

## Heights High School

### Shared Decision Making Committee Meeting Minutes

*April 16, 2019*

*Present:*

Principal: Wendy Hampton

Dean of Students: Yul Everline

IB Coordinator: Cristina Bagos

Campus Instructional Technologist: Tisha Mesa

Teachers: Rebecca Ozuna, Christopher Walton, Khoon Tan, Mark Johnson, Natasha Cruz-Jefferson, Isacc Chao, Langston Patterson

Community Members: Armando Alaniz, Dianne Holliman, Emily Cole

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#### **I. Call to Order: 4:25 pm**

#### **II. Campus Updates:**

**A. Budget:** Currently Heights High School sustained budget cuts for the 2019-2020 school year of \$200,000. A balanced budget has been submitted which includes no cuts to teaching staff. The majority of cuts were came from administration, outside contracts, coaching staff, outside contracts, and stipends with minor cuts to other areas.

**B. Staffing:** Open transfer period is now open. HHS vacancies include AP Environmental Science, Biology (Mr. Partridge will take over physics), Health Science, and a counselor position. We have possible positions open in engineering, math, and English.

**C. Attendance:** Our spring semester attendance has increased by .2 since last year.

### **III. Old Business/Unfinished Business**

**A. Exam Exemptions:** SDMC reviewed the exam exemption form for spring. Exemption applications will be available May 1st. Students will submit exemption forms to the registrar's office. Registrar's office will create an exemption list for posting. HHS staff will need to review with students the exemption process as it is new for the campus.

**B. 2019 - 2020 Dress Code:** SDMC reviewed the proposed dress code for 2019-2020. The current proposal keeps requirements for a school uniform shirt that is polo style maroon, white, or gray collared shirt or a Heights spirit shirt purchased through an school organization or the PTO that is maroon, white, or gray. Required pants (shorts, skirts, or skorts) would be either khaki or blue jeans with no holes allowed above the knee. Shorts/skirts should come to approximate fingertip length. No athletic wear is allowed unless students are in pe/athletics. This would also removed the option of black pants. All sweatshirts/hoodies would need to be maroon, white, or gray as well. Final recommendation will be made at the next meeting.

### **IV. New Business**

#### **A. 2019 - 2020 Proposed Waivers:**

1. Modified Schedule for Testing Days

*This Waiver allows the district or charter school to modify the schedule of classes for high school students (Grades 9-12) only who are not being tested to report to and attend the school after the state assessment testing period has ended, therefore, reducing the interruptions during the testing period. All students must be scheduled for at least 240 minutes of instruction. The time students test can be included as*

*instructional time. If this is a renewal, a Waiver Detail Form is required and must be completed.*

This waiver provides the option of changing the ADA time for students not testing (i.e. seniors during PSAT testing etc).

Motion to accept by Ms. Ozuna, Second by Ms. Bagos... unanimous vote

## 2. Final Exam Exemptions

*The purpose of this waiver is to allow student to exempt finals in the Fall semester with the same requirements as they do in the Spring Semester adding that Freshman – Junior students may not exempt the same final(s) both semesters. The purpose of this waiver is to improve attendance as identified in the school SIP. The success of this waiver will be determined by the overall attendance rate compared to the prior year.*

Mr. Walton brought up AP classes needs.

Students need the time to synthesize connections of historical events and treat the fall final as a small mock of an AP test. If students are allowed to opt out, he feels students will not be prepared enough to do well on the AP tests and scores will drop.

Ms. Ozuna also pointed out that it was important for EOC teachers to look at the fall semester data which needs to include the fall final to see if the students are on track to pass.

The vote with no changes to the language:

For exemption: 7

No: 6

## **B. 2019 – 2020 Schedule with One Lunch:**

- Food deliveries have increased on campus since HHS can no longer sell food from other vendors. Additionally more students try to leave campus each day during lunch creating a safety/liability issue for the school
- The proposal is to provide juniors and senior students the opportunity to have a Home Lunch with documented parent approval. The rest of the school would have one 50 minute lunch period. Advantages to this are that lines would be reduced. It would incentivize students to use the parking lot and leave appropriately. Additionally it would provide an opportunity for clubs to meet during lunch, lunch tutorials, and lunch detention. Additionally students would not be able to “skip” and attend two lunches.
- Food deliveries would only be allowed to be dropped off on Arlington.

**C. 2019 - 2020 cell phone policy:** Ms. Hampton expressed concerns over the lack of a campus wide cell phone policy. Cell phones in the classroom are an increasing distraction. Cell phone policies from several other schools were reviewed. The committee is tasked with reviewing these policies, soliciting feedback from colleagues/parents/students and creating a policy recommendation at the May meeting.

**V. Upcoming Events**  
**PTO Tuesday, April 23**

**Meeting Adjourned: 5:25pm**

**Next scheduled SDMC Meeting: May 21, 2019**