Derry Township School District

Hershey High School

BAT Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 3,2024, 8:20 A.M. – Zoom

Lindsey Schmidt (Chair) - High School Principal
Laurie Wade (Co-Chair) - HS Assistant Principal
Greg Miller (Co-Chair) - HS Assistant Principal

Staff present: Lindsey Schmidt, Greg Miller, Jamie Bean, Monica Breiner, Brendan Hensel, Ashlee McCann

Parents present: Angela Mullen, Donna Kupprat, Eric Callahan, Archana Sehgal

Topics: Upcoming Finals Schedule, Keystone Assessments, AP Testing Schedule and additional End-of-Year Information.

- The zoom meeting opened at 8:15 A.M. and began at 8:20 A.M.
- Ms. Schmidt welcomed parents in attendance and asked them to introduce themselves as well as give the grade level of their student(s)
    a. Ms. Angela Mullen – Kylie, 10th grade and Connor, 8th grade.
    b. Mr. Eric Callahan-Mason, 12th grade and Sean, 11th grade.
    c. Ms. Donna Kupprat-Jessica 9th grade and Joseph 11th grade
- Ms. Schmidt asked HHS staff to introduce themselves.
    a. Mr. Brendan Hensel -Counselor and department chair at the high school
    b. Mr. Greg Miller – Assistant Principal at the High School
    c. Ms. Jamie Bean – Social and emotional learning coach
    d. Ms. Monica Breiner-Instructional coach
- Ms. Schmidt shared the following information:
    a. Discussed the end of year schedule being crazy.
    b. Due to all of the testing overlap this year the BATP meeting is being used to get the information out to everyone first.
    c. Feedback is needed from parents on what the best way is to get the information out to everyone.
    d. Shared the internal May Calendar
        - First item for feedback
            1. Would parents like a copy of the internal May Calendar?
        - First week of May is a quiet week.
            1. Last week of uninterrupted instruction at the High School.
                a. No large group field trips during the school day in the month of May.
                    i. Except for
                        1. Any events that students have qualified for.
                        2. Music Events

b. Overall field trips will be limited to minimize disruption to instruction and the testing schedule.
c. Weekend Field trips are scheduled.
d. Slowdown in field trips or big events during the school day.

- May 6th Starts the large amount of testing.
  1. AP Testing is given to the administration by the college board.
     a. They determine what content is tested on what days.
     b. Teachers give students their schedules.
     c. Mr. Hensel works with the classes to determine where the testing will occur.
     d. The testing date will depend on what course they are enrolled in.
        i. Broken into two sessions per day.
           1. AM Session
           2. PM Session
     e. First week of testing is AP ONLY
        i. Impact only AP students
        ii. Impact only those courses that are testing those days
        iii. Accommodation will be made to the student's schedule based on when they are testing.
           1. Teachers will be notified if students will miss classes due to their assessments.
        iv. Only students impacted during the first week of testing are the AP students that signed up to take the AP assessments.
  2. May 13th -Second week of testing will be pure chaos.
     a. 100% overlap of AP testing and Keystone testing.
        i. Schedule allows students to focus on the assessments when they need to take the assessments and not worry about missing assignments.
     b. AP Testing will remain on the schedule it is on, and students will take those exams on the days that they are being given.
     c. Keystone Exams will run on a 4 day- 2 ½ hour delay schedule
        i. Any students taking the below classes will be taking Keystone Exams.
           1. English 10 – Honors or CP
           2. Biology – Honors or CP
           3. Algebra 1
        ii. 2 ½ hour delay bell schedule was shared
           1. Any student not taking an AP Exam or Keystone Exam will arrive at school at 10:05am on those days.
              a. Busses will run at normal time and 2 ½ hour delay times.
  3. May 17th
     a. Keystone Make-ups
     b. Kick off to Senior Events
  4. May 20th
     a. Last day of regular classes for seniors
  5. May 22nd
     a. All Seniors needing to take finals in periods 1, 6 and 10
  6. May 23rd
     a. All Students taking final exams periods 2, 4 and 7
  7. May 24th

a. All Students taking final exams periods 5, 8 and 9
8. May 27th Off for Memorial Day
9. May 28th
    a. Wrap up Finals for Grades 9th-11th
    b. Seniors are at Hershey Park
10. May 29th and potentially 30th
    a. Make up day for Finals
    b. Commencement at Giant Center at 7pm
11. May 30th
    a. Final Make up day or Full day of School
        i. Working with District Office to finalize
            1. Will update in a week or two
12. May 31st
    a. Last Day / Early Dismissal 9th-11th graders
13. Finals Schedules
    a. Half Day Schedule
    b. Schedule will be sent to families
        i. Three Finals per day
            1. 1 hour per final
            2. Transportation will run at half day dismissal

