hybrid of in-person and online opportunities."

Visit the Legacy Parent Academy web page at [katisd.org/Page/10257](https://katisd.org/Page/10257) to learn more.



## Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 161 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 12:00 p.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

**FOR** the proposal: C. Kight, J. Schubert, J. Kaiser & M. Harris  
**AGAINST** the proposal: (none)  
**PRESENT** and not voting: (none)  
**ABSENT:** K. Scully

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ 0.8000 /\$100 Adopted	\$ 0.7800 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.020 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-2.5000%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$757,879	\$819,676
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	-\$75,788	-\$122,951
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$682,091	\$696,725
Tax on average residence homestead	\$5,456.73	\$5,434.45
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		-\$22.28 -0.4083%

**NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE**

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.

## Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 163 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 9:30 a.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, Texas. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

**FOR** the proposal: R. Patrick, J. Hundl, J. Ring, O. Cabello & A. Zepeda  
**AGAINST** the proposal: (none)  
**PRESENT** and not voting: (none)  
**ABSENT:** (none)

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ 0.740 /\$100 Adopted	\$ 0.7025 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.038 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-5.0676%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$740,547	\$807,199
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$740,547	\$807,199
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 5,480.05	\$5,670.57
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$190.52 3.4766%

**NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE**

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

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