Goal 7 Action Plan Year 2 Priorities – 2023-2024

Call to Action:

Katy ISD learners, through active engagement, achieve individual success while making positive contributions in an ever-changing world.

Goal 7:

Katy ISD will develop intentional strategic partnerships which capitalize on the strengths, resources and talents of all stakeholders in order to engage the entire community.

Specific Result:

7.4 Mobilize the Board and Superintendent to advocate for Katy ISD education priorities and build community capacity for advancing public education priorities.

Summary Report:

The Katy ISD Board of Trustees, Superintendent, and members of the administrative leadership team immersed themselves in an 18-month long training program in school and student advocacy. The program was facilitated by an external organization, and designed to strengthen school governance to ensure school systems like Katy ISD are equipped with the tools to find, use, and amplify their voices in state legislative processes influencing education policy. As a result of this training, the district developed an 18-month Advocacy Plan that focused on engaging and listening to stakeholders, establishing community priorities pertaining to public education, and appealing to elected officials on the issues of utmost importance to the Katy ISD school community. Specifically, throughout the 2022-2023 school year, the district executed seven Board Listening Circles that engaged the community and staff in discussion and analysis of key issues impacting Katy ISD learners. That dialogue informed the Board of Trustees' development of the Katy ISD 2023-2024 Legislative Priorities, a letter writing campaign geared toward informing elected officials, the development of the Katy ISD Governmental Relations webpage, and the Katy ISD Legislative Day which involved a group of community members attending scheduled meetings with elected officials to discuss educational policy needs. The latter activity provided an opportunity for legislators representing Katy ISD to hear directly from their constituents as they develop and support policy that drive what happens in Katy ISD classrooms. It is the intention of the Board and district to update and renew the Katy ISD Advocacy Plan, and action steps, on an annual basis.