

STEM Academies Freshman Orientation-20260817_180313-Meeting Recording

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4h 0m 0s

● **Martinez, Rosa (Rosy)** started transcription



Martinez, Rosa (Rosy) 0:11

All right. Well, good evening, everybody. It's 6.03. So I will get started with our session. This session is going to be recorded for the people that are not able to join this evening. Thank you all so much for being here.

This is a great way to start our year and to find the ways to support our students and just team together so they can be successful in our program. This session is for the parents of STEM academies, of freshman students from the Math and Science Academy, the Engineering Academy, as well as the Medical Science Academy of the class of 2030. How exciting. I really like that number. I think it's so cool to graduate from the class of 2030. My daughter is actually graduating 2029 and she said, oh, I just missed it. I really like 2030 when I was talking about.

this class that is our freshman and time is going to fly by. So we have to enjoy every moment of them in high school and of the experiences that they're going to have through this high school experience.

All right. So first, I'd like to introduce myself. I'm Rosy Martinez. I'm the high school program managers, one of them. I work with the STEM academies and the picture that you see on the screen is my colleague, Paul Wells. He's also a program manager and he works with the humanities academies. We do work closely together. So if you ever are in need and I am not available or you can find me or I'm out for any reason, he is able to help as well. So it's important that you know that contact and that's Paul Wells and my name, Rosy Martinez. My actual name at birth is Rosa Martinez, but

Um...

I've been called Rosy since I was born. Somebody put on the chat that there is no sound. I believe that there is.

Okay, can everybody hear me okay? Somebody can put it in the chat.



Ankur S. Patel (Houston) 2:29

We can hear you.



Martinez, Rosa (Rosy) 2:29

Yes, we can hear. Okay, so maybe if whoever cannot hear you, they can just check the audio on their side. So something important to know is that if you are going to e-mail me, my name and e-mail is Roseta E Martinez, but I'm sure that you have I've gotten enough emails, so you'll find me. All right. So it's important that you know your resources. Many of you, this might be your first student in high school. So it is super, super important to know who can you find answers with and who can you contact for different things that you need.

at your campus. So I'm going to talk a little bit about that. First of all, we have campus facilitators at each one of our academies and they are absolutely fantastic. They have worked with the academies for many years, actually. You see there Miss Herrera and Miss Nguyen, they're from the Math and Science Academy, both Science and math teachers and department heads, and Miss Adams and Miss Edwards are from the Engineering Academy and they are actually our Engineering Academy teachers. So your students will have them in the Engineering Academy and Elizabeth and Miss Nguyen as well for their math and Science courses. And Dr. Ramon, he is

one of our advanced science teachers at Hightower High School. So you would definitely, your student will definitely have him as well and he's the facilitator for a medical science academy. So these are important people to know because they are definitely a great resource and I

move between campuses and the office that I have at the annex. So if I'm not at the campus, they are always somebody that you can, or the students actually can access to when they need something at their campus. So it's important to get to know them as well. Also, we have our campus principals and the team of administrators at the campus. So

I work with the academies, but I am not at the campus all the time. So it's important to know that you are all participants and students of that specific campus, so you have all access to all the resources. Mr. Stewart, Ms. Mucias, and Mr. Roberson are, Dr. Roberson are the



Leanna Aldis 4:32

Can I have three?



Martinez, Rosa (Rosy) 4:54

principals at those campuses. And if you can, please make sure that you know who is the assistant principal for your students. Most of our campuses have an alpha split by last name, and you can find that information in the website. It's important to know because if you ever need the support of an administrator, you have to go directly to your student's administrator.

Um...

Then we have the counselors. The counselors are super important people in their lives of the students, and I actually have a slide for each one of the campuses, but you can find this information on the website. The counselors have an average split as well. Please get familiar with your counselor. I am not able to make schedule changes or override A counselor decision. I can only collaborate with them.

for the academy requirements. So for example, right now I've been sending emails to make sure that you're in the right courses. If for any reason a student is not in the right course for the academy, that's when I jump in and make sure that they are in the advanced science, advanced math, or in the specific course that they need.

So these are the counselors at Dulles High School. We have our counselors at Elkins High School as well, and our counselors at

If you, I'm going to leave it there for a moment so you can see for the people that are from my students and parents that are from Elkins. And we have the Hightower counselors, also an Alpha split.

So it goes by last name, make sure you know who that person is. They're going to, since this is alpha split, they'll be their counselors for the rest of the school year. So just go by your student's last name. So for example, if you, my daughter or your child, just go by the last name in the alpha split. And that's how you find out who that counselor is and all the information is also on the website of the campus.

All right, so what are we going to be talking about today? This session is so we can partner and help our students be successful during the academy program. The academies are pretty intense, academically challenging, so it's important that we are on the same page and that you know how you can support your student. So that's

what we're going to be talking about today, the expectations and requirements. hours and enrichment submissions, and the travel, some travel opportunities that we have as well, booster clubs and what do they do, and our e-mail etiquette.

