ISSUE 1 NOVEMBER 2020



Upcoming Dates

November 11th Veterans Day

November 25th -27th Thanksgiving Break

December 8th School Board Meeting HHH School naming

> December 21st Winter Break

January 4th Classes Resume

January 18th Martin Luther King Holiday

> January 25th 2nd Quarter Ends

January 29th Teacher Planning Day



Meet Your New Principal...

Welcome Students, Parents and Community Members,

It is a true honor and privilege to provide our HHH High School community with our inaugural newsletter that marks a journey that will set the foundation for thousands of students for decades to come. I would like to thank everyone who has participated in our School and Mascot Naming Committee and voting process, we will learn our new name at the December 8th School Board Meeting when the board reviews our results for naming consideration. Once our name has been issued, the mascots provided by our committee will be used to match the perfect Bull, Moccasin, Hurricane, Toro, Razorback, Longhorn, Cyclone, Tiger, Hornet or Viper to represent the identity of our new school.

Being a former high school administrator, teacher and dean at St. Augustine High School and within our district's alternative schools, I feel that I am experiencing a bit of a homecoming in relation to getting back to working in the high school ranks. Having the opportunity to open HHH High School with students coming from Pacetti Bay, Mill Creek Academy and Nease High school allows me to support a group of amazing students who already know me as an educator. I am truly excited to see all of the familiar faces and build a program that helps each student reach their next level of focus.

It is a pleasure to also let our community know that our website is now up and running! Please take a moment to review updates, see current construction pictures or to ask questions and view responses about our new school. As we progress towards the high school scheduling season, please expect HHH High School to match current timelines used at each of our sister schools in relation to academy, academic and program of choice registration windows.

We look forward to taking the next steps towards creating "OUR" school!

Respectfully, Jay Willets Principal Mr. Willets was recently interviewed by a representative from the Nease Vertical student newspaper where some wonderful questions were asked:

"How might you deal with moving to this new school?"

Will it be a big impact on your everyday life?" HHH High School will be my 7th school assignment in my 28 years of education. I feel fortunate to have worked at every level available to a principal from traditional elementary, middle and high school placements as well as our local prisons and alternative school sites. While movement is not new to my progression through St. Johns County, building a new school is a new opportunity that I am truly enjoying, and being able to participate in this process with a community and students I have worked with for the past six years is a wonderful blessing. Being a principal of a comprehensive high school is a major time and family commitment, however getting the chance to open HHH with the Nease, PBMS and MCA communities to build a school for my former students makes this opportunity even more special. When we say, "Our Tradition Starts Here", it's a statement for each of our students, parents, and business partners to be an active member in our school's culture, and that's pretty special.

"Are there any goals you have as this new principal for the upcoming years?"

I look forward to starting our traditions, creating exciting pathways to post-secondary programming and having FUN! Our students at HHH High School can expect to be surrounded by a brand new school that will host pep-rallies, dances, open-air social venues, state of the art equipment, sporting and club activities and numerous opportunities to help shape our culture and social focus. We will be launching three new academies: Health Professionals, Innovation in the Built Environment (Construction Management) and Emerging Technologies (robotics, coding, and drones) as well as being the northern magnet site for the Collegiate High School where students can earn their Associate of Arts Degree (AA) from St. Johns River State College stating in 9th grade.

"What obstacles might you have that differ from the ones at Pacetti Bay?"

Walking into a school that is established is very different than building a school, both physically and culturally, from the ground up. Creating comprehensive high school designs for 2100 students is a daunting task that I have never had the opportunity to do in my 28 years of education, but I am enjoying this new challenge immensely. Not necessarily an obstacle, but my primary focus will be to ensure that each of our students coming from Nease or Bartram will have the same, or similar, academic progression afforded to them during this transitional period. Next to ensuring our academic and academy pathways, I am also focused on creating a high school experience that is fun, challenging, and full of opportunities for each student to engage in programs/clubs/athletics of their choice. HHH High School will open with only grades 9,10 and 11 for the first year, this means that our school will start small with approximately 1200 students, then climbing to 1700 students the second year. Our junior class will have a wonderful opportunity in being our school's senior leaders for two consecutive years in the classroom as well as on our competitive fields and performance venues.





Important High School Dates

January 12, 2021
High School Blitz (virtual)

January 8, 2021 - February 5, 2021 High School Application Opens (online)

January 8, 2021 - February 5, 2021 High School Academy Nights - Individual High Schools

February 5, 2021
High School Application Closes