

SDMC Notes

January 18, 2023

Start at 4:21

Jamey Schaaf – Assistant Principal

Sarah Hall – ELA teacher

Hebert – English 3

Ivonne Aguirre – Parent PTO

Emily Cole – Community Member

Amy Maddux - PTO

Lilian Pope – Theater Teacher

Aaron Miyamoto – Social Studies Teacher

Tonche – Spanish teacher

Campus Updates

- A. Budget –We are still working on the theater; moving forward with expansion of the stage next steps in theater updates. We are having to start from square one because previous vendor has left HISD, so Ms. Hampton is working on it this year. Trying to get the PO approved to get the work done, sent in the building modification form, and we are waiting to get a new project manager
 - a. We need to replace some of our computer labs, we need additional Mac lab with the new multimedia design and arts pathway. We were still waiting on Perkins information before purchasing additional labs. Perkins granted one of the Mac labs.
 - b. Shared with DEPT chairs: if their dept has needs to send in their orders
 - c. Football Field – supposed to seed before Christmas break, they showed up the day students returned and seeded the field. So will have to set aside money for the field at the end of the year. Emily Cole asked about a turf field. Hampton explains they cost close to a million dollars and there is a parent that wants to lead the charge in organizing a fund to purchase turf.
- B. Staffing
 - a. We have been fully staffed for most of the year. We are looking for a teaching assistant and an hourly mariachi person for afterschool lessons and someone that could work hourly next year and offer the course as part of the master schedule.

- b. Still looking for an ELA teacher for the school year. There has not been a fruitful search, spoke with the talent search to help find even an hourly teacher to help with the large class sizes. We have a teacher in every classroom, but freshmen classes have large sizes and special pops in each class.

Planning for the master schedule. Will start completing course selections with juniors first, each individually. Then Counselors will meet with students in College Transitions for Freshmen and Sophomore selections.

We are holding the parent meeting for sophomores about advanced academic options February 8th, IB meeting will be Feb 15th.

New courses – AP seminar, new dual credit courses, dual enrollment economics, the dual enrollment teacher will be Mr. High School, offering dual credit math college algebra, plane trigonometry, World Literature.

Pope asked about the classes being communicated to students. Also adding to the AV track the dual credit courses. New opportunities for students to take additional courses.

School day schedule- currently running all periods on Monday and Tues/Thurs and Wed/Fri

Miyamoto – I have heard some teachers ask about grouping even and odd periods for the classroom locations on Mondays.

Hampton – We can't because of off campus periods in the afternoon.

Also have tried to give floating teachers one room one of the days so they do not have to float both days, but this creates more floating teachers.

Maddux – I don't like athletes missing core classes. Hampton says she is instituting new procedures to notify teachers when students will miss class due to athletics, band, or ROTC.

Hall mentioned that some teachers are notifying them when busses are late.

When you think about next year any proposed changes.

Cole – Do you want any more students for next year.? Hampton says no, we would like to decrease enrollment by about 40 students.

Hall – students failing advanced classes but remaining in the courses. Curving grades to help students so they don't fail. Hampton – notify the counselors if you have students failing. Hall: can we know the outcome of a meeting with the counselor. Is it a policy or a practice to notify the counselors – can we have a policy or procedure for when students fail advanced classes?

Miyamoto – new teachers – balancing special populations, overwhelming for the new teachers.

Hampton – we identify a teacher for each of the special population – Inclusion, Emergent bilingual, 504 students and we try to schedule it that way and we try to balance it so hopefully not overwhelm a teacher. We designate in the system, and we look at it during the first 15 days and with balancing. We will try to send them the course selection sheets in May to sign off and send in any changes by early June. We can load and get schedules before school starts. Hopefully we can do better.

Hall – question about the SPED students, switching classrooms maybe the freshmen and sophomore classes. Where do you send the students that need a quiet space to work that is in their IEP?

Schaaf says they can be sent to his office. To help the brand-new teachers, how can we consider their specific individual needs. Hampton says things like that should be addressed with one on one with Ms. Pickrom and Ms. Phillips and some places are designated for the students like with Mr. Stephens.

Mangin – is there a way to enforce a common paperwork process so that all the special populations?
Hampton: we did last year. Miyamoto and Ozuna piloted with LEP in Canvas and we have received good feedback so we might move to the one method for next year.

Campus Safety Updates – Parents brought up having lights in the back and we called someone out and we already have lights back there and, but they need to be brighter. So someone came out and I need to follow up.

I will be putting out a survey next week for teachers concerning campus safety. Lunches are better, no food drop offs, more badges being worn, less students sneaking out.

Amy Maddux – any potential for an automatic gate in the student parking lot. Hampton asked the PTO if we can have a gate like we do in the teacher parking lot. Gate is locked during the day.

Miyamoto asked about a security guard; Hampton must see if that position exists but reluctant to open a position that might have to be closed.

Hebert – how is attendance for this year with our target of 95%; it is better than last year, but we are below 95%.

Hebert – they seem to know about ADA.

Hampton – students will get a rude awakening this semester when they lose credit for their classes in the fall.

Maddux – parents are up in arms. Will students receive credit for just skipping class or students that have the flu will also lose credit because of excessive absences?

Hampton – right now we have about 800 -1600 that students did not receive credit for a fall semester course. They do not go to a committee unless they miss more than 25% of the class. Between 10-25% is principal discretion. We do know for sure that there are 800 classes that did not receive credit. So, we will be sending out certified letters to the ones we know for sure that have lost credit.

Hampton – for the 10 -25% I must look at documentation because we will be under scrutiny.

Maddux – I get letters and texts about absences. Very generic, has the number of days he has missed.

Hampton – I am trying to look at students that are close to the cutoff and their documentation.

Maddux – who do they talk to. Hampton – I am trying to put out a google form where parents can submit reasons and documentations for absences.

Amy Cole – they have a grant that they offer that is between \$3-10000 for teachers.

Astros foundation – also have a grant, for the whole community, spread the word. If you would like to schedule a meeting with these people. Hampton has the links, and she will send it out to everyone.

Are there any other concerns?

Hall – the tardy thing, I have kids that are excessively tardy, they are tardy every day. I know there are consequences for tardies. I do require tardy passes and half of the kids are still tardy. I know some of it a teacher practice issue.

Hampton – we quantifiable evidence that there are issues with tardies

Maddux – I thought there is a rule that so many tardies count as an absence for final exams.

Hampton- I have to write in a waiver.

Schaaf – parents drop off late in the mornings.

Hebert – that is a teachable moment, track the minutes, then share with the students and parents they have missed so many classes because they arrive late. Hebert – rather than punitive use it as a teachable moment.

Hampton – yes, it is a school wide challenge, working on consequences. Yes, it's an issue, so we are open to suggestions. Exam exemptions, voted on for next year. We have only exempted finals in the spring, we can exempt finals in the fall. We can we submit a waiver for three tardies to count towards exam exemptions.

Adjourned the meeting at 5:25, next meeting Feb 8th