



Phyllis Wheatley High School

SDMC Meeting

April 13, 2021

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Commenced at 5:00 P.M.

Mr. Williams welcomed guests to meeting and then proceeded to share updates on safety. He shared they the school is still continuing with safety protocols of wearing of masks, practicing of social distancing, and disinfecting of the building daily. He also shared that testing is now available for not only staff members, but scholars as well. He also shared that Phillis Wheatley has been used as a vaccination site for HISD employees, but also for public with special community event sponsored by Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee and St. Joseph's Hospital on March 26, 2021 where 1290 individuals were vaccinated. He also shared free health and dental visits for our scholars at Burbank Health Center Mon.-Fri. from 7:30-4:00 PM. (*closed from 12-1 for lunch*) at 315 Berry Road, Houston, TX 77022 Phone Number- 713-742-8151. He then highlighted some key calendar dates regarding STAAR Exam which remaining EOC tests will be May 4- U.S. History, May 5- Algebra, and May 6-Biology. Mr. Williams shared with meeting participants that in-person scholars are expected to participate in the EOC tests, but virtual/remote learners have an option to test. Still, he shared that he encourages all scholars who have an opportunity to test to take the exam as it is still required for graduation to pass STAAR EOC Exams. He also highlighted an Earth Day Celebration which will be on April 27, 2021 where activities will take place outside on football field to celebrate clean air, water, and land. Scholars will learn about taking care of earth while enjoying outside activities. He gave updates on attendance sharing that YTD Attendance is 89.4% and is hoping to meet our goal of 90% this year. He then shared updates on athletics and fine arts informing participants that several members of track team placed in district meet and will be participating in area meet in Sealy, TX. He stated also that Band Director, Mr. Dickey, is recruiting for Purple Explosion Band. He then gave Ms. Thomas an opportunity to share senior updates. Ms. Thomas shared updates on graduation which will take place June 12 at 5:00 P.M. at Barnett Stadium. She shared that each graduate will have a limited number of tickets. (# will be provided to us at a later date) Ms. Thomas shared that Dr. Chevalier, lead counselor, has provided all seniors in jeopardy of not graduating transcript updates and Ms. Thomas provided information on Credit Recovery Camps. She then shared senior activities and fees. Prom is scheduled on Friday, May 21 at 7:00 at Magnolia Hotel downtown. She also shared other activities such as senior luncheon at Maggiano's. A concern was brought up concerning price of the prom \$165 and was asked that it be considered that the price be reduced and we possibly consider prom to be held at the school being that many families are still recovering financially from the pandemic and winter storm. Mr. Williams shared that he will discuss with the team for consideration and we will make a final decision. Participants were informed about scholarships, including the Phyllis Wheatley Metropolitan Alumni Scholarship. Mr. Williams shared that thoughts were shared from community members with the concern of our basketball program. Some of the concerns shared were lack of participation from scholar athletes and losing seasons resulting in poor attendance at games, etc. A decision was made to hire a new head coach for this upcoming season. Lastly, mentoring efforts were shared and our wraparound specialist shared that we are in the beginning stages with a partnership with Big Brothers and Sisters. Mr. Kemp, alumni member, is also meeting with some of our young men once a week for mentoring. This is in addition to our Ascending to Men (ATM) and ROSES program for young ladies mentoring programs taking place each week on campus. Mr. Williams thanked participants for their time, input, and support and meeting was adjourned.