



Middle School Golf Program

Houston Independent School District's Trustee Manuel Rodriguez, Jr., Houston business leader Bill King, and community leader James Rodriguez are supporting efforts to involve students in sports, especially sports that they can participate in throughout their lives. The Middle School Golf Program will provide golf clubs and play experience to middle school students (6th through 8th grade) in the following HISD middle schools: James S. Deady, Thomas A. Edison, Charles F. Hartman, William S. Holland, Stonewall Jackson, Daniel Ortiz, Jr. and W. I. Stevenson Middle Schools. These schools are all located in the east and southeast areas of Houston. Nearly all of the students at each of these schools are on the free and reduced lunch programs, and very high numbers of these students (from 63% to 98%) are considered at-risk of dropping out due to socio-economic factors. This program will provide opportunities for these students to learn and to play golf, a chance most would never have otherwise. This will build golf skills, self-confidence and self-esteem in the individual students. The students will develop athletic interests and life-long skills while providing an additional tool to support their future success.

Additional sets of clubs will permit more students to play on the existing intramural golf teams at Deady, Edison, Holland, Hartman and Stevenson Middle Schools. New teams will be started at Jackson and Ortiz Middle Schools.

The goal of this effort is to place 100 sets of clubs in the hands of these students. Both standard and junior sets will be provided, including left-handed clubs. Working with local pro Art Lopez and the Glenbrook Golf Course, we will be able to build high-quality club sets for the cost of the components. Glenbrook Golf Course will donate the labor for building the clubs, so the cost per set is approximately \$85-\$90.

About HISD Foundation

The HISD Foundation exists to support and enhance the Houston Independent School District's priority improvement projects that advance student academic performance for which tax dollars are not available. The HISD Foundation seeks contributions from individuals, foundations, and corporations to help support these district-wide programs and initiatives. In FY 2006, HISD Foundation raised more than \$1.4 million (cash and in-kind). The HISD Foundation is governed by an independent board of directors drawn from Houston's philanthropic and business community and is separate and distinct from the HISD Board of Education. The HISD Foundation is a private, non-profit (501(c)(3)) organization.

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