

Consistently in the lead at both County and State levels,
in part because of the unique semester structure

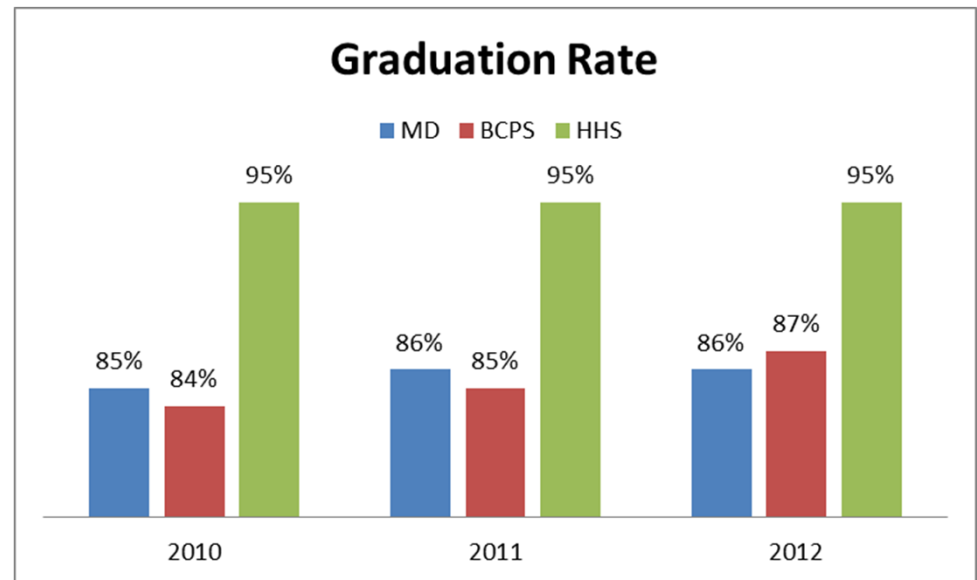
Hereford High School

Main Points

- Hereford High School has a “culture of deliberate excellence”
- School metrics – graduation rate, college decisions, SAT and Advanced Placement performance – reflect that excellence
- Semester block scheduling is a major contributor
- We are not “a small group of parents, primarily those of freshmen.” We represent the majority – parents, teachers, students
- What we are asking for is a continuation of the *status quo* scheduling model for Hereford High School

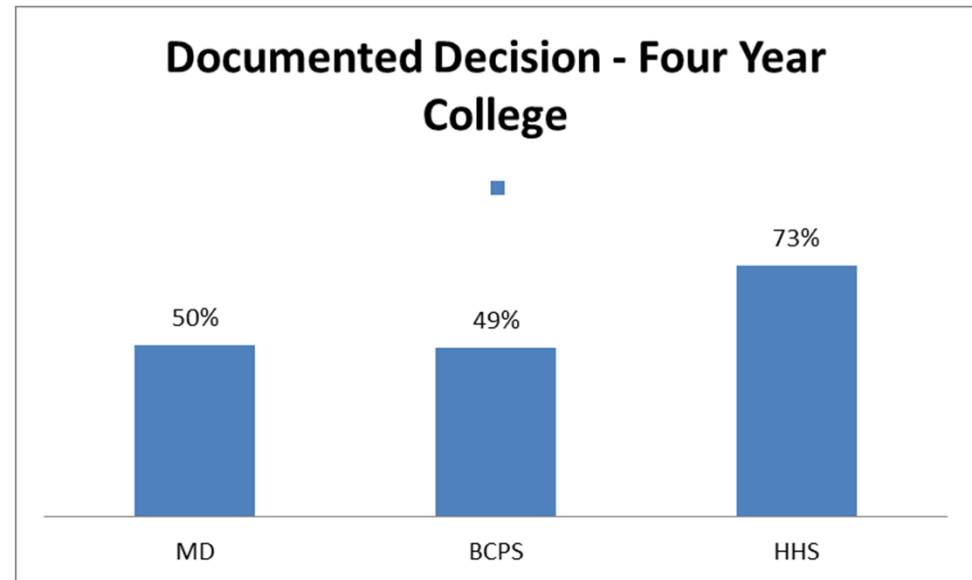
Graduation Rate

- Over 95% of HHS students graduate^[1]
- The State and County are playing catch-up



