

Hot Springs Junior Academy Conversion Charter Renewal

December 2021

Billy Brazle, Principal
Dr. Taryn Echols, Assistant Superintendent



Charter Panel Member Goals

- Panelist will learn about the journey of HSJA over the last 5 years.
 - Original Charter Goal Progress
 - Glows and Grows
 - Moving Forward
 - Waiver Request



HSJA: Preparing for the Flagship

- HSJA serves 821 scholars grades 7-9.
- HSSD is the most diverse school district in Garland County with more than 17 home languages.
- HSJA Demographics:
 - 8% ESOL
 - 16% SPED
 - 36% African American, 10% 2 or more races, 30% White, 21% Hispanic/Latino



Mission and Vision of HSJA

- School Year 2020-2021, HSJA was selected to take part in the PLC Pilot Cohort 4.
- Since then, the school teams:
 - Established essential standards and unpacked them into learning targets
 - Revised the Mission and Vision of HSJA
 - Created a celebration tracker that houses all essential learning and assessments for all content
 - Added a plan to attack Reading and Math achievement through targeted RTI and core instruction

New Mission and Vision

Mission: The mission of HSJA is to ensure high levels of learning for all student to compete in a global society.

Vision: HSJA will become a National Model PLC school by the completion of 2022-2023 school year.



The Last 5 Years

Charter Goal	Reality of the Goal	Next Steps
Increase Math Scores	Math achievement did not increase: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of core instruction in math for grade level skills 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Development of Essential Standards and learning targets Specific and directed RTI process to improve mathematics achievement Math Curriculum Grades 7 and 8
Increase Literacy Scores	ELA Achievement did not increase: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of core instruction in literacy for grade level skills 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Development of Essential Standards and learning targets Specific and directed RTI process to improve literacy achievement Literacy Curriculum Grades 7 and 8 Addition of courses to support students with Reading deficits
Provide Exposure to career opportunities	Limited progress on the goal due to lack of organization and implementation of student success plans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Current master schedule reflects changes made for the 21-22 school year T/Th Seminar classes are filled with SEL lessons, access to the new Students Success Plan and targeted time to provide enrichment supports to students
Standards Based Report Card	There were no SBRC created for grades 7 and 8	The district has implemented SBRC in grades K-6. The first year of implementation for grades 5 and 6 was the 2021-2022 school year. At this time, there is no further action for this goal.
Monitor Student Progress	The school monitored student progress but did not use a measurable form of evidence to track the indicators listed on the previous application such as: NWEA, ACT Aspire Periodic Assessments, Personalized Learning, and Student Portfolios.	Through The PLC process, the school has created a live data tracker to keep up with all components of students mastery of skills through CFA, CSA's compared to other forms of assessment such as NWEA and ACT Summative Assessments.

ESSA School Index

HSJA earned a letter grade of D for the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 SY.

ESSA School Index

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Overall Index	61.81	60.52	N/A	59.89
Weighted Achievement	47.52	45.05	N/A	38.46
Growth	77.5	78.1	N/A	77.55
SQSS	42.84	38.04	N/A	51.03



**HARSH REALITY IS
ALWAYS BETTER THAN
FALSE HOPE**

JULIAN FELLOWES

- What has to change in order to execute the conversion charter vision?
 - Who has the leadership capacity to support the school community?
 - How does the district support the continuity of a 7-12 conversion charter experience for our students?
 - What are our next steps?
-

“ Leadership is
ACTION,
not position. ”

Renewed Focus for HSJA

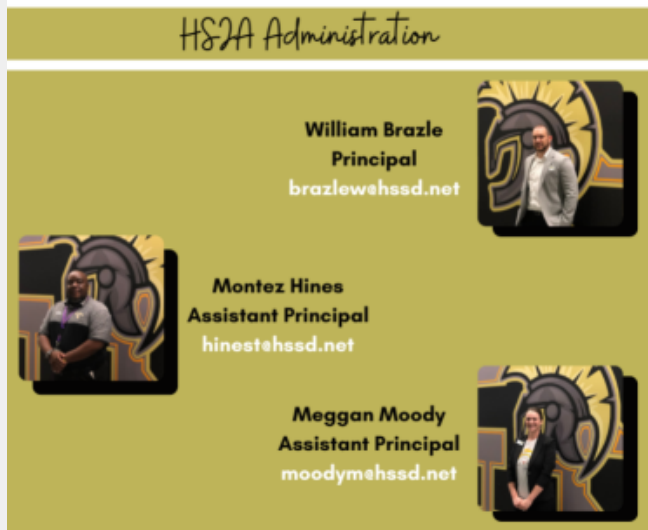
- Culture of Collaboration & Collective Efficacy
- New Leadership
- Expanded opportunities for students

HSJA Administration

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Hot Springs Junior Academy

HS Trojan Talk 

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BARY FANTASY HORROR



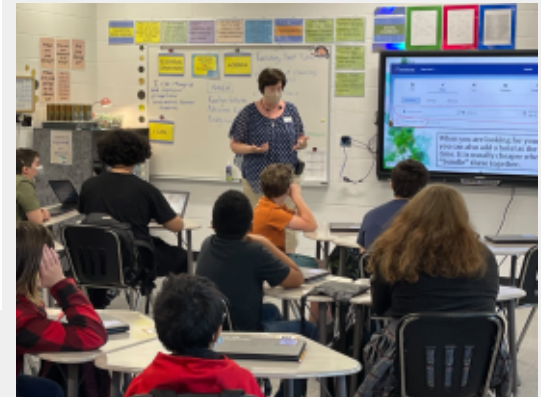
Our 7th-9th grade students participated in the first Superintendent's Student Council Meeting of this school year! Students discussed a wide range of topics with district and building administrators!