- Option for Seniors to not take finals and listed in the student handbook to let them know what grade they must have in the class to not have to take the final.
- Option for AP students as well for that class specifically.
    1. Teachers communicate this to students directly
- Students have study halls or during lunch periods they do not have to be in the building, but they must have notes from parents giving them permission to leave.
- Lunches are at the end of the finals so students who do get permission may leave campus if they want to.
    1. They can go to classes as usual if they do not get permission
- Angela Mullen asked if May 17th is on a 2 ½ hour delay schedule.
    1. Ms. Schmdit stated that May 17th is a regular schedule day
        a. Seniors must be in school by 7:33am
            i. Mandatory Senior Meeting
            ii. Go over the upcoming weeks
            iii. First run of their names for graduation
                1. Saying their names correctly is extremely important

e. Ms Schmidt asked if there were any questions from parents.
    - No questions
f. Ms. Schmidt asked what the best way was to relay this information to parents.
    - Email
    - Multiple Emails
    - Social Media
        1. Snap shots
g. Archana Sehgal answered
    - Emails
h. Eric Callahan asked a question
    - Is it a concern that the schedule is too complicated, and students do not know where to be and parents do not know where their students should be?
    - Ms. Schmidt answered

1. The students seem to know exactly where they need to be. The problems we tend to run into are students that have study hall or lunch and do not have notes to leave.
    a. Needing a note to leave is placed in multiple forms of communications
        i. Frustration from parents and students often comes if the students want to leave when they do not have finals, yet the office did not receive a note.

- Eric Callahan
    1. Agreed that email is best
- Ms. Schmidt
    1. Will address the schedules in the following
        a. Several Community Periods
        b. Email / Announcements
    2. Reminders will be sent by all platforms
- Archana Sehgal
    1. We are not the right audience as we are the ones checking all the emails and coming to the BAT meetings.
- Angela Mullen
    1. I agree that email is fine for me
        a. Alert parents via phone call or text that there will be an important email.
    2. Donna Kupprat
        a. Good with emails
        b. Text for important email but to not become too many notices.
- Eric Callahan
    1. Asked if the District Calendar is updated throughout the school year?
        a. Note on the district calendar that it may be busy.
- Ms. Schmidt
    1. Few updates for the next few weeks
        a. We are doing our Alice Drill next week and will get communication out after it happens to all parents.
        b. Unique schedule next week with the eclipse on April 8th
            i. Early dismissal at 12:00pm
            ii. Athletics Events pushed back to after 4:30pm start
            iii. School Events pushed back to after 4:30pm start
    2. April 10th
        a. No School for students
- Ms. Schmidt
    1. Asked if there were any parent questions.
        a. Angela Mullen
            i. Question about the job fair
                1. Are middle school students able to participate in it?
                    a. Ms. Schmidt stated that they have not included middle school students yet due to the employers with the age requirements of 15 years of age.
        b. Archana Sehgal
            i. Gave some feedback about the NHS application process
                1. Stated no emails to parents or students about the meetings.

2. Feels like students missed the announcements and it was not announced at the meeting with the counselors.
3. Thinks that his student is not getting emails and announcements are not played in his homeroom.

c. Ms. Schmidt
   i. Responded to the feedback stating that there were announcements for a week straight before the meetings as well as in an email that the students get daily.
   ii. NHS has criteria to advocate and be a leader. We typically do not send this information to families as they should be listening to the announcements and seeking out the information.
   iii. Maybe send out an email to alert to pay attention to the announcements that information about NHS will be coming out.
   iv. Will pass feedback on

- Ms. Schmidt closed the meeting thanking all the parents.