

Booker T. Washington High School/HSEP
119 East 39th Street
Houston, Texas 77018

Dear Students and Parents,

Greetings to all of our Washington's students, parents, and guardians. Welcome to the 2008-2009 school year. The rebirth of the Fighting Eagles is well under way. Washington HS/HSEP experienced a monumental change in administration last year, and many people were somewhat skeptical of the changes. I am proud to say that Washington HS/HSEP is currently experiencing record level academic success under the current accountability system.

Our 2007-2008 TAKS were outstanding considering the magnitude of change that took place last year. Our scores are at record highs in Math (61%), Science (71%), and Social Studies (91% tied with 20--). Our English scores also improved to 83% from 77% a year ago. Our students are confident that they will exceed the basic requirements of scoring a 2100 on TAKS. Under the ASPIRE Value Added Analysis system, our students learning in all subject areas and grade levels increased tremendously. During the 2007 school year our students mean gain in value added learning was 4.9G (Gain) for Ninth graders, -3.3R (Regression) for 10th graders, and -0.5R (Regression) for 11th graders. The 2008 mean gains in value added learning is 4.2G for Ninth graders, 0.5G for tenth graders, and 6.1G for Eleventh graders.

Our students are performing at a high level and I would like to commend the faculty & staff at Washington/HSEP for their dedication and loyalty to our students. Many of our staff members are here because they genuinely care about student success. We have many teachers who are financially stable and could leave the field if they wanted. We also have many teachers qualified to move into industry and the corporate world, but they love our students. This is one of the main reasons that our students have performed well.

I will share more information with all of you on my State of the School presentation. It will be available for viewing on the website. I am truly looking forward for a recognized school year. With your support, we will obtain this goal.

Yours in education,

Mark Bedell, Principal