



Fall 2019

Hopewell Area School District

The Hopewell Area School District is committed to preparing students to be productive citizens and life-long learners in an ever-changing world.

The Hopewell Area School District will be a united community in which rigorous curricula will be fostered. Students and staff will embrace educational opportunities and experiences in a diverse society.

Did You Know?

- The district welcomed 5 new teachers for the 19-20 school year:
 - Natalee Bufalini, Health and Physical Education, Hopewell and Margaret Ross Elem
 - Melinda Cleary, Kindergarten at Independence Elementary
 - Danielle D'Amico, 4th grade at Independence Elementary
 - Abbey Kennedy, Life Skills at Independence Elementary
 - Vanessa Schrieber, Autistic Support at Hopewell Elementary
- Kylee Babish is our new Assistant Principal at the Junior High
- Our new School Resource Officer (SRO) is Jared Rogers. Please be sure to welcome him!
- We have a new Transportation Director, Kevin Schofield. Kevin is contracted through Frye Transportation.
- The PaSmart Grant is in full swing. This summer, 50 Hopewell educators attended Apple's professional development on coding, STEM, and the Everyone Can Create curriculum. Part of the grant will include coaching from an Apple Professional which will occur throughout this school year. All teachers involved in this grant received teacher iPads, as well as additional devices for students to use in their classrooms.
- We are collaborating with six other school districts for public relations training provided by a Pittsburgh-based marketing firm, The Motherhood. This project is funded by the Grable Foundation.
- The high school special education department is collaborating with Clearview Federal Credit Union to start an engaging and educational financial literacy monthly program for 11th and 12th grade students receiving special education services.
- A district-wide Diversity Committee will be created over the next year with implementation during the 20-21 school year.
- Seven new English learners have enrolled in our district for a total of 13 students. We will continue to work with the BVIU to provide educational services to these students.
- The district is starting a therapy dog program and Margaret Ross Elementary School will be the first building to have this experience. Wednesdays with Wrigley will begin this fall and an informational, introductory letter will go home to parents prior to the start date.
- School-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports Program called "Viking PRIDE" has been introduced to all staff and students. PRIDE is an acronym for Positivity, Respect, Integrity, Dependability, and Empathy. The three goals of Viking PRIDE are: Promotion of social emotional well-being, social competence, and physical safety, free from bullying behavior and prevention of substance abuse; Promotion of school engagement, family involvement, and a culture of inclusion and equity; and Promotion of safe, supportive school environment.
- A series of round table meetings will be held quarterly. These informal meetings focus on special education and student services and are open to all parents and families.

Notable Recognition

The following individuals have been inducted into the Hopewell Hall of Fame:

Jacob Brown, Cross Country
Joe Colella, Coaching Baseball
Dave Vestal, Coaching Football
Frank Kostlich, Football
Stan Posluszny, Baseball

Charles Lundy, Football
Bill McDonald, Coaching Football
Jodi Figley Renner, Girls Golf
Bill Koman, Football
Tony Dorsett, Football

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

- The HS Link Crew welcomed our 9th graders with a new mentorship program and orientation.
- Training for our school crisis teams on Trauma-Informed Care and Restorative Practices occurred this summer
- Personalized learning will continue through the use of individualized intervention with Lexia, ALEKS, and Freckle for ELA and Math.
- Common assessments were developed by a team of K-4 teachers in ELA and Math. These will be administered in the winter and spring.
- Revision work to the social studies curriculum occurred over the summer in grades 6-8.

Next Steps:

- The K-4 science curriculum will begin the revision process this fall.
- The Foundations program is being implemented in kindergarten and Title I as another research-based strategy for instruction.
- Planning for the Underage Drinking Grant is underway including simulations, a mock crash, and guest speaker.

Technology

- 589 New devices deployed this year
- 15 New Interactive Display Systems deployed
- Help Desk Resolution Summary:
 - Incidents Resolved: 692
 - Inquiries Resolved: 402
- Server Repairs have been completed.
- Senior High School video production is preparing for the online streaming of announcements.
- The Schoology learning management system is being implemented in grades 9-12.

Next Steps:

- Preparing for an email migration to cloud hosting
- Office 365 Tools being made available
- Creating a process for students to manage their own passwords
- January 20th will be our district TechFest (day of professional development). We are beginning to prepare for this annual event.

Operations	Facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The district's centralized enrollment process has been implemented. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Families will enroll at Margaret Ross during the school year and at the High School over the summer. ● Implementation of a two-way radio system with a channel for internal building needs and a district channel for emergencies. ● Implementation of the Visitor Management System occurred in all building offices. <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A new radio system for the buses will be installed this fall to aide in communication with all drivers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Phase 1 of the feasibility study was presented at a public board meeting that provided a state of the union for the conditions or all district buildings and mechanical systems. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Building tours with VEBH architects were completed as a part of the district feasibility study. ● Door hardware to use during lockdowns is being added to every classroom. ● Independence Elementary PTA added a sensory pathway for students. Similar pathways have also been added at Hopewell Elementary through a Kids of Steel grant and Margaret Ross through Ms. Glatz and Mrs. Cutone. ● An additional play space was added at Hopewell Elementary for the HeadStart program. This was funded by HeadStart. <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A review of the feasibility study will be shared in the coming month as this process continues.

Is there someone or something that you think needs to be featured in the next District dashboard?
Please contact Dr. Jacie Maslyk, Assistant Superintendent. maslykj@hopewellarea.org