

GHS PAC Meeting Notes

September 16, 2024

Start Time: 6:33 p.m. with introduction of what the purpose of the PAC meeting and the goals of what is discussed. Introduction of co-chairs Shawn Brann and Pamela Walker.

Community Time:

1. Parent mentioned the first week of school had significant traffic. Mr. Beech responded buses are better this year, not perfect but better. 94% on time bus arrival rate in HS this school year. Buses are the most efficient way to get students onto school grounds. We have an increase in student drivers and parent drivers. Our security staff work really hard to get traffic thru in a 30-minute window during drop off. About a week ago Mr. Beech spoke with central office staff regarding a proposal of a jersey wall round about at the intersection of Wentworth and University. This will be a temporary structure small enough for buses to be able to turn. Should help mitigate the traffic off school grounds. A jersey wall will be placed on the hashes mark where several trucks park. Student walkers will have the option to stay on GMS signed of the path and cross onto school grounds where the first entrance is at GHS. Should be done before it gets cold. Bids have occurred for University Blvd. to push through and it's about 3 years out for completion.
2. Parent asked about next Friday's game and Jiffy Lube concert, do we have any plans regarding traffic. Mr. Beech responded that we have one game last year that overlapped with Jiffy and the traffic was not terrible. We do share our game schedule with Jiffy Lube, and they continue to schedule concerts. We do have police scheduled to help with traffic.
3. Parent mentioned she is completely and pleasantly surprised how smooth the traffic is. She has a 9th grader, and she was expecting it to be worse from what parents in the community said previously.
4. Parent asked about picking up her student at Door 25 after athletic practices at 4 pm. Mr. Beech will take a look at it and bring some ideas/solutions. This is something we can think more about a better location.
5. Parent asked are having a full conversation with their student during the drop off in the morning. Otherwise, the line does move smoothly in the morning. Mr. Beech said we will send reminders in the connections regarding proper etiquette.
6. Parent asked about the sexually explicit materials sent home from the Language Arts classes. Parent asked how about encouraging the classics because she did not recognize any of the books listed. Mr. Beech responded that per the VDOE we are supposed to give parents 30 days if we are going to use a sexually explicit material. We were not given clear guidance on what meets sexually explicit material because it could be the History book that has the VA flag on the cover. If you are not sure or familiar with as a parent, take a look at the book since it will be available for your student to read. In Language Arts classrooms students read a book of their choosing in class every day. It is positive but it's difficult to code books, but classics are being read as well.
7. Parent asked about morning tardies-she takes the bus but still gets tardy to class. Mr. Beech responded that the Red Commons is the busiest area in the morning. Its all about when

students choose to get to class. Students also mentioned that the hallways are not that congested enough that students can't get to class on time, they just need to walk to class.

8. Parent asked if we have a mentor program for students that are chronically absentee. Mr. Beech responded that we have an academy fun day, Leadership serves as mentors at the start of school for new students, but we don't have a specific program that is a mentor program.

Principals Time:

1. Budget
 - a. Enrollment approximately at 2600 (funded based on the number of students attending the school and by student category to include EL students and Special Needs Students)
 - b. Budgeted for 2585
 - c. 94.3% of budget directed to staffing.
 - d. About \$1.3 K in flex budget
 - e. New positions include Administrative Intern and Assistant DSA
 - f. No additional class sections were added at the start of the school year.
 - g. Need one T/A in special education and one custodial staff.
2. CIP
 - a. Review of Performance Date
 - b. SOL and AP Performance (see PP slide)
 - c. Division wide Survey data (see PP slide)
 - d. Fully accredited
 - e. Graduation rate at 99.1% at the end of 23-24 SY
 - f. Chronic absentee rate 14.92% at the of 23-24 SY
 - g. PLTW Engineering 100% pass rate.
 - h. PLTW Biomedical 97% pass rate with 17% distinguished level
 - i. Blue Ribbon School-Performing Arts
 - j. Areas of focus
 - i. See slides GHS Continuous Improvement Goals
3. News/Updates
 - a. Evolv at last week's football game
 - b. PSAT on 10/9 will be asynchronous day for Seniors unless they are going on the Senior Field Trip
 - c. Touchbase conferences scheduled for Monday, 11/4
 - d. Graduation May 29 at 9:30 a.m. no school for students that day
4. Need a volunteer to be the SAIC, co-chairperson
 - a. Mrs. Kinsel is our SAIC chair, and you would only be a back-up to when she can't attend meetings.
 - b. Email Mr. Beech if you are interested.

