



COL. ZADOK

MAGRUDER

HIGH SCHOOL

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PTSA Meeting - Magruder HS Administration Updates

Tuesday, March 20, 2019

Instructional Program Updates

Updates from Departments:

Aviation Program

- Field trip to Aberdeen Proving Ground to view various aircraft scheduled for April 12th

Project Lead the Way (PLTW)---Tech Ed

- Viva Technology Day will take place on April 5 with only 11th and 12th grade students

World Languages

- Magruder HS ranked 4th in MCPS with Hispanic students receiving 3 or better on AP test

Data Highlights

State Assessments:

- Finalized testing schedule for May testing week (delayed opening days). This is when we administer tests to large batches of students.
- Some changes to when tests are taken---4 different tests
 - Algebra 1--taken at end of coursework--depends on grade level (7th, 8th, 9th typically)
 - English--Usually taken at end of 10th grade or when they have finished ESOL 3B--if they are learning English
 - NSL--Taken when they complete NSL government course.
 - Science---MCPS asks for students to sit for this at the end of the students 5th semester of science--typically January. This is done mid-year so that there is another opportunity to retake it at the end of their junior year. No passing score established yet--taking the test fulfills the requirement at this time. Next year's graduating seniors only need to have participated in the test. The current sophomores will have to "pass" the test. Kids who took the Biology HSA were grandfathered in as having met this requirement.
 - **Maryland Integrated Science Assessment** (MISA) includes physics questions---but many kids don't get to this until Junior year. The new **Next Generation Science Standards** (NGSS) will include Biology, Chemistry, and Physics so that kids will have had all the courses for the MISA moving forward.
 - Sitting Sophomores have registered for Physics--using the NGSS pathway so they can take it as Juniors---10 sections of physics next year.

Data Highlights

State Assessments Cont:

- The MISA isn't necessarily fact recall, but includes exhibits where students must use information to problem solve.
- Bridge Projects
 - If a student is unsuccessful in their first attempt, they can take this pathway. Many students get remediation during their Bridge Project support and then retake the test.
 - If a student takes the exam a 2nd time, and doesn't pass, they can submit their projects to fulfill a pathway to graduation.
 - MHS offers numerous pathways for student to fulfill this requirement including courses, after-school opportunities, and all-day workshops.

Data Highlights

Attendance:

- 1615 enrollment
- 95% attendance rate goal
- Review of enrollment by grade level. Hispanic is the largest group. Looked at service group, ED cluster model
- Seniors have more flexibility as they get closer to graduation.
- Current rate as of today is 87%.
- Attendance Committee--did a root cause analysis to identify students that don't attend.
- Workgroup plan with parents, teachers, counselors--shared it with the leadership team and all day staff meeting to review roles and responsibilities.
- Excessive absences---9th graders had the highest rate
- Pupil Personnel Workers (PPWs) and counselors did home visits for students with excessively high absences.
- 3 kids have returned to school; 3 students have been withdrawn, 4 kids are now getting additional supports
- Focusing on recognizing students with perfect attendance and honorable mention (less than 2 days during the first semester) attendance.

Upcoming Events

SAT Day - Tuesday, April 9 - Magruder HS

- Can take SAT in school --free opportunity; not a practice.
- Pep Rally aimed at Juniors was conducted to increase enthusiasm.
- Some kids take an ACT voucher in lieu of the SAT.
- Incentives for students to practice on their own were created.
- Accuplacer--Used by MC to make course placements. College Board test. Done online.
- SAT test prep group---student and teacher led--teacher has Kaplan experience.
- The Career Center coordinator gave a 1/2 day mock SAT and ACT test prep day to students. This could be repeated. We did it after school instead of on a Saturday---70 kids participated. Will offer again, but no date set.
- Scores from the mock ACT and SAT tests will come in the next week.
- If a student missed it; we have some extra exams. They can take it and return it to school. Talk to Ms. Yang directly.

Upcoming Events

AP Exam Week - Begins May 6

- AP exams start week of May 6th and run for two weeks.
 - Encourage students not to take May 4th SAT, but to consider June SAT date.
- AP mock NSL exam on SAT school day (April 9, 2019).

Updates

Facilities:

- FY 19--media center, sinks in ceramics room--new baseball backstop, message board (not brick, but internal sign), security vestibule doors in lobby, windows being replaced this summer.
- FY20--study conducted for a major capital improvement projects--scope of work will be after the study.

Updates

Scheduling/Staffing:

- Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) staffing; have to use student registrations for courses and make that fit--has to match or be under.
- Not currently overenrolled
- Using ConnectEd and daily digest---students are done registering, but working with RTs to make sure that the enrollments are appropriate.
- Counselors contact students if a class they selected won't run and pick another one.
- Mandate from MCPS to keep class sizes down.
- Aviation---half of the students here are transfers in to the program--Gaithersburg, Rockville, Sherwood--looking for 64, 32 are Magruder, the other kids are from 3 other clusters. There is a waitlist.
- English--29 class size, music and pe can be higher---32 for other classes.
- Will send out a course confirmation before the end of the year--will be before spring break (used to be before memorial day). Will be a letter in the mail. Not a schedule, just a list of courses.
- Last day of the school year is our hard deadline for courses.
- AP US History, Jazz Ensemble, and Civil Engineering are the only ones so far that won't run
- 11 sections of IED will run--in theory it is open to all students, but we close sections starting with 9th graders due to graduation requirements.
- Staffing changes can occur through July 22nd---this can impact available classes.



Q & A

State Assessments:

- Can kids take physics in 9th, chemistry in 10th, and AP in 11th?
 - Yes---for students ready for that challenge, we are offering that next year.
- Can that be in the bulletin?
 - Yes---we want to be able to clarify that information.

Q & A

Attendance:

- School avoidance?
 - There is a distinction between mental health issues and not want to be in class. Typically a trauma--could have been bullying or something at home that make it difficult for kids to function in a traditional environment and the class experience is difficult. Our enhanced SESS program addresses many of these issues. 4 students in that program got accepted into college this year. It's getting past those things that make it difficult to function in a traditional environment.
- Correlation between absenteeism and GPA?
 - Probably a bit of both. For some students who are far behind, they may avoid school. For some students who don't want to approach coming to school, they aren't as willing learners. Next big step is communicating with parents. We want to be very assertive in looking individually at kids.
- How did you determine the root cause?
 - Representation from the counselor, security, administrators. For those we didn't, we went to learn more.
- Is school avoidance and mental health the same?
 - School avoidance as we look at it is result of chronic absenteeism. Not the casual absence for a daily avoidance such as being tired or not wanting to take a test.

Q & A

Facilities:

- What could come of the study?
- Have you seen the KFI?
 - No
- May 1st will be publicly released
 - Auditorium, security, and media center, parking lot, football field, and track---funds weren't available at the time. We make requests and have to be prioritized along with other schools--health and safety is a priority.
- Water fountains
 - Gradually replaced over the last 2-3 years. Some get vandalized. We have made requests to have done. We looked at and requested to have water bottle filling stations. It is a costly item, but we wanted to get that---we were told that it was too expensive.