

Hephzibah Middle School
School Council Meeting
February 8th, 2017

Attendees:

Dr. Cameron Henry	Jennifer Armstrong	Diane Johnston
Lisa Byrd	Ingrid Stokes	
Deborah Jerriel	Marian Davis	

- I. International Baccalaureate (IB) Consult visits were addressed, with dates for scheduled activities provided.
 - a. Category I Training is scheduled for May 31st and June 1st & 2nd, 2017, with all teaching staff as the targeted audience. Stipends will be provided to attending teachers.
 - b. Plans are to also send a team of teachers to St. Pete Beach, FL for subject level IB training, possibly in late April, 2017.

- III. Writing Boot Camp—IB units: tentative plans are being made for a time during the summer, when teachers can come together and work on IB instructional units. Teachers will be provided a stipend for this activity.

- IV. I-Ready recognitions: a successful i-Ready recognition / reward activity took place last week for approximately 25 students who had worked diligently at getting their assigned i-ready lessons done. These reward activities seemed to be well-received by students and teachers, and more are planned as the remainder of the school year progresses.

- V. Waggle:
 - a. students and teachers are enthusiastic about using Waggle, and are reporting seeing worth in the program.
 - b. Recognition / reward activities, such as those now being done for i-Ready, are also being planned for students who excel in their commitment to completing Waggle lessons.

- VI. CoGat testing for 6th grade:
 - a. The window for testing is now through March 30th, 2017.
 - b. Computer software will need to be installed prior to the beginning of testing. RCSS IT has already contacted HMS to schedule that being done.

- VII. Write Score Inc.: HMS has contracted with Write Score Inc. to provide a sample writing test for students, so that students may gain experience with the type and scope of writing responses that will be required on the GA Milestones exams.

VIII. GA Milestones:

- a. The testing window is April 17th through April 28th.
- b. 6th and 7th grade will be tested on ELA and Math only, while 8th grade will be tested on ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies.

VIII. End of Course (E.o.C.) testing for Physical Science (9th grade content) and Algebra II will occur in early May.

X. Proximity Learning, Inc. for Spanish classes:

- a. Given the difficulty of finding qualified teachers for foreign languages, RCSS has partnered with *Proximity Learning, Inc.* to provide classes via live web-conferencing. This is being considered as a way for HMS to supply a foreign language class for all students during the next school year, as indicated in IB expectations.
- b. Classes will be monitored by a paraprofessional, and all students will have access to a computer workstation for class participation. Live instruction will be visible to the class via internet-computer-whiteboard hook-up.

XI. State of the School Address: a preview of the HMS State of the School Address was provided, with attention paid to HMS's current College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) score, and factors that influenced the score.

XII. Professional Learning Plan to Support School Improvement:

- a. Completed elements as of February 2017 include: MYP (IB) Launch and professional learning; SLDS training; GoFar training; De-escalation professional learning; LDC and MDC training; i-Ready professional learning.
- b. Elements to be addressed in future training: MYP (IB) Category I training; IB unit writing; continued SLDS training; continued classroom management training.

XIII. Testing Information Night

- a. March 16th, 2017; requesting this be promoted as much as possible to students and parents, so attendance will be high.
- b. A Waggle representative will be present.

Submitted 2-8-2017

D. Johnston

