

Houston County High School – School Council

November 29, 2023

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 7:18am
 - b. Members present: Dr. Jay Jones, Lyndsy Fischer, Marisa Parrish, Paul Nicolosi, Steve Howard, Shayna Brown
2. Inspiration Mrs. Marisa Parrish, Chair

“When little people are overwhelmed by big emotions, it’s our job to share our calm, not join their chaos.” L.R. Knost, author. Good for leaders to remember within our schools to help our students.
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: Marisa Parrish
Approved
5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes Ms. Shayna Brown, Secretary
 - a. Motion to approve: Marisa Parrish
Second: Steve Howard
Approved
6. Reports from Council Members Members in Attendance
 - a. Hired students from Houston County High School at Discount Tires-all these students enjoy being at Houston County High School.
 - b. Feedback on the overall support for all activities and support
 - c. Appreciate the detailed emails with upcoming dates and events, important information for students and parents.
 - d. Excited about the way things are going this year-discipline handling has been done well and is creating a positive environment for our school. Admin team meeting includes a review of the behavior management and insuring behavior is being handled.
 - e. Celebrate the little things teachers do during faculty meetings to ensure we are continuously thanking teachers for what they do.
7. Report from the Principal Dr. Jay Jones, Principal
 - a. Upcoming Assessment Calendar/Preparation
 - i. MAPs assessment-December window 4th-18th; timing difficult with end of semester schedule and tasks-moving into the break with MAPs being incomplete. Reviewing ways to possibly change this up; adjust schedule, increase communication; MAPs important for curriculum planning and team development.

- ii. Final Exams-coming up quickly
 - 1. Exemption Policy-80 or higher, 5 or less absences (per period), no ISS/OSS, no fines
- b. Response to New Principal Parent Survey Data
 - i. Discipline Data
 - 1. Data sheet provided-in response to data presented on the survey
 - 2. Vape reports-possession or possession with THC; all vapes are researched to know which area it falls under
 - 3. Anonymous alerts-notified parents of that app and that students are able to report incidents or things they are aware of to administration; stays anonymous
 - 4. Informed committee of codes that discipline is listed as and the number of incidents within that
 - 5. Searches are conducted as needed and as reported to the school; shouldn't be on school campus in any form or in backpack/car
 - ii. Upcoming initiatives
 - 1. NHS and one middle school is piloting a program that high school principals discovered-vape detection devices for the next few months to see if it is worth putting in the schools-mounted to ceiling and detects change in air quality; decibel detection to see if the noise increases in an area; detects the number of people in a given area; alerts given when any of these things are happening and allows a staff member to respond
- c. Major Incident Response
 - i. Anonymous Letter received
 - 1. November 1st-handgun found on campus; that Friday-rumors spread; all rumors were investigated, and questions asked to ensure all safety was taken care of; call out was sent out to try to alleviate the concern; managed well
 - 2. Letter sent to Dr. Jones and Dr. Rizer from a concerned parent on how one action was taking precedent over the MANY positive things that our students were doing and participating in at HCHS
 - 3. Administration reflect on way things are handled and look for ways to continue to handle situations in the best way possible
- d. District-wide Graduation Rate Initiative
 - i. HOCO's role/procedural changes
 - 1. Goal for Houston County School District at 90% or higher this year
 - 2. Look at withdrawals, attendance and grades to see how each school does it to try to influence the graduation rate
 - 3. Leading the district in graduation rate and want to continue to meet and get all students to graduate
 - ii. New Data Dashboard
 - 1. Use information to find out where students went to ensure they are completing their education; track students from 9th grade to 12th grade and keep up with them throughout their education
 - 2. Look at failing grades in 4 academic content areas and failing rates for those courses and grades
- e. Advertisement Drive
 - i. Letter to community members and business contacts; push to generate some funds to do some things to support our teachers; 5000 impressions past our board per month; advertisement spaces-start with 6 to try to bring in about \$3000 a month; use revenue to divide up between programs throughout the school; allow programs throughout the school to sell a slot and get some revenue for their programs

- f. End-of-Semester Information
 - i. Exemption, MAPs testing, etc
 - ii. Stay focused and make this semester the best we can make it
- g. Athletics, club, organization updates and upcoming events
 - i. One Act Play won the state championship
 - ii. Football finished 2nd round of the playoffs
 - iii. Competition Cheer was the runner-up at state competition; offer suggestions to GHSA to help possibly work with scoring in the future
 - iv. CTSOs ramping up for competition with a lot of participation; beginning with Region competitions
 - v. Failure rates are down; expectations are high

8. Questions/Additional Comments

Members/Guests

9. Adjournment

Dr. Jay Jones, Principal

- a. Meeting adjourned at 8:11am