 **gary2fun@gmail.com** 7:41
Yeah.

 **Martinez, Rosa (Rosy)** 7:45

All right. So next, I want to share that how we're going to do the Q&A. I do have the chat open, but I'm not going to be taking questions in the chat. I'm going to ask you if you can please, I'm going to put in this moment the link to

Let me copy the link and I'm going to...

put it in the chat. So if you can please put your questions in a Slido, I'm going to tell you why. It's because if you have a question that somebody else has, you can like it and that question goes right to the top of the list and that way I can answer the most question possible today. So I just have a couple in the chat. How do I know the counselor? Please, it's assigned by the last name. So I put the, I had the QR code on the screen and I also had the link on the chat. I will be monitoring the Slido.

Again, this gives the opportunity.

opportunity for parents, if you have a question and somebody else asked that question already, you can like it. It goes to the top of the list and I am able to address the most asked question of the night. I'm going to try to get as many questions as I can at the end of the presentation.

I'm definitely going to try to finish by 7 o'clock. So hopefully we'll be done before then and I can answer questions throughout the night or at the end of the presentation.

All right. So first I want to start by saying about the ranking policy because that has changed over the years and it's important that you know that since the class of 2028, and of course you guys are the class of 2030, students that attend an academy are ranked with the campus day

attend. So for example, if you are zoned to Travis High School, but you go to Elkins High School for the Engineering Academy, your student is going to be ranked with the class of 2030 of Elkins High School. Not only with the Engineering Academy students, with all of the class of Elkins High School class of 2030.

So that's how the ranking functions. It is with the campus that they attend. Just a side

note. And we want you to make the most of the academy experience. I was talking to some students today about that because it is important to know that we make really any experience is what we make of it.

If students are getting involved, if they're coming to the meetings, if they're attending the field trips, if they're signing up for events and showing up, of course, they're going to have a wonderful experience. But if they're not getting involved, that's going to look different. So it's important to know that we have to encourage our kids to

really participate and get involved so their experience can be so much better here in the Academy. So how we can make the most of it? Completing the Academy requirements and just having open communication, be always present, take pride and that they are members of the Academy and work academy parents as well, and always just get plugged in and get involved. So first of all, we're going to start with the requirements. I went over that in orientation, I mean, in commitment night, but I like to always touch base on those four areas because this is what's going to prepare them the best for college.

If you have an older student, you know how those college applications are. I have two children. I have one, he's a sophomore, no, I'm a junior in college and my sophomore in high school. So I already went through that college application process and it's definitely intense to help our students and support what

This is going to really help you to be able to feel all of those areas because in the academic, we have strong academics and lots of advanced courses. We have enrichment experiences, which is learning beyond the classroom. And service, the service in all the campus GS hours are available if the students want to do it. For the academy, students have to do it.

environment and hopefully they just grow as just members of the community that help their surroundings. And finally, integrity and behavior is something that we do take very seriously here in the academy. So just going over quickly for each one of the areas,

Students are required to enroll in the academy-specific courses, and those are listed on our website. I'm going to take a tour of the website in a minute with you, but it's important to know that those academy-specific courses, they had to maintain a 75% or above average, and for the rest of the courses, a 70% or above.

I always tell the parents that don't.

Don't think that if the student falls to the 73, I'm going to be calling everybody and

say, you're out of the academy. No, that's not how it works. If a student is starting to show some of those on their percentages that we want them to be at, it's a time that we just

touch base with the student, they will go on duration, but we have a duration period so we can make some, see if we can make some changes or what are some of the needs so that a student, so they can be successful. So they have a semester at times a year to just like catch up or see what is it that they need. Are they going to tutorials and

and we make sure that things are in place for them and we give that opportunity for them to catch up. For enrichments, they have to complete 4 enrichments per year, 2 per semester, for a total of 16 by graduation. For quality hours is 100 hours by April 1st of the senior year, so 25 hours per year.

And behavior is super important. We are guests, many of us are guests in the campus and we have just high expectations for our academy students. So if they have behavior referrals, it may result in this visa from the academy. And I will show you next where you can find all of the information and our

Policy and for in case that a student is placed in alternative education program.

DAEP, the District Alternative Education Program, there's only like two or three things that can land a student in that program. In that case, that is an automatic dismissal from the academy and the student does not return to the academy group. They will return to their zone campus or their academy campus, but not as a part of the academy. That is one that

that it just happens immediately. But otherwise, there's always a probation period.

But it's important that you are aware that we do take behavior and academic integrity very seriously. So I talk about this with my students every time I get the opportunity to so they can stay on track because we are really building some great, great students and citizens for the future. All right, so these are the core course requirements per academy. They are also listed on our website. So for the Math and Science Academy, STEM Advanced Math and Science credits during the four years.

