

# H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program

Information Session  
December 2023



# H-B Woodlawn Philosophy

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## 4 Pillars

- Self Governance
  - Self-Directed Learning
  - Caring Community
  - Equity
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# Self-Governance

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- Town Meeting:  
Held weekly.  
Students are treated equally with adults.
  - Use of Time/Personal Behavior
    - With freedom comes responsibility (rights and responsibilities)
    - Accountable for the consequences of their actions
    - Incrementally increasing freedom and expectations of responsibility
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# Self-Directed Learning

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- Designed to provide our students with more control over their education.
- Easiest to take advantage of the freedom and choice at HBW if students are self-motivated and self-directed.
- Opportunities increase incrementally.
- FebFest – student-led workshops.
- Junetime – at end of school year, multi-day workshops.



# Caring Community

- Small size
- Teacher Advisor system (student choice)
- Student-teacher relationships
- HIVE
- Best Buddies and Shriver Program



# Equity

- More purposeful than "once-a-year" festivals.
- Deliberate bi-weekly conversations about race, ethnicity, gender, religion and how all of our differences make us important parts of the larger community.
- Addresses inequity, discrimination, bullying.



# Typical 6<sup>th</sup> grade day

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- Majority of students ride the bus
  - Students have core classes in the morning (same 5 core classes as other schools)
    - Heterogeneous grouping except for math
  - Lunch (where they choose, “recess”)
  - Elective courses (PE, Drama, Art, Music, World Language)
    - Latin, French, Spanish (Chinese and Arabic in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, ASL in 8th)
  - Courses only meet 4x per week
  - Back on the bus
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# 2023-24 Schedule

- Classes meet 4 times per week
- I block meets 4 times per week
- TA meets 3 times per week
- Town Meeting (TM) and Equity alternate weekly

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00 to 9:48	A	I	A	A	A
9:53 to 10:41	B	B	B	TM or Equity (alternating)	B
10:46 to 11:34	C	D	C	C	C
11:34 to 12:14	LUNCH				
12:14 to 1:02	D	E	E	D	D
1:07 to 1:55	F	F	F	E	E
1:55 to 2:09	I	TA	I	TA	I
2:09 to 2:57	G	G	G	F	G
3:02 to 3:50	H	H	TA	H	H



# Typical 9<sup>th</sup> grade day

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- Vast majority of students take the bus – countywide busing is provided
  - Seven blocks per day (48 minutes each)
  - Town Meeting (2x per month)
  - TA (3x per week)
  - “I” Block (4x per week)
  - Equity & Community block (2x per month)
  - 1 lunch period, school-wide (open campus with parent permission)
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# Other Differences

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- Few after school activities (ultimate frisbee, but few if any clubs after school)
  - CAN play high school sports
  - Can NOT play middle school sports
  - No “continuous adult supervision.” Students must manage themselves and their time
  - Off campus privileges
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Even  
more  
differences

## **I Block**

3 times a week, students are given a 25-minute block of time in the afternoon in which to do homework, make up tests, talk to teachers, or just hang out with friends.

**ALL  
GRADES**

**ALL  
GRADES**

## **Hiring Committees**

When hiring new teachers, committees with both teachers and students are created, giving students a voice in who works at our school.

## **Free Blocks**

Starting in 8th grade, students are encouraged to take a block during the school day to do an independent-study class, join a sports team at another HS, or help out a teacher as a TA.

**8TH -  
12TH**

# Other Features

**ALL  
GRADES**

## **No Dress Code**

HB doesn't have an official dress code; we expect students to choose outfits that are "school appropriate" all on their own, but punishing students for showing too much skin doesn't fit into HB's philosophy.

## **Allocation Process**

Every year, students and teachers are allowed to join forces in crafting the budget for the next fiscal year. This allows for student input into the creation of new classes or removal of existing classes.

**ALL  
GRADES**

# The Heights Building: Our New Home

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- H-B Woodlawn and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Program moved to our new building in Rosslyn on Wilson Boulevard in September 2019.
  - On-site parking with artificial turf field is being constructed now. Expected to be complete in January 2025.
  - Building relationships with area businesses.
  - Public transit close by.
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# FROM A HOLE IN THE GROUND TO ....



**Artificial turf field  
with raised seating**

**Covered walkway  
to Shriver Program**



**Bus drop off  
& pick up**

**Underground  
staff & visitor parking**



estimated completion January 2025

# Application Process

- Submit application online via [SCHOOLMINT](#) by 4:00 pm January 12
- Double blind lottery on January 22
- Notification January 29 (by 8 pm)
- Preassigned admitted student visits on January 31 or February 1 (see [HBW](#) website for specifics)
- Make a decision in [SCHOOLMINT](#) and return paperwork to HBW by February 5 (by 11:59 pm)



# Gather Information

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- Gather information in as many ways as possible
  - Tonight's information session
  - Talk with other people in the community with experiences at HBW
  - Have your student spend the day after being accepted through the lottery
  - Talk with your student about the experience
  - Attend the admitted parents' meeting
  - Make sure HBW is the right fit for your student
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Application Site (Schoolmint)



# Questions?

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Casey Robinson – Principal

Graham McBride – Assistant Principal

Kate Seche – Assistant Principal

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