

Council of Key Communicators
Monday, March 18, 2019
District Office Conference Room
9:00 a.m.

Key Communicators in Attendance: Trish Buben, Laura Carr, Cristine Dougherty, Diana DiMaria, Carma Lamm, Jennifer Retsch, Jennifer Rossi, Terri Ronald, and Alison Sanders.

Administration in Attendance: Dr. Loughead, Dr. Cunningham, Ms. Berg, Mrs. Litwiler (School Board), and Dr. McKaveney.

HAMPTON HAPPENINGS

Discussion of PTO Directories

Dr. Loughead said the administration has been exploring how to assist the PTOs in streamlining the process of producing directories for the families, keeping in mind the current laws regarding student privacy that districts must follow. Earlier this year, the District had partnered with Common Sense Media to pilot their new platform that they had developed specifically for this purpose. After a careful review and feedback from the PTO and the parents, it was determined that the platform did not meet our needs. Therefore, the administration is exploring other ideas that would allow the sharing of information without breaching the confidentiality of HTSD families. Mrs. DiMaria said there have been discussions about this issue at the Middle School and the suggestion was made for all the school PTOs to come together on a data collection form that would essentially indicate to families that their signing of the form grants their permission to have their contact information be pulled from Infinite Campus. That information could be shared via a collective spreadsheet among the PTOs. Dr. McKaveney said if the names of students would not be paired with the parents/guardians names on the list, that would protect student privacy. Dr. Loughead said the idea will be shared with the District Solicitor for review. Additionally, the District will schedule a group meeting with a representative from each PTO to explore how this challenge might be handled most effectively going forward.

Summer Programming

The District is sponsoring several exciting camps for the students this year:

- Week of June 17 and Week of June 24: HTSD Summer Program at Hampton Middle School
- Extended School Year: July 8 to July 26 at Central Elementary School (9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon)
- Camp Invention July 15 to July 19: Wyland Elementary School (8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.)
- Title I ELA and Math: July 22 to August 2 at Poff Elementary School (8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.)

Food Service Update

Dr. Loughead provided an update on the food services, which was discussed at the February Key Communicator meeting. Currently, the food service department is going through an open-bid process, which is required by the Pennsylvania State Department of Education every four years. The District has communicated a request for bid proposals from food service providers, with a deadline of April 5. Once bid proposals have been received, Dr. Loughead said it would be ideal to have the Food Advisory Committee, which consists of parents and School District

administration, to discuss needs and expectations of the food service program. He said that there were available positions on the Food Advisory Committee if additional parents wished to join; those parents should contact [Mr. Kline](#) if interested. The Administration could then work to match the needs of the school community with the bidders' proposals. He also mentioned the District's recent food department audit, which was returned as "clean," meaning that the District was meeting the complex nutritional requirements as specified in state and federal guidelines.

ACADEMICS

Update on High School Project

Dr. Loughead provided a brief presentation on the action steps he is recommending, should the School Board decide to continue exploring the findings of the recent High School Feasibility Study. He noted that the following steps would need to occur in order to keep the proposed High School redesign moving forward:

- Hiring an architect in preparation of the PlanCon submission, which would be due July 1, 2019.
- In April, some decisions will need to be made about the hiring of an architect for PlanCon Part A, preferably during the work session for consideration of approval at the voting meeting.
- Hiring a firm to examine the feasibility study and to provide feedback on the accuracy of the cost estimates. This step was approved at the March 11 School Board meeting. P.J. Dick was hired to conduct this work.
- On April 8, presenting three possible scenarios on funding options.
- In May, additional information about PlanCon A should be available.
- In June, the PlanCon A submission would need to be considered for approval in order to meet the July 1 filing date. The District will have a contingency plan should the project not be approved for PlanCon funding, or should the funding not be available to any districts at that time.
- July 1 is the PlanCon A submission deadline.
- In August, a decision would need to be made regarding the engagement of an architect to complete the formal design of High School renovation project. Once initiated this design process will involve extensive input from the entire school community and is expected to last 12-18 months.

The PPT presentation is available [here](#).

Visitation with Mr. Gregg Behr

On Wednesday, March 13, Mr. Gregg Behr, Executive Director of the Grable Foundation, visited the District. Mr. Behr is a thought leader and encourager, and is behind most of the local movements to fund STEAM and project-based learning opportunities in regional schools. He toured the Innovation and Robotics studios at Hampton Middle School and visited the Studio space at Central Elementary School. During the Central Elementary tour, the team explained the plans to upgrade the interior courtyard spaces into a hands-on science and engineering learning center, and how HAEE's recent grant is so important and beneficial to these plans. Mr. Behr then traveled to the High School to observe the AP Principles of Computer Science class

and enjoyed a roundtable discussion with a select group of students. Mr. Behr complimented the high school students on their insights and innovative thinking. Dr. Loughead explained to the group how fortunate Hampton was to be able to host Mr. Behr and how excited he was about all of the creative and innovative initiatives which are happening district-wide.

ARTS

Hues & Harmony Reminder – March 19 and 20 (5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Hampton High School)

Chicago – High School Musical Edition – All performances are at 7:30 pm on April 5 & 6 and April 12 & 13.

ATHLETICS

Cheerleading Program Update

Dr. Loughead said that after careful study, the cheerleading program has been realigned and adjusted so that students in grades 9 and 10 will cheer for the Junior Varsity teams, and students in grades 11 and 12 will cheer for the Varsity teams. In addition, the District is adding a competitive cheerleading coach. Competitive Cheer is a PIAA-recognized competitive sport. In order to try out for the competitive cheerleading team, students in grades 9-12 must also participate in the sideline cheer program. All students 9-12 are eligible to try out for and compete on the Competitive Cheer squad.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

- High School Wellness Requirements - Mrs. Ronald asked about the practice of offering the Wellness II course over the summer for students. Dr. Loughead said the summer program is a practice that has been ongoing in the District and while there is not a desire to end the opportunity, administration is exploring the idea of using HTSD faculty and staff to design, write and teach the course instead of allowing outside agencies to provide the content and instruction. This concept is just in the discussion stage and many steps would need to occur before this could happen. This would include careful discussions with the teachers association and the school board.
- Mrs. Lamm said a parent emailed to ask why Fridley Field has to be replaced again and she asked if it was appropriate to direct him to Mr. Cardone or someone else in administration. Dr. Loughead said the artificial turf is ten years old and is in need of replacement to be ensure the field continues to meet our expectations for a quality playing surface. An artificial turf field normally requires replacement every ten years. He said parents with questions are encouraged to contact Dr. Loughead or Mr. Kline in the District Office.

Upcoming District Events

- 3/25 Board Special Meeting (if necessary) – 7:00 p.m., Dr. Harold Sarver Memorial Library
- 4/1 Board Work Session Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Dr. Harold Sarver Memorial Library
- 4/8 Board Voting Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dr. Harold Sarver Memorial Library
- 4/15 Key Communicators' Meeting, 9:00 a.m., District Admin Conference Room
- 4/29 Board Special Meeting (Budget) – 7:00 p.m., Dr. Harold Sarver Memorial Library