September 4, 2020

Dear HHS Students and Parents:

Schedules for the 2020-2021 school year are now available online. To access them, please log on to the <u>Follett Aspen Student Information System</u> and follow these steps:

- Student Portal
- My Info Top Tab / Schedule Side Tab
- Reports Student Schedule (Matrix) 5-day
- Run

Please be sure to allow pop-ups from Aspen.

If you are not able to log-in (i.e., if your account is disabled), you may have an outstanding obligation and should call the main office of the high school to check your status. However, if you have any concerns about your schedule, please do not call the main office, as our administrative assistants cannot help with these questions.

Please consider the following points that pertain to this year's unique schedule:

- With more than 1300 students, each of whom requires a unique six-period schedule, the task of building the HHS schedule is always complex. Even during a typical year, it's impossible to satisfy all course requests, especially with regard to electives. Needless to say, the current circumstances (i.e., space restrictions related to safety protocols, etc.) have posed exceptional challenges. Please understand that schedule changes will be extremely difficult and often impossible this year.
- Although HHS normally requires students to maintain at least 30 credits in their schedules, we have reduced the **minimum** to **25 credits** when necessary for juniors and seniors this year.
- All physical education (PE) and most music classes, as well as AP science labs, will be held remotely, at least for now. For this year only, ninth- and tenth-grade students who did not get into a PE class will be able to satisfy the requirement through the alternative means usually available just to juniors and seniors. Those options are described on page 42 of the Program of Studies.
- Additional information about individual supports will be forthcoming to those who receive special
 education services.
- The attached chart should help to explain the basic overall structure of the new schedule.

An optional **information night for HHS parents** will be held via <u>Zoom</u> on Tuesday, September 8th, at 7 PM. School administrators will be on hand to summarize reopening plans and answer questions. A reminder with <u>the Zoom link</u> and Meeting ID (847 6653 2460) will be sent via email on Tuesday.

As noted in a previous email, ninth graders and transfer students should save the date for **New Student Orientation** on **Monday**, **September 14th**. The event will include several "virtual forums" held via Zoom during the morning and an opportunity to visit the building for a brief self-guided tour in the afternoon. Full details will follow.

Finally, in keeping with a "**Bring Your Own Device**" policy, all HHS students should be prepared to bring a fully-charged device (e.g., laptop, Chromebook, tablet, etc.) to school every day. Ninth graders may keep their school-issued Chromebooks through the end of the current school year; however, if any ninth-graders prefer to return those Chromebooks, they may do so at the HHS main office.

The 2020-2021 school year is going to look and feel different from what we've known in the past, but HHS remains wholly committed to delivering an excellent learning experiences for all of our students. As we enter this holiday weekend, please join me in remaining vigilant about safety guidelines and hopeful about the year ahead. I can't wait to see you again at HHS!

Sincerely,

Rick Swanson Principal Hingham High School