



# HOUSTON NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **HEA: Open classroom doors are unsafe and have nothing to do with improving student outcomes**

Houston Education Association President Michelle Williams released the following statement:

The Houston Education Association calls on Houston ISD Supt. Mike Miles and the board of managers to rescind the superintendent's edict that all classroom doors must remain open during the school day. Locked doors will make our classrooms safer, and, despite Miles' claims, they will not sacrifice instructional quality.

Open classroom doors have nothing to do with improving student outcomes. Administrators have master keys to all the doors and can enter a classroom for supervision or coaching any time they want. Locked doors, however, have a lot to do with improving the safety of students and teachers.

In cases of armed intrusion into schools, teachers usually are the last line of defense for students, and a locked door can buy a teacher the precious seconds that may be necessary to save lives.

Miles' open door order needlessly compromises student and employee safety and shows a basic disrespect and mistrust of the teachers who share the superintendent's goal of improving academic outcomes in HISD.