Again, this is a minimum. Students usually go above that and that's up to them, but it's 10 months of science credits inclusive of calculus A, B, or BC, and one computer science credit advanced as well during the four years, and they complete a senior graduation project.

For engineering, they had to enroll in an advanced Math and Science every year. So

this is AAC and above, an advanced computer science credit during those four years. And they had to complete the Engineering Academy program of study. And in our website, you can see what are those four classes. I've been also emailing our parents so they can

Make sure that they are in the right classes. For the Medical Science Academy, they have to enroll in an advanced science every year and complete the biomedical program of study, which has multiple classes. And we recommend to enroll in advanced math, but is not required, is recommended. And if you want to see a little bit more of the

information. I am working super hard in making the website the best possible because we have new websites and we are filling in all of the information. So I'm still working on it, but there's a lot done and I'll show you in a minute because I will give a tour for you as well.

Summer courses. This is super important. If your student takes, if your student took summer courses before 9th grade, like this summer that just ended,

They, they, if they were, if the counselor approved them in 8th grade and everything is right, they take the credit for that course. But moving on, as they are now in 9th grade, the academy specific courses, so those advanced math and Science courses or engineering education engineering, advanced math for, I'm sorry, math science and medical science, like whatever is specific.

Those Math and Science courses are to be taken at the campus during the school year, with the exception of geometry. Geometry is the only one that they can, that we allow them to take over this summer. This is because the load for students is heavy and the preparation over a summer course over a few weeks is never going to be the same.

during the school year. It is our responsibility to make sure that we do everything we can for our students to be successful and that is a rule that has been in place already for a good time. They can take other courses, English, social studies, health, other electives, anything else that they would like to, but for the Math and Science that are specific,

or courses that are specific to the academy requirements are to be taken at the campus during the school year. Something important to know is that any summer credit that they take has to be approved by the counselor. So when you're in the process in the spring and you're deciding what courses you're going to take, or if you want to take some courses over the summer,

Always run and make sure that you have counselors approval. So you take those courses and you get the credit because it's terrible if you take the courses and then the counselor, there's no way to have that credit transferred to the district. So always make sure that you have counselors approval.

And the reason is because some of the courses that you take over the summer need to have what we call a crosswalk, which compares to the course here and they have to be approved. So just make sure that you always, make sure you know your counselors and get in contact and they are busy, but they will get back to you.

Okay, so we're going to go into volunteer service.

This is a super important component of today. One of the reasons that I'm really happy that you're here. Volunteering is such an important component of the academy. We take the service to the community very seriously. The reason is that our students tend to be super academically driven, but because we want to have a whole child approach and just develop our students in a well-rounded aspect, it is important that they always give back to the community. So we know that we have 100 hours of service and service must be completed through

eligible nonprofit organization with some exceptions like service at a school, counts.

And we have a guidelines in the website. I'll show you in a minute. So you can see all of these specific guidelines. The service must be completed across 4 organizations at least. I'm going to tell you why. Because when you apply for college applications, so you put 100 hours

in the Houston Food Bank, is not going to look as good that if you have the Houston Food Bank and you have Arms of Hope and you have service at your previous elementary school and you have service with Lunches for Love and the Women's Shelter. Like if you have a variety, it's going to look better. So it has to be the service across 4 organizations. For summer credit is 25 hour maximum for the 100 hours. Why? Because in summer, it's easier to service, to provide service because the students are not at school. We want them to make sure that they do the service through the school year so they can balance.

Academics and academics with the.

service that we want them to complete. So if students may receive credit for 8 hours of service a day, like if they have like a super long data at a place on a Saturday and they work 10 hours, we can only take 8 because we don't encourage them to go past that for one day. And of course, everything, all the forms have to be signed.

completely filled out for approval and the service must, it expires in six months. Many

times the students do the service, but don't submit the form. That is a problem that we have and that we always are trying to just encourage our students to submit, submit, submit as soon as you do the service.

My daughter is a sophomore. She's doing just hours at her campus. And goodness gracious, I'm always like, did you submit the form? Did you submit the form? And she is like super responsible, but like stuff happens. So it's important that they submit the form right away. If it is after six months,

We don't accept it, and that's part of our of our guidelines. So, this is the volunteer hours form.

You can see this form and the community log. So if your student is doing 4 hours of service on a Saturday, sure, they can submit a yes form only for those four hours of service. But let's say they did 4 hours of service.

on Saturday, during 4 Saturdays, so then they have 16 hours, they cannot just submit the yes form for 16 hours because the service was done over time. So then in that case, they need a community service log signed by the supervisor for each day that they attended.

That is super important so they can get their hours, credit for their hours. So where can you find the volunteer form?

