

HUNTINGDON AREA HIGH SCHOOL

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Mr. Travis R. Lee,
Secondary Principal

Mr. Brent A. Stoltzfus,
Assistant Principal

"ALL LEARNERS, ALL FUTURES"

To: Learners, Parents, and Guardians
From: Mr. Travis Lee, High School Principal
Re: HAHS School Reopening Update
Date: August 27, 2020

Hello HAHS Bearcat Families,

We are looking forward to learners returning to the building as we begin the 2020-2021 school year next week. Teachers and staff have been busy preparing their lessons and their classrooms for our hybrid learning environment to start the school year.

The **first day of school** for learners in the **Red Group** (last names A-L) is **Monday, August 31st**. The first day for learners in the **Blue Group** (M-Z) is **Thursday, September 3rd**. Blue Group learners do not need to take attendance, nor will they have any classwork until 9/3. Learners participating in the **online BILD program will also begin on Thursday, September 3rd** - please see Mr. Bilich's message on the HASD website regarding material pick-up on Wednesday, September 2, at HAHS, and additional online information. **Wednesday, 9/2, is an Act 80 day, so this is not a school day for learners, and there will not be a Wednesday remote learning session.**

Information was previously shared regarding HAHS and school district health and safety plans to help with a safe return. Please visit the COVID website at [HASD COVID-19 Information](#) for the most up to date information. In addition, check out the HAHS Positive School-wide video, found at the district's Facebook page, to see what learners should be prepared for and what to expect. As we start the year, we ask for your patience as we help our learners become acclimated to our new learning environment and expectations, and to be flexible if, and when, we make shifts between in-person and hybrid learning modalities. We will do our best to keep our entire school community well-informed about any changes that take place during the school year, and to keep you informed about class and school activities and your learner's academic progress, striving to help them to help themselves to become college and career ready. Your child will also benefit from your direct involvement in his/her education, including creating a positive work environment within the home and reinforcement of school expectations.

We hope that your learner has a great year at HAHS. Please see additional notes and reminders below, and reach out to the High School Office at (814)643-1080 with any questions. As we continue to navigate learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, let's work together as a school community and demonstrate our Bearcat Pride!

Sincerely,

Travis R. Lee,
HAHS Principal

Notes and Reminders

- Learners must wear a face covering on the bus and when they arrive at school. They will have their temperature taken before entering the building. Learners will then proceed to their homerooms.
- School health and safety protocols will be reviewed with learners on the first day of school. Check out the Positive School-Wide expectation video to know what to expect. All beginning of the year information will be shared with learners in their Grade Level Google Classrooms.
- Since lockers and water fountains will not be utilized this year, learners should come prepared with a backpack or bag to keep their belongings, and with a water bottle, labeled with their name, to use at water filling stations. Locker rooms will be utilized for larger bags to be stored during the day, especially for athletic equipment. Learners may drop their bags off in these locations in the morning, then report to homeroom. Please see the Health/PE teacher for additional information.
- All learners will be taking their own daily attendance, during both in-person and remote learning days. This process will be reviewed with learners during the first day of school. During in-person days learners will record their attendance during homeroom via a Google form. During remote days, learners will use the same form, to be completed between 6:00 - 10:00 am. The school's automated calling system for absences will not be utilized during the first two weeks of school.
- The 2020-2021 Learner Handbook is posted to the HAHS website.
- Please see the Beginning of Year (BOY) Materials memo for information regarding submitting forms. The memo, including a PDF of BOY forms, is posted to the HAHS website. Note that most information/forms can be submitted via the following link: [HASD 2020-21 Beginning of Year Forms](#). All BOY information should be submitted or returned by Friday, September 11, 2020.
- Morning Arrival to School
 - Buses - Middle School learners will be dropped off at the Middle School starting around 7:30 am. The buses will then proceed to the High School to drop off HS learners.
 - Student Drivers - Plan to arrive at the school and enter via the main entrance between 7:30 to 7:45 am. Park and proceed to the building. Do not wait in your vehicle, and avoid congregating and entering the school in one wave.
 - Parent Drop-Off of Learners - Any learner being transported by their parents to school should be dropped off within the bus loop of the high school. We ENCOURAGE those parents that can, to please drop off your child(ren) between 7:30 - 7:40 am at the HS/MS. After 7:40, if you could avoid driving into the loop, that would greatly assist our busing plan.
- There is a small number of learners that did not return materials, including iPads, at the end of last school year. Learners that previously did not return iPads were contacted during the summer. If these have yet to be returned, **it is important that they are returned and available for the start of the year**. Learners and families are responsible for missing iPads, and use of iPads could be delayed at the start of the year for these individuals.
- The school HVAC project has been completed, but the crew is still balancing the temperature across the building. Learners should come prepared to encounter a somewhat cooler environment with some temperature fluctuations to start the year.
- Educational trips during the school year are permitted but not encouraged. Please see the Learner Handbook for the procedures that need to be followed to request an educational trip. If you have traveled, or plan to travel, to an area where there are high amounts of COVID-19 cases, you will be required to stay at home upon return. Visit the [List of States](#), provided by the PA DOH, to determine high risk states, both prior to leaving and upon return. If you have traveled to the states listed, it is required that you quarantine for 14 days upon return.
- Music and Physical Education classes will have additional precautions in place, especially distancing and sanitization procedures, enabling learners to participate in these courses and activities in a safe manner. Teachers will be reviewing these expectations within their classes.
- In order to adequately cover course content and review, Honors and AP Courses at HAHS may have additional assignments and expectations during remote learning days, which may include additional instructional and/or zoom sessions. Learners will review this information with their teachers.

