

Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 30, 2018



HSD Mission

To provide safe environments and responsive programs that inspire all students to become lifelong learners and contributing citizens in a global society

HSD Vision

Personal growth, achievement, and success for every student

Attendees: Kim Barden (CMS), Erika Armentrout (CES), Jennifer Houck (EPES), Luann Bicevskis (HHS), Liz White-Monos (LMS), Jodi Heisey (MES), Patti Hunter (HHS), Kim Heilshorn (CMS), Deana Staples (RES), Dawn Ruppert (RES), Ed Kreibick (FES), Kelley Keel (MES), Tammy Jacobs (LMS), Wendy Wernoch (HHS), Erica Reichel (CES), Jeff Guindon (LPC/LIC)

6:30 p.m. Updates

- Dr. Chris Adams, Superintendent is ill. His request was that we continue this meeting in his absence.
- **Situation at HHS (Mike Bromirski)**
 - We cannot comment regarding specific students or actions taken with specific students. We appreciate that parents/guardians respect the confidentiality required in this regard.
 - The moment we become aware of something through responsible reporting, we react.
 - We have been working diligently with EHTPD since last evening, and the investigation is continuing. We want to reiterate what we stated in our messaging last evening - all students and staff were safe today.
 - Please keep the lines of communication open so we can continue responding – 411 tipline, Mobile App Tipline, reporting to an administrator at the respective school or district office.
- **Securly Demo (Mike Graham)**
 - If you signed up for Schoology, we have associated your account with all of your students.
 - Take the email address used for Sapphire and the associated children and automatically enroll that email address in Securly.
 - One to two weeks after enrolling, you will start receiving auto-generated emails with basic details about your student's activity on the iPad. Emails are sent once per week. (Check your spam folders.)
 - Safari "history" is still the best way to determine complete web browsing history. Safari stores 3-4 weeks of website searching history.
 - Settings tab on left – see listing of students associated with your account, and you can fine-tune the settings for each student.

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- Can specifically override to allow/deny specific websites using the large, red "Allow/Deny button."
- These settings only take place when NOT on the district server. Restrictions do not carry over during school hours simply because we want students to have access to all categories of filtered materials, such as educational games.
- Securly has other offerings in their pipeline, such as the bedtime button, to expand their portal.
- If you note a site that needs re-categorized (to place a restriction), contact the Technology Department at 717-898-5596.

7:00 p.m. Response to Member Inquiries

- **iPad Refresh Cycle (Mike Graham)**
 - This is the last year for 6th graders (4th graders from 2014-15) with their current iPads. These students will receive new iPads next year.
 - The iPads are on lease, but we do have the option to sell them off on our own, depending on the market. We must look at the pay-off of all options, including the cost of human resources to essentially open a shop and sell iPads for several weeks.
 - Additionally, we must have iPads out of the door by the end of June because the resale money must come in before the end of the current fiscal year.
 - In general, the damage rate has been pretty consistent at 3-4% of all student iPads. Speaks highly of student ownership of their devices.
 - iPad cost started at \$350-375 in the first year. The cost now is \$294.
- **HSD Grading Policy**
 - **Timely Return of Graded Work (Mike Bromirski)**
 - Grading & Reporting Guidelines are [available on our district website](#). We have been updating the document yearly based on information we are hearing from students, staff, and parents. We strive to maintain this as a collaborative, committee process when making changes.
 - There is nothing specifically in the current guidelines regarding a specific timeframe to return graded work, but we stress "frequent and timely feedback."
 - We will take this back to the committee in the spring to discuss how we might incorporate this feedback into the guidelines.
 - If you feel that it seems like it's taking a long time to receive feedback, check in with your student's teacher – or have your child do so. If you do not hear back from the teacher, the next level would be the principal or department supervisor. If you're not getting a response,

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- the next step would be the Director of Curriculum or Assistant Superintendent.
- SPAC Member Suggestion: have all work returned one week before final exams.
- **Protocols for Posting Homework to Schoology (Mike Graham)**
 - This past year, at the start of the school year, we rolled out Schoology expectations for our teachers.
 - Every course in Schoology should have a similar course structure, such as an introductory folder. We have asked teachers to focus on the calendar so students and parents know where to find specific things.
 - We have asked that teachers have students submit materials electronically. As we get more comfortable with Schoology, no student should be forced to print a paper or project for submission.
 - There should be updates coming from the teacher regarding the course; however, there are no specific guidelines about what those updates must include (i.e. – no specific expectations regarding posting of homework)
 - We are letting Schoology evolve and will continue tweaking our expectations as our teachers “grow into” this learning management system.
- **“Personal Electronic Devices” in Handbook (Tab Musser)**
 - The question posed: when can students have their devices? The answer differs from the elementary to the secondary level.
 - We will be reworking the HHS handbook to make sure that Personal Electronic Devices are included.
 - This topic is covered in [Policy #237, Electronic Devices](#) and has a broad definition there.
- **Keystone Exam Opt-Outs (Mike Bromirski)**
 - An update was provided on this topic [in our November meeting](#).
 - The Keystone Test opt-out does not apply to Project-Based Assessments (starting with the Class of 2020).
 - There is no formal guidance yet coming out of PDE.
 - From a Hempfield School District standpoint, we are not worried/concerned at this point. Planning stages are occurring within our district; however, until we receive the ultimate expectations from PDE, we are not making specific decisions. We do not want to have to backtrack on any implementation.
 - When we need to, we will notify all parents of the procedures.
- **Pre-Approved Absence Forms (Tab Musser)**
 - The pre-approved absence form is [available on our website](#).
 - The best action is to work with your principal. They have the final decision on how attendance is recorded.

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- If you have special circumstances, just try to communicate with the principal. Ask questions ahead of time.
- Given to you by law are 10 cumulative (not consecutive) days that can be used at the parent's discretion. After that, absences must have a doctor's note.
- Specifically, the Farm Show is an educational trip/experience that is approved.
- **PTO/SAO Self-Promotion Regulations (Tab Musser)**
 - If you are a School-Affiliated Organization (SAO), as PTOs are, you are allowed to have a table at Back to School Night. It can be staffed by a member of the PTO.
 - We do not permit outside organizations to have/staff tables at BTS night or other events – if we did this for one outside organization, we'd have to do the same for any organization that might request such to have a table as this opens up equal access concerns.
 - Board Policy #915 provides additional information about SAOs.
- **Barnstormers School Spirit Night – June 2**
 - Dawn Ruppert shared that June 2 will be Hempfield School Spirit Night.
 - An informational meeting will be held on April 9 at 6:30 p.m. to discern what engagement activities various schools would like to conduct that evening.
 - If you are interested in helping plan, please email Dawn. The meeting may be held at the Barnstormers Stadium or at one of our schools.

Future Meetings: 6:30-8:00 pm, Public Board Room

Monday, March 26

Tuesday, May 29