

Houston County High School – School Council

February 21, 2024

Houston County System Mission and Vision Statements

Our system mission is to produce high achievement for all through continuous growth.

Our system vision is that our system will be the standard for world-class education.

HCHS Mission and Vision Statements

Our school mission is to expect excellence in Academics, Athletics, the Arts, and Service.

Our school vision is to foster a foundation for life-long learning and personal excellence.

1. Call to Order

Dr. Jay Jones, Principal

a. Meeting called to order at 7:21am

b. Members present: Dr. Jay Jones, Lyndsy Fischer, Steve Howard, Shayna Brown

2. Inspiration

Dr. Jay Jones, Principal

Short Story-Scars <https://www.inspirationalstories.eu/moral-stories-about-character/>

“A long time ago there was a boy. He was smart, talented and handsome. However, he was very selfish and his temper was so difficult, that nobody wanted to be friends with him. Often he got angry and said various hurtful things to people around him.

The boy’s parents very concerned about his bad temper. They considered what they could do and one day the father had an idea. He called his son and gave him a hammer and a bag of nails. The father said: „Every time you get angry, take a nail and drive into that old fence as hard as you can.”

The fence was very tough and the hammer was heavy, nevertheless the boy was so furious that during the very first day he has driven 37 nails.

Day after day, week after week, the number of nails was gradually decreasing. After some time, the boy started to understand that holding his temper is easier than driving nails into the fence.

One day the boy didn’t need hammer and nails anymore as he learned to hold his temper perfectly. So he came to his father and told about his achievement. „Now every time, when you hold your temper all day long, pull out one nail“.

Much time has passed. At last the boy could be proud of himself as all the nails were gone. When he came to his father and told about this, he offered to come and take a careful look at the fence. „You did a good job, my son, but pay your attention to the holes that left from the nails. The fence will never be the same. The same happens when your say hurtful things to people, as your words leave scars in their hearts like those holes in the fence. Remember, we need to treat everyone with love and respect, because it doesn’t matter, that you say you are sorry, the scars will not disappear.”

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Jay Jones, Principal

4. Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Etolia Van Buskirk, Vice-Chair

a. Motion to approve: Steve Howard

Second: Lyndsy Fischer

Approved

5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
a. Motion to approve: Etolia Van Buskirk
Second: Steve Howard
Approved

Ms. Shayna Brown, Secretary

6. Reports from Council Members
a. Social media messages-what are our roles? How does that reflect on the school? Just wanted to be sure its ok to address situations if they arise. Representation on council of our parent body and for the public to connect to school. Everything is in the best interest of kids. Plenty of communication through school for parents to make decisions. Appreciate parent support of our school.
b. Numbers in parking lots to be repainted. School paints them themselves during the summer months while students are out of school.
c. Distance learning day/Professional Development-Planning Day-February 20th-teachers had time to plan and prepare for the semester; teachers do a great job of doing things well for maintaining management of the school.

Members in Attendance

7. Report from the Principal
a. Upcoming Assessment Calendar/Preparation
i. MAPS (3/13-3/18), AP (5/6-5/17), Milestones (4/29-5/3)
ii. MAPS typically a block style schedule-will go out to parents to let them know the schedule for students who have different schedules. AP Mock Exams can be given during the block schedule for MAPS. AP exams have been pushed back about a week and closer to end of school.
iii. AP Exams-tests taken in house in the new gym
iv. Milestones-only 4 taken each year-only a week with a testing schedule; 9th and 11th graders pulled to take exams-Biology, Algebra 1, US History, American Literature.
b. Val/Sal/Honor Grads Announced
i. Valedictorian-Mackenzie Davis
ii. Salutatorian-Shiva Soundappan
iii. 52.5% of graduates are honor graduates
c. Awards Nights-Competition Gym
i. 9th-April 11th, 10th-April 16th, 11th-April 18th, 12th-May 1st
ii. Receive stoles and honor recognition
iii. Senior awards in May-many scholarships presented
d. Teacher Recruitment Fair-Saturday, February 24th
i. 3 positions open in the school currently-2 teachers/1 counselor
ii. Allotment slots should be notified soon-could potentially open some positions
e. GA DOE Parent/Staff/Teacher/Student Survey-link emailed
i. Influence climate star rating-part of CCRPI calculation
ii. Pilot survey program-we are participating to adjust the surveys in the future; No climate rating calculated this year due to pilot program-will have data though
iii. 75% of each cohort (students) must participate in completing the survey
f. Night Advisement-March 4-6
i. Appointments scheduled-great opportunity to meet with parents and keep them involved in educational journey
g. 8th Grade Visitation & Plan-Friday, March 15th
i. Adjusted plan-be on campus, get some information to help with registration
h. MS "Night Advisement" Plan-dates TBD
i. Administrators and counselors go to feeder schools to do a quick presentation and then work with parents to answer questions and complete registration documents; help with making transition to high school a little easier

Dr. Jay Jones, Principal

- i. Athletics, club, organization updates and upcoming events
 - i. Swimming (State Finals), Girls Wrestling (3 State Competitors), Basketball (Girls @ Marist & Boys @ Home-6:00pm-Rd 1), Soccer, Baseball, Tennis, Mock Trial (Region participant, Esports (scholarship), CTSO's
 - 1. Swim-4 state finalists-girl team and Stella Green in individual
 - 2. Girls Wrestling-all 3 went to day 2
 - 3. Basketball-both boys and girls qualified for state playoffs; boys-2nd in region tournament
 - 4. Soccer-doing well
 - 5. Baseball-starting out strong beating top teams in the state
 - 6. Tennis-undefeated in the region
 - 7. Mock Trial-3rd in the district; attorneys in the community coming in and helping them with set up and preparation
 - 8. Esports-Brandon Petto won a scholarship for gaming to Brewton Parker-full ride
 - 9. CTSO's
 - a. Competition season
 - b. DECA-Ella Wilkerson-Executive President
 - c. FCCLA, FBLA, SkillsUSA all entering into strong competition and leadership
 - d. Fine Furniture-Industry Certification Awarded through Construction Ready

8. Questions/Additional Comments

Members/Guests

9. Adjournment

Dr. Jay Jones, Principal

- a. Meeting adjourned at 7:59am