So, you're going to go to Foreman ISD, departments, academies, academy requirements, validity hours. Those are a lot of things. So, what I'm going to do is I'm going to bring over my screen and I'm going to show you where to find the form. So we are going to go to the hamburger and this new website that we have in Fort Byrne ISD.

Hold on, somebody. I need to, I'm still admitting people. So there we go. And if you recently arrived, there's a link on the chat for a Slido. That's where we're collecting our questions for today. Please make sure that you are using the link to submit your questions.

questions, I will address them at the end. And yes, this is recorded and I'm going to post it on the website within about a week. So once you go to the Department IT website, you know, I'm going to start again because I...

not too much there in between. So we're going to go to the hamburger. We'll go to departments, the academies, thanks to the alphabet is the first one. So we'll go to academies. And I've been working super hard on this website. I'm still working on it, but you're going to see all the information.

I'm already working on recruitment for the class of 2031. So all the information is

there for the class of 2031. But for us, we're going to go to the academy requirements. The academy requirements are for everybody, and those are the four pillars, academics, enrichment, volunteer hours, and

integrity and behavior, volunteer service, I mean. So when you go to volunteer service, you're going to see all the information you need, the volunteer hours requirement, the guidelines form and submission. So here you're going to find the guidelines, the volunteer hours form that you can use to submit, and the log.

In addition, you're going to have a how to or how to submit. It's super simple, students submitting school links. It is very, very simple. And then we have the ongoing volunteer opportunities. And I have a bunch of different places around the community that you just click and look for volunteer opportunities. It's important that you help your students

but they have to take ownership of this. They need to start looking for opportunities and find their way with their volunteer hours. If you have, if you need additional information about the requirements and about enrichments, for example, this is something that I finished populating, so all the information is there.

for what is an enrichment, what counts as an enrichment, examples enrichments, how to submit and get the credit, everything is here. And we also go over these with the students in our monthly meetings. I went over these during orientation as well. So that is the website.

and I will come back if I need to. But it's important that you know that all the forms are there. So I talked about volunteer hours, a little bit about enrichments. I'm going to go back to explain about enrichments. Enrichment is any learning that happens beyond the classroom day. That is related

to that specific academy, that specific field. So if the student is in the engineering academy, for example, and they have an experience, like they maybe visit a college or they, or students in general and all the academies, if they go to the science museum, or they're participating in a math or science competition,

All of those that are beyond the classroom day, they are related to the academy topics, can be counted as an enrichment. But it's important to know that we meet monthly, so I'm going to go to my next slide. So some examples of enrichments are Our academy monthly meetings, we always have, during our meetings, we have an experience related to the field that we are learning. We have guest speakers that come and visit, that's beyond the classroom day. We have STEM workshops in the spring and

competitions, if they participated in a competition, and any college or industry visits is also an enrichment. Now to receive enrichment credit, the student must meet the experience through school links and upload a picture of themselves participating at that event. So you know our monthly meetings, are between 45 minutes or an hour. Students can always submit one hour. We always round it to one hour for our meetings every month. And if they do an event outside of our monthly meetings, if they visited a museum or they went to a conference, a STEM conference, we accept two hours maximum for those outside events. per event, because we don't want them to say, oh, I went to a camp, a STEM camp. So I did 16 hours because I was there for two days. But this is continuous learning. So we want every year, every year. That's why we limit to two hours per outside event. Where do they submit? These instructions are on the website on the validated hours submission. I'm going to add them to the enrichment submission as well. But it's super simple. Students have to already been in a schooling. That's what they do their course selection in the spring. And that's where they're going to apply for college and they

They got to get used to School Links. So in School Links, it's super simple. They just go on their engage, experience tracking. Actually, I have a School Links right here. This is mine, which is a totally different view because I, but it's right here in engage, you do a handshake, experience tracking.

All the experience are there. Engineering, MSA, I see them all because obviously like I have access, like teacher access. But the students are just going to go to engage and then they're going to click on experience tracking.

and they're going to add an entry. So they're either going to add an entry for volunteer hours, which is service, or an enrichment. And they're only going to see their experiences. They're only going to see their specific academy and their specific experiences. So they want to add the experience for volunteer hours. They have to submit the volunteer hours form.

and log if is necessary. And for the enrichment is they fill out the form and they submit a selfie. There are some students that may not have a phone. They can take a selfie when we meet here with the computer, or they can explain that they do not have a phone and

and I will, of course, give credit, but I do check for their presence in that event. All right. So some of the important due dates. Right now, the year is starting, but I don't want them to get behind. So we check them every semester because

Otherwise, it's hard to catch up if students get behind. So the first deadline for volunteer hours would be January 31st, which is basically the first semester deadline, but we're going to January to give them some time to submit if they haven't. And they should have 12.5 hours. So right now it's time. Start looking for those opportunities. I share opportunities as well.

