

**PTSO MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2010
PRINCIPAL'S REMARKS**

STAFF ATTENDANCE:

- Ms. Owens
- Ms. Critten
- Ms. Bellino
- Ms. Randolph
- Mr. Lake
- Ms. Pellam
- Ms. Edwards

UPDATES:

- New English 10 Curriculum – Ms. Bellino
- Healthy Foods Alliance – Ms. Randolph
- Vacancies
- Advisories
- Homerooms

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 11/15/10 Report Cards Released
- 11/19/10 ASVAB Testing
- 11/22/10 Honor Roll Assembly at 8:30 am
- 11/22/10 Cosmetology Parent Meeting at 4:30 pm
- 11/24/10 Thanksgiving Break

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

1. **How does previous years' letter grades average into this year's numeric scale when calculating on transcripts?** (See page 2 for response)
2. **Are honor's classes weighted?** No, only AP courses are weighted. (See page 2)
3. **Will be Winter Packets be distributed?** This item will be discussed at our next SBMT meeting that will be held on December 8th.
4. **Parking Permit application states that cash is accepted.** The application will be changed to reflect that only money orders are accepted.
5. **Will Mr. Smith, the substitute for Mr. Roberson, conduct lab experiments?** Without having an extensive background in environmental science, it is best for Mr. Smith to teach closer to the curriculum/textbook. There might be one or two opportunities for Mr. Smith to take the students outside or complete labs in the building with the plant carts, however it will definitely not occur with the same frequency as Mr. Roberson.
6. **What is Google-Apps for students?** This is a tool that students will be able to use with their teachers. Students were given g-mail accounts in February and will now have access to internally communicate with teachers via discussion boards, instant messaging, access calendars, or send and retrieve documents from teachers.
7. **Why are students being marked unexcused absent when they attend a field trip?** Students should not be marked unexcused for attending a school sponsored trip. If your child has been marked absent due to the above, then contact your child's teacher or Ms. Carr, the attendance secretary.

If you have specific topics you would like to have information about, please email the PTSO president so the item can be added to the agenda.

Determining Final Grades

For semester and year-long courses, all quarter grades will be given equal weight when computing final grades. In quarter-long courses, the final grade will be the same as the quarter grade. In averaging grades, the numeric grades for all quarters are averaged. The average grade is computed by adding the numerical equivalents and dividing by the number of grading quarters. Quarterly numeric grades below a 50% will be calculated at 50% in the final calculation. The grading scale for final grades is as follows:

A = 3.5-4.0 or higher B = 2.5-3.4 C = 1.5-2.4 D = 0.6-1.4 E = 0.0-0.5

Grade Point Average (GPA)

1. The following numerical equivalents will be used in computing the GPA from report card letter grades:

A = 4.00 B = 3.00 C = 2.00 D = 1.00 E = 0.00

2. For additional weighting at the high school level, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and selected advanced Career and Technology Education (CTE) courses are approved. Seminar courses will not receive weighted grades. In computing the GPAs from report card letter grades, the following numerical equivalents will be used:

A = 5.00 B = 4.00 C = 3.00 D = 2.00 E = 0.00

3. Three GPAs are computed for secondary students in Prince George's County Public Schools.

- a) A quarterly GPA will appear on each quarterly report card. It is derived by performing the following procedure:
 1. The credit value of each course receiving an A, B, C, D, or E for the quarter will be divided by the number of quarterly grades that the course receives during the year (quarterly credit).
 2. For each course receiving an A, B, C, D, or E, the quarterly credit will be multiplied by the grade 2) points awarded for that course.
 3. The sum of the products from (b) above will be divided by the sum of quarterly credits.3)
- b) A final, end-of-year GPA will appear on the final report card, the student record card, and the computer printed student record card. It is derived by performing the following procedure:
 1. The sum of the products of the quality points awarded in each attempted course is multiplied by the credit value in the same course.
 2. The sum of those products is divided by the sum of the credits attempted.
- c) A cumulative GPA is calculated for all courses bearing credit and appears on the computer printed student c. record card in the summary section, provided that the student's history file is current. It is derived by performing the following procedure:
 1. The sum of the products of the grade points awarded in each attempted course (receiving an A, B, C, 1) D, or E) is multiplied by the credit value in the same course.
 2. The sum of all credits is divided by the sum of all credits attempted.