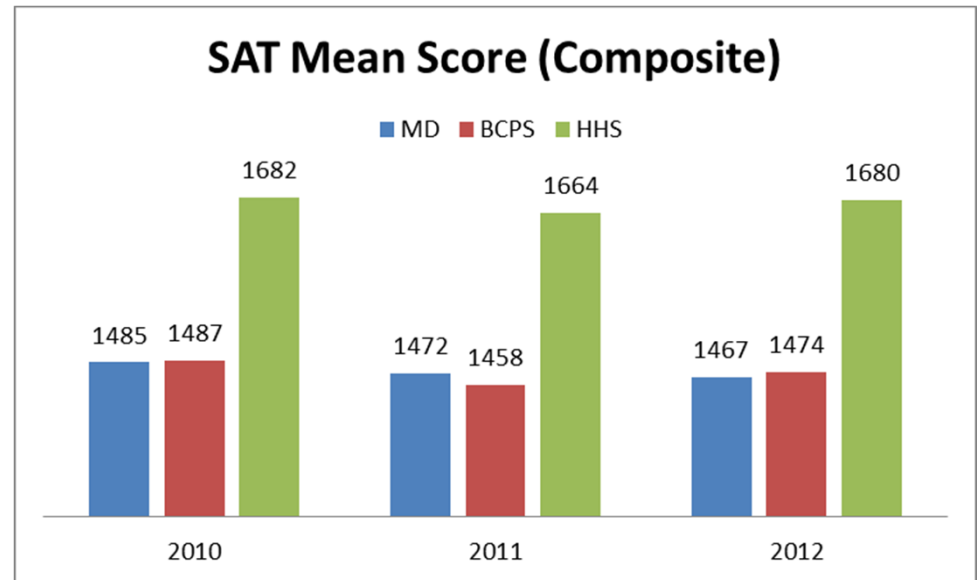
College Decisions

- 73% of HHS graduates head to a four-year college^[1]
- That's almost 50% higher than the County or State



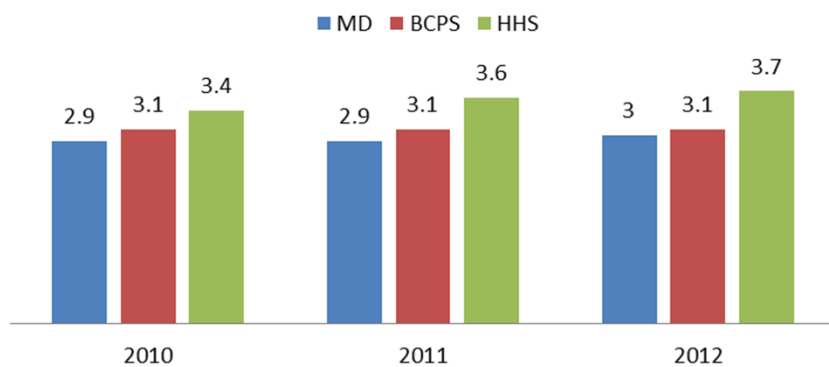
SAT Scores

- HHS outstrips the State and County, year after year^[1]



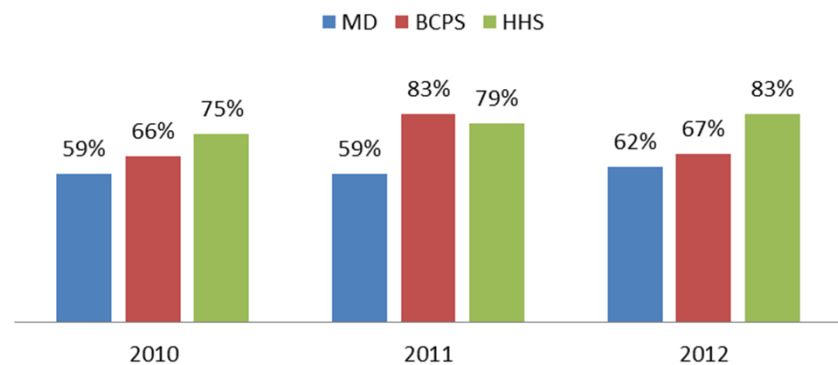
Advanced Placement

Advanced Placement Trends - Mean Grade Per Exam



* HHS students score higher...

Advanced Placement Trends - % with exam grade 3-5



■ ...consistently^[1]

Dr. Dance's Talking Points from 11/5/13 meeting^[3]

- Student mobility within Baltimore County can cause adjustment difficulties
 - Our response: HHS has a very small transfer population – stability means it's not an issue
- Students want more choices
 - Our response: HHS provides mid-year choices as well, allowing more courses per year
- New schedule allows better staff allocation
 - Our response: Except at HHS, where staff allocation will be substantially worse – twice the grading load for teachers, half the attention at enrichment

Other Inputs from November 5, 2013 Board of Education Meeting^[3]

- Abby Beytin, President, TABCO (Teachers Association of Baltimore County)
 - TABCO wasn't consulted for feedback
 - Recommended leave the choice to school
- Bill Lawrence, CASE (Council of Administrative and Supervisory Employees)
 - Previously, unofficial approach was that 70% of teachers at a school had to agree prior to a change
 - Suggested that implementation be delayed until sorted out
 - Also recommended that the choice be made at the school level, with performance results showing its effectiveness

If It's Not Broken, DON'T "FIX" IT

- BCPS – “Creating a Culture of Deliberate Excellence”
- Hereford High School is outstanding in every metric
- Part of the reason is the unique bell schedule
- With very few transfer students, adjustment is not a challenge for the overwhelming majority of students.
- The choice: does the County think that “the nail that sticks out, must be pounded down,” or should success be examined, promoted, and emulated?

Sources

- [1] [2013 Maryland Report Card](#)
- [2] [Adopted Operating Budget, Fiscal Year 2014](#)
- [3] [Video of November 5 Board Meeting](#)