And there's always opportunities at the schools or if a teacher needs support in a specific thing, they can help with that as well. If you see any events that are from their previous former middle school or elementary and they're looking for volunteers, they can always sign up and that always counts as well. So 12.5 in January and then by next August,

that should be at 25 because that will be the whole year that passes. The biggest deadline is to have 100 hours by April 1st of the senior year.

We do run, we audit a couple times a year and we send probation notices for students. And this is especially because we want them to just kind of like wake up and get on it. Like we just want them to know that, hey, you're behind, don't fall behind because it's really hard to catch up if you do.

For enrichments, the enrichments are by January 31st that you have two. So this semester that you have two, next semester that you'd have two hours. And if they attend, we have meetings every month, so they have more than enough opportunities to do it just through school. Then if they kind of fall behind in the spring,

We have activities with our academies. We have the engineering career fair. We have around the world of medicine with the Medical Academy. And these are open to all of our academy students. So they can attend even if it's not their academy, they are open so they can catch up if they need enrichment credit.

All right, so in, let me just show you. I share this with all of the students during orientation. I think with medical science, maybe I didn't because

I don't know if I shared that part, but I will share with all of you today. And I'm going to also e-mail these students so they know, but everybody does know. During the in-person orientation for students, I shared, I'm going to go here to academies. I'm back in the website.

Academy requirements and.

Volunteer service and I'm going to go to my forms.

And these are the guidelines. I'm going to open it up. So these are the guidelines. If your student has these guidelines and goes over them with you, the third page has

an area for signature of acknowledgement that you read and so all the information on this form.

If the students fill this out with your signature and their signature, they can submit one hour. I'm going to give them one hour of volunteering. The reason I do this is because I want to collect this form, and in addition, I want them to learn how to use and submit it in the School Links. So tell your son or daughter that if they feel that out and submitted, some of them already did, they will get one volunteer hour and they will start getting familiar with school links.

All right. Oh, we're entering another topic. Okay. Academy teachers. We are getting ready in all of our academies to some will have new designs. So we'll continue with the same designs. But we want our students to have our academy teachers because we go to field trips and it is just for safety is

good that everybody's wearing the same shirt. So just get prepared. You're going to see information. Information is coming up because each academy has a difference. Some is managed by the Booster Club, some is managed by the, like there's just different ways. So just be on the lookout. We'll be sending information about teachers to each one of the academies.

But just be on the lookout for that information. And also, we have some other opportunities here in the academy. We do have travel opportunities that are exclusive for our academy students across our three STEM academies.

We did the 2025 and 2026, we had a robotics and engineering trip with the students. It was great. They really enjoyed it. There is a cost associated with this, yes, and is managed through EF, but we do partner with them so we can offer these opportunities for academy students.

So this year, 2027, the travel opportunities this summer for an automotive innovation in Germany and Italy. This is actually my son, who is an academy graduate back in 2024. He did this back in 2022. I think he did this

this 22 or 23, this trip. I wasn't even involved yet with this, with the academies. I was an academy parent, but he, I mean, it was a great opportunity, great learning, great way to get out there and just be with others that are like-minded and see places. that they can see on their own, but with friends and just learn in all different areas of STEM. So if you are interested on participating or learning more information, this is the QR code and I am going to put the link on the chat.

as well. There's going to be an information session on September 1st at 6pm. So if you are interested to attend, you do have to sign up and I will put that on chat right

now.

Um...

Here goes the link. All right.

Okay, and next I want to talk about something like super, super valuable for our academies and is our parents. So we have a booster club in each one of our academies and they are just a tremendous help. All of them are

They just help us in, you know, we have a small budget and we're always looking for experiences for students and they just go above and beyond to just raise money and help us when we have events, help us to set up and provide snacks, you name it, they help us. Even sometimes they

cover the entrance fee to some of our field trips. We had that last year with actually pretty much all the three academies helped us out in some of our experiences. So I really would like you to just take a look at who they are and what they do right here.

This is our Medical Science Academy that

They provided snacks. They provided snacks actually for all of our meetings. They also help us with the entrance fee when we visited the health museum. Those are just a couple of examples. This is over here, the MSA Booster Club. They also provide snacks. They provide prizes. And they helped us with

just numerous things and events at Dulles. And the Engineering Academy Club, this is a picture from Cookies and Coco, which they set up for all the kids, and it's like a super attended event. They helped us this year with the entrance fee for the NASA for our seniors. So

There's always, always an...

something that they help us with. So I'm going to go back to the...

Website.

the Fort Byrne ISD website, I'm going to show you how you can find information on your specific booster club. So if you go again to the departments, academies, we're the first ones. Thank you for alphabetical order. So for example, I'll start with the Engineering Academy. I drop down the menu and you have

the information on the, there's a tab for the Engineering Academy Booster Club and you can see the information, their website, how can you find a spirit where they actually handle the teachers for the academy who are the board members. So you can find information there. It is going to be the same.

