2009–2010 ASPIRE Award Model Amendments

In August, the HISD Board of Education approved a set of amendments to the ASPIRE Award Model for teachers and campus-based staff for the 2009–2010 school year. These include:

- **Using the reading portion of the TAKS for the value-added analysis for reading** and using the language portion of the Stanford exam for value-added analysis for Language/English Language Arts (ELA) teachers in grades 7 and 8. Explicit linking directions were provided during spring student-teacher linkage to ensure the appropriate subjects were credited to the correct teachers.

- **High School College Credit Participation and Performance Award** for Strand IIIA, to replace Comparable Improvement awards at the high school level. Comparable improvement is no longer available as of the 2009-2010 school year at the high school level, and therefore could not be used for award purposes. Instead, a new model was developed and approved by the board where staff are awarded for the percentage of students enrolled in AP, IB, or Dual Credit courses, and where staff are awarded for the percentage of AP scores of 3 or higher and/or IB scores of 4 or higher.

- **Pre-Kindergarten through 2nd grade Core Foundation Teachers** will now have Strand II awards calculated using the campus-level third grade Reading and Math cumulative gain index, rather than all students in grades 3-6 on the campus.

- **Middle School Core Foundation Teachers** who teach only one grade level will now use single-grade comparison groups to rank-order teachers by subject and grade level for Strand II, Category B. Middle school teachers who teach more than one grade level will continue to use a multi-grade comparison group to rank-order teachers by subject for Strand II, Category B.

2010 Value-Added Report Enhancements

**New School Improvement Officer Summary Report**
HISD is pleased to announce that a new School Improvement Officer (SIO) Summary Report is now available, which includes updated student rosters and projections. This report displays growth patterns across all campuses that are grouped under each SIO, which refers to how campuses are grouped administratively.

**New Chief School Officer Summary Report**
HISD is pleased to announce that a new Chief School Officer (CSO) Summary Report is now available, which includes updated student rosters and projections. This report displays growth patterns across all campuses that are grouped under each CSO, which refers to how campuses are grouped administratively.

**Revised Teacher Value-Added Reports**
The 2010 Teacher Value-Added Reports became available September 23, 2010. The reports are again divided into two sections. The first section, for comparative evaluation, contains and explains aggregate measures of value-added for 2008, 2009, 2010 and the two-year or three-year average, if available. The second section, for teacher reflection, provides gains by prior-achievement level of students for 2010.

**School Value-Added Reports**
School Value-Added Reports with SAT, ACT, and PSAT scores and student projections will become available later this year. A special report release is targeted for November 15, 2010.
Additional Resources

HISD staff members have access to additional information and learning opportunities about EVAAS® value-added analysis and how to interpret Teacher Value-Added Reports including:

- **Online Learning:** Take online course VA0128 “Interpreting Teacher-Level Value-Added Reports” available through ASPIRE-Learn on the ASPIRE portal. To access this course, log in to “My ASPIRE” and click on “My Learn” under “Learn.” Click “Enroll in Learning” and select this course from the Course Catalog. If you are enrolled in Value-Added Learning Path—Level 2, this course is already pre-loaded among the other courses within this path.

- **Frequently Asked Questions:** Within the “Value-Added” section of “My ASPIRE” is an FAQ that provides additional important information related to these reports. Please read this document prior to reviewing the 2009 Value-Added Reports.

- **SAS® EVAAS® Statistical Models:** A report that explains the methods used to conduct value-added analysis.

To learn more about the technical aspects of this year’s value-added reporting, send an e-mail to aspireaward@houstonisd.org or contact your ASPIRE Technical Core Team Member.