

[Sent June 6, 2024 following conversation with Office of Communication Engagement]

Hi Chandra and Jay -
(cc: Eric & Daphne)

We receive so many questions from families on secondary school issues, and have no ACPS official website or published explanations to share. Confusion and frustration from families is the result.

Would ACPS Instruction please create statements or a publication on these topics / questions (worded as I generally hear them minus vitriol):

- Middle School Recess -- Why is there no recess?
- Unleveled ELA -- Why are middle school English classes unleveled?
- Every-Other-Day Schedule -- Why are classes held in every-other-day schedule?
- Homework -- What is the homework policy and why?
- AP Cap -- Why are AP classes capped?

For example, we send families to the [ACPS Grading Handbook](#) regularly, which I've never had a parent say they'd seen previously. This document explains the "why" behind the practices, and shows respect for families as partners in the academic success of our kids.

Note that I've personally heard reasonable explanations for each of these questions verbally, and Family Council is not seeking to discredit these practices. However, we have tried to find published information, and thoughtful communication is still missing. All of the info I have identified is included in the [MS/HS Program Guide](#) and [MS Program Evaluation](#) letters.

Thank you for sharing an update on when we might see this information? I'm happy to discuss if useful.

- Heidi Gilman Bennett
Family Council

[Received June 7]

Good Afternoon Heidi,

Thank you for your email. I am working with members of the Department of Instruction and senior level leadership to continue discussions around several of the items below.

I will work closely with the Communications Department to determine the best course of action regarding how information could be shared.

Thank you and have a great weekend and summer!

Dr. Hayes