For other ones, Math and Science Academy, here's the information from the Booster Club. There's a tab for them, and you can find all the links for interest, for joining,

anything that you, any information that you would like to see, Medical Science as well.

We have a high tower booster club for the academies. The interest form is right there. So if you are interested in helping out, supporting in joining the booster club, that's the information right there. We do appreciate

If there's anybody here, I don't know if the boosters who's all here, but we so appreciate everything that they do.

Alright, uh, so...

Great, 643. We're pretty much done and I'm going to start addressing questions. But before that, I'm just going to just share some of the pictures from last year.

Here it is. Hold on. I'm just going to share some of the experiences and they're not all of them. It's just a little bit of a...

a compilation of some of the pictures of what we did on our academy. All of our three academies, I'm going to be sharing a little bit of pictures. So this is Access Health. This is our Medical Science Academy. It's a super, super great field trip.

Usually we do this with our freshmen.

and we go to the Emergency Operations Center. They are so good with the students there. The Health Museum, that was...

They learned how to sutter. They had a special class and we're looking to do that this year again with our upperclassmen. We visited Andy Anderson last year. That was a big, big deal, a big deal for me because I'm always trying to get to hospitals and it's not easy to

be received in the hospital with a bunch of students, but we visited MD Anderson Sugar Land. I don't have pictures from there because they have very strict guidelines for sharing pictures. And this is a University of Houston simulation lab here in Sugar Land. That was a great visit as well. Around the world amazing conference that we have.

Every year is a big event for our medical sciences students. So we had guest speakers this year. This was super interesting from pharmaceutical sales. I actually learned a lot in that event. We had a winter social. We joined with the Digital Media Academy and We just had a blast. It keeps had a blast. This is MSA. We also went to the Emergency Operations Center. We had Dacon Park, a STEM tour for our seniors. We visited the College of Engineering at Texas A&M, the Ministerial City Water Plant, HC Innovation Lab.

We also had some visits from, and I don't have my medical science students, but they

were there too. I had all the academies at Malala in a career fair. That's MSA, but engineering was there as well, and Med Sci was there as well. We love those collaborations. We had guest speakers from NASA, Biomedical Engineering, Some great fellowship. That's Mr. Stewart there. He didn't leave until he won that game of battleship and ice cream social. We're getting ready for the ice cream social. That's in September with the MSA Halloween Bash. This is the Engineering Academy with the College of Engineering Engineering.

We went to HCU Engineering. We also did the Dake and Park with them, with our upperclassmen, I believe. We also visited NASA and the Amazon Fulfillment Center. We visited the Clements High School construction site, specific with our civil engineering students from Elkins. And we had a career fair that

The big event for our students is all student-led and the student plan is amazing. And every slide that says thank you, Booster Club, the Booster Club provided us with different things. This is engineering at Fort Settlement. We love those collaborations that we have with campuses. Some guest speakers, we also had cookies and cocoa with them and some monthly meetings.

So those are some of our experiences with the academies and it is a lot of work and hard work for our students, but it also pays off with just the fellowship, the learning and the preparation for college and the chance to go and visit places that are related to

their interest and their field of interest. So I'm going to start addressing some of the questions.

Okay, let's see. Give me one second. Okay.

Uh, I'm just gonna do the couple that are on chat and I'm gonna move on. Summer credits.

Oh, okay. It's asking if they can submit summer hours for credit. If your student did summer volunteering during this past summer of 8th grade to 9th grade, yes, you can submit it. Just please fill out the form. You need to do your yes form. Make sure you collect those signatures.

Yeah, they can submit that. So will I share these slides? Sure, I will share. I would convert it in PDF and put it in our website or e-mail the link. I will also, this is being recorded and I'm going to share it on the website as well. And once I do, I'm going to e-mail the parents so they know that it's there.

Um, I'm actually going to...

Well, no, I'll stop sharing in a moment.

Let's see.

Okay, I'll go back to share once we close.

Okay, students aiming to complete the non-AC courses in their senior, junior year, they are at an advantage to be ranked higher, just the administration.

Non-NAC requirements. So when it comes to ranking, it is kind of difficult to control students. We have an open course selection and students can select whatever they want to take. We do have academic requirements, so we do have to have our advanced courses. But I mean, I could ask more about that, but there's no control on what other students are taking because every student has a different story.

for ranking and for the courses they take. How does volunteering organization not mentioned in just side work? How does volunteering at organization orgs not mentioned in Guest? I'm trying to understand that question.

Ah.