OVERVIEW:

- Meet the Support Staff
- A Note from Mr. Brazle
- Hot Springs Junior Academy (HSJA) Celebrations
- Professional Learning Communities (PLC) at Work in the HSJA



The mission of the Hot Springs Junior Academy is to ensure high levels of learning for all students!



Refocused Trojan Goals

1. By 2027, all students will take part in career exploration that will promote and align with the academy experience found at Hot Springs World Class High School.
2. By 2027, 40% of students will participate in advanced courses through the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme.
3. By 2027, the ESSA report card will reflect student growth by 5% each year in weighted achievement (*ELA and Math*) and SQSS (*student engagement, reading on grade level, science achievement, and on-time credits*)
4. By 2027, HSJA will streamline the live PLC data tracker and the Student Success Plan to increase progress on student academic and social standards, organize unit plans to pace essential learning for each course, and track intervention and extension in real-time.

Details of Goals

Goal 1: Focus on Careers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- An exploration experience will be created for each grade level that outlines career opportunities through CTE pathways, guest speakers and coordinated school simulated activities that support career exploration.- Students will take grade-level specific classes that support the exploration of the three academies at HSWCHS of Liberal Studies, Education and Healthcare, and Business and Industrial Technology. Those courses may include but are not limited to Leadership, Medical Detectives, Family, and Consumer Sciences, and Career Development.
Goal 2: Increased Participation in MYP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- In order to promote the International Baccalaureate continuum to our high school campus, HSJA will work with the MYP Coordinator to increase participation in one or more MYP courses.- Personal Project will become a part of the curriculum for MYP to spread throughout grades 7-10.
Goal 3: Focus on Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <u>Weighted Achievement</u>: <i>Pre COVID 45.05 Post COVID 38.46</i>. We aim to increase the ELA and Math scores by 5% each year. This goal aligns with our Overall School Level Improvement and PLC Goals.- <u>SOSS in the following areas</u>:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Engagement: Pre COVID 45.16 Post COVID 78.78 (the district found an error in data input in eSchool from the 2018-2019 SY that reflected low student engagement scores)o Reading at grade level: <i>Pre COVID 37.13 Post COVID 30.49</i>o Science achievement: <i>Pre COVID 33.18 Post COVID 29.46</i>o On-time credits: As the school now hosts 9th grade, we aim to keep the on-time credits above 90% for all students. The current percentage is 86.21 for the 2020-2021 school year.
Goal 4: Focus on Student Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Student success plan will mirror the formatting of HSWCHS to keep students exploratory learning, credits and course trajectory in line.- The live PLC data tracker and the Student Success Plan will be incorporated into the updated seminar times to increase progress on student academic and social standards, organize unit plans to pace essential learning for each course, and track intervention and extension in real-time.

Taking Action

- 2021-2022 Master Schedule reflected changes moving forward for the conversion charter:
 - Health and Career Development are now added as a stand alone courses, instead of embedded into other courses.
 - Added grade level courses to build capacity for exploration for academies at HSWCHS; Leadership, Project Lead the Way (Medical Detectives), Computer Science I, Exploring Business/Marketing
 - Started Master Schedule meetings for 22-23 to fine tune grade level experiences.
- Revamped seminar (T/TH- 45 minute periods)
 - Used for intense RTI and extension, SEL and career exploration.
 - Next year we plan to increase the schedule to M/T/TH/F to add more guest speakers, skill building and specific work with our career coach through NPC.
- Reading Plan Developed for Spring 2022
 - To increase ELA achievement, the school worked with the curriculum team to develop a comprehensive plan of intervention and target content strategies to support students daily with
 - All ELA Courses: Morphemic Awareness Daily (Supplemented with Text/ training done in November 2021)
 - All Science Courses: Measured Progress database to use with unit plans as daily assessment checks based on skills.
 - All Social Studies Courses: Daily Newsela articles with Close Reading Strategies + OR/MC question reviews.
- Guest Speaker Line Up for the Spring
 - With the new career coach partnership through NPC, we have filled our months with guest speakers from the community to provide insights to students on careers.
 - HSWCHS academy ambassadors will be providing feedback to students on the experiences offered through each academy.

Waiver Requests

- **Teacher Licensure**
 - As the number of licensed teachers continues to decrease, it is imperative that we continue this waiver. Under this waiver, we have been able to secure many non-traditional teachers who bring experience to our campus.
- **Class Size/Teaching Load**
 - This waiver is used only in circumstances where a specific career course has a large number of interested students. In this case, an internship exploration (9th grade) can still be conducted regardless of class size.
 - This waiver would be used on an as-needed basis only as the school creates learning opportunities that include intervention and extension, and internship exploration.
- **6 Hour Instructional Day/ Instructional Day**
 - Seeking to increase scheduling flexibility and offer more opportunities during the day for career exploration, intervention/extension, and MYP courses which could necessitate that the planned instructional time be less than six (6) hours per day or thirty (30) hours per week. All required content will be provided but the time may need to be flexible.
 - The 6 hour instructional day waiver is already approved through our Digital Learning Plan for Conversion Charter schools but this was only for one calendar year. We are seeking approval of this waiver for the duration of this charter renewal.