



Hidalgo County Head Start Program
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Date: February 19, 2025
To: Policy Council and Commissioners' Court
From: Irma Peña, Head Start Executive Director
CC: Head Start Executive Team
Subject: Donna ISD Collaboration Model and Proposal

The Hidalgo County Head Start Program has been in a collaboration model with Donna ISD since 2023 and it has developed to be one of our strongest collaborations. Currently Head Start and Donna ISD have children dually enrolled at the following campuses:

- Singleterry Elementary School – 6 classrooms
- Stainke Elementary School – 4 classrooms
- Capt. Salinas Elementary School – 3 classrooms
- Donna Head Start – 8 classrooms

Donna ISD is offering Guzman Elementary School located at 510 S. Salinas Blvd to serve as a Head Start standalone Campus starting school year 2025-26. This elementary school is currently used as a PreK-5th campus but will be closing at the end of this school year due to a drop in enrollment for the last 5 years.

The 15 classrooms from Stainke Elementary, Capt. Salinas Elementary, and Donna Head Start would be relocated to Guzman Elementary starting school year 2025-26. Singleterry Elementary will continue to have the 6 Head Start classrooms at that location. All children at Guzman Elementary and Singleterry Elementary will continue to be dually enrolled.

Dr. Angela Dominguez and the Donna ISD leadership team have been in discussions with me and the Head Start leadership team regarding the amendments needed to the MOU and the cost allocation. The following are some of the discussion points regarding Guzman Elementary:

- Donna ISD will continue to pay for all insurance costs related to the facility.
- Donna ISD will be financially responsible for any major costs for repairs for roofing, plumbing, HVAC, foundation, etc.
- Donna ISD will provide a full-time armed security officer.
- Donna ISD is offering the use of classroom and office furniture that is currently in place.
- Donna ISD is leaving in place their security systems to include the Raptor system.
- Donna ISD will provide all certified teachers of record for the collaboration.
- Donna ISD will provide an administrator to provide supervision and support to the Donna ISD teachers.
- Head Start will pay for all utilities including electricity, water and sewage, internet and phone services, etc.
- Head Start will continue to pay for all insurance costs related to child and adult liability.
- Head Start will provide all additional furniture and supplies related to services.

If approved, the addendum to the MOU with Donna ISD will be presented at the March 2025 Policy Council and Commissioners' Court meetings for approval.