Yes, side work. I don't know if he's talking about volunteering at organizations with this campus. They had to have a non-profit organization to volunteer with. I explained to students that, for example, if they want to do some service, that they say, my neighbor asked me to tutor their second grader because they need help in math. Those, that time that you're tutoring, you're doing it on your own. That does not count as an interior because you're not doing it through an organization. Now, if there's an organization at your school that their purpose, some of our campuses have that, is to tutor students and they go to an elementary and tutor. then yes, you can submit those hours. But it is non-profit organizations for three registered, or if it's schools, we do have the exception of some of hospitals or doctor's offices that they may even, if it's not a non-profit, they may submit that. service as well. How is 4 orgs counted for across four years? Oh, okay, I see it. Yes, across the four years. So when I run my reports, I just check like how many orgs. Like if I'm at 50 hours and I only see one organization, and when I e-mail the student and say, hey, it's time.

you gotta branch out. Because we all get comfortable with our organization. My son did volunteer hours and my daughter is doing them and I know it's comfy to do it in the same place, but it's good for them to branch out. What are the new rules for students to take courses through external providers? Well, in the academy and taking athletics as one of the electives for all four years. What I can tell you about that is that when I first started this position, we made a couple changes because we

want to make sure that, again, we want students to be well-rounded. So we want them to have the opportunity to do four years of fine arts or athletics, but they do have to plan it.

because of all the requirements that they have. Now, the courses to external providers is not my area of expertise. That is the area of expertise of the counselors, because I don't know all the rules. What I can tell you is that if you have a question on a specific course,

as the counselor and make sure that you have approval for it. I do know that I believe there is a, and I believe I'm not completely sure, but I think you can only take two external provider courses that count for your GPA. But again, I'm not completely sure about that, but the counselor would know that information. And I'm going to reach out to the counselors, get that

and and share it at some point. Maybe I can add it to the website or e-mail, because I know that that recently changed like a year or two ago.

Where can we see the current high school credits and GPA student has on the school? You are not going to be able to see the GPA until they tell you that it's available. I believe that it's on their sophomore year. I'm not, I should know these things, but those are counselor questions. I not as well versed in those questions, but I don't think that you can see your

GPA right now. I don't think it's available. These councillors will let you know once it is.

and it is counted up around before the four hours is through the four years. And there's not a specific number. Like it's not that the four organizations have to be like 25 hours in this organization. No, but you got to have some variety, at least four. The high school credit courses completed in middle school and summer counters toward GPA calculated for rank.

I believe so because they are in their transcript. If you took it, like any high school credit that you took in middle school or over the summer that goes to your transcript, it's

Count it because it's one credit that you took. My son is finished with two summer classes for freshman year. What's next? Is his counselor able to see it? e-mail the counselor as soon as possible. You just that you had to deal with the counselor so they you give the records to them or they pull them from wherever you need them. e-mail the counselor. They are going to guide you on what to do with those summer credits.

Game.

Okay, hold on, hold on.

High school care is completed in the school. Yes. Can the students do volunteer hours overseas during summer? No, it is not allowed. Volunteer work has to be within the community in the surrounding areas. There is no way for me or anybody that does these hours in around these districts, the whole district to know what nonprofit agency is or overseas. So no, it has to be done within the surrounding area.

What is the difference between volunteering and enrichment? Great question.

Volunteering is service that you do in the community. You are giving up your time for no money. You're helping others. Enrichment is continuous learning. You're learning beyond the classroom day.

you are learning and in the area of Math and Science, medical science, engineering. If you go to a conference, that's an enrichment. If you go to Lunches for Love and packed lunches, that's volunteering.

Is there a schedule of enrichment activities for MSC available somewhere? Oh my gosh, thank you for asking that question. Yes, I just haven't populated it. Oh my goodness, how did I forget that? I worked so hard on that. So yes, there is, so you can start seeing all the dates. Let me see.

So it is not complete because I only put like August, but if you go to the academies, oh, I'm not sharing. Let me share, let me share, share, share. Where is my teams here? Alright, I should just leave.

at sharing. So if you go to the academies, each academy first tab has a calendar. So for example, Math and Science Academy.

If I unfold, the first one is a calendar. And the calendar has the fish can that they had the first day of school. Today we had the orientation for students from 3 to 4. And that's as far as it is because I need to populate the next month. But each academy has a calendar. First tab.

under that academy, and that's where you're going to be able to see that. Okay, I'm going to go back to my questions. We only have like four more minutes, so I'm going to address as much as I can. What is different? I said that myself finished two summer classes for freshmen. What's next? I said that. Okay.

Mm.

Have students participated in band? If so, are they able to manage band and coursework? All of our students in all of our academies.

It's by choice, but they participate in band, theater, whatever they want as an elective and yeah, they have been successful. Yes, they just have to be, you know, very organized and make sure that they have their priorities in place.

 **Christopher Mathew** 54:12
And the.

 **Martinez, Rosa (Rosy)** 54:19
But yes, the answer is yes. Our students can do electives and extracurriculars for sure. They just, you know, it just needs an extra effort.
We will see the QR codes showed at the engineering freshman orientations.

 **Philip onochie** 54:38
Trinh.

 **Martinez, Rosa (Rosy)** 54:41
for students, because I mean, everything from the freshman orientation that I share with the students, I share with you guys today. And I'm going to put that on the website. So it's like all my presentation for today kind of stems from my student presentation.
Uh...
Oh, that's interesting. So if our son is in the MSA, can he also get notification to the Medical Academy enrichment? He would be interested on those. That's a good question. Let me tell you how that works. For the Around the World of Medicine Conference, for example, in the spring, yes, I will share that. For our monthly meetings, no.
because the multimeters are specific for that academy and are hosted at the campus after school. And those are pretty specific. So no, but we are expanding our experiences at the MSA to include more medical because we know that that's an interest of the students.

 **Hasan, Sana** 55:26
The.

 **Martinez, Rosa (Rosy)** 55:43

Um...

Why do I get a response from the counselor when they don't respond? Good question. Some of the counselors do get behind, especially at this time of the year, or they have an automatic reply. I'm a parent in former ISD, so I know I also have automatic replies from my daughter's counselor. But I see them, how hard they work and

the hours that they put in and the amount of people and emails that they had to respond. I would say at least wait for 24 hours. If you haven't heard from them, Maybe e-mail the lead counselor and see if you can get a response. But usually they answer within one or two days when it's peak season. Right now it's peak season. So just be patient. I know I've been copying some of them and they are getting back. I think they're a little bit better because I see them answering.

a little bit faster. Calendar for enrichment happening in campus. Yes, that the calendar is going to be shared in our websites. Clubs and organizations. It is every campus has clubs and organizations that students can join. And right now, there's interest meetings.

that they are that they are sharing. So please just stay in touch with in the announcement they shared. I don't have all the clubs, like I don't have like a master list. Some of our officers, for example, I know at Dulles, the students have a QR code that they shared today with the freshman.

where they try to populate as much as they find out. But they got to be listening, the announcements. They got to be paying attention, talking to their classmates. The teachers also share about the different clubs. So just be listening for those. Okay. What clubs they must join at a school? Is it mandatory? What clubs is suggested for them to join that is relates with the academy? It is not mandatory, but is highly encouraged. We need, the students need to get plugged in, get their group. Clubs is the best way to find students that have the same interest as them.

So it is highly encouraged that they find a club. It is based on interest. So I know, for example, in medical Science, a lot of them are in the Rosa Club and engineering, they have the robotics club. So it depends on interest. They have Club XLS well, and those has like

long list of clubs as well. So it is according to the interest of the student. So I think I addressed most of the questions of today. I'm going to see if there's anything else over here and I'm going to say one closing statement that I actually should have said before in case that people left, but it's fine.

Where is my chat? I'm trying to find my chat.

So I did see a couple of things over here.

Okay.

We have a question about dropping. Students can drop out of the academy at any time and they return to this on campus. The only time that I don't process withdrawals is if they are during exams, semester exams or final exams, they have to just finish the semester. But otherwise, we know transportation can be a challenge or the academics are a challenge or like any reason.

So this is a program of choice and students are apply and get accepted and we're excited to have them and we work hard for them to be successful in the program, but we know that things happen. And I will be pre-sharing the recording probably, what is today, Monday? Probably by the end of the week or the beginning, no, is today Monday? Yes, okay. Or the beginning of next week.

Um...

And I will share these slides as well. So my last slide that I really want to share with you.

Is.

This one.

e-mail etiquette. Please help me out. I think I shared this one during commitment night. Put the information of your child in the e-mail. I get emails that said, literally, like, my son did not get the class he wanted. How can I get him in the class he wants? Who is your son? I don't know. What grade level? I don't know.

What academy? I don't know. What class is the one he wants? I don't know. Like, I need to have the information because otherwise I had to reply back or I had to do a little research with your e-mail. I had to go to the database, look for, like it's just a whole thing for me to find out who these kitties that we're talking about. So please put the name, put the academy, put the grade level.

If you can put the student ID, even better. But just the more information you give us, the best that we can serve you.

I want to thank you all for coming. I hope that the information was helpful. I always strive to have information for my parents in a proactive way, so you're not like scrambling to find. I'm working really hard on that website. And hopefully by the end of August, I'm going to have all the pieces, but

You can find calendar booster and I'm going to continue to populate information. All the requirements are there, all the forms are there, and hopefully it just makes it

easier for you to find the information. I will send an e-mail once the recording is posted and the PowerPoint slides as well. Thank you all so much. I hope it was helpful for you, and let's have a wonderful year.

Please, let's partner together and make this the best year yet for our kids. And see you around in the next meetings. Have a wonderful evening.

Goodnight.



Fahd Khan 1:01:41

Thank you very much. Goodnight, everybody.



Martinez, Rosa (Rosy) 1:01:43

Thank you, goodnight.