

# Welcome Letter

Dear HSTA Students,

Welcome to the start of HSTA 2021-22. We are excited to begin a successful year and have prepared for both in person and virtual options as the COVID situation fluctuates. We know you are most successful when you're consistently engaged and participating, so we have worked hard to make that happen.

Let's remember, first and foremost, HSTA is here to help you prepare for college and obtain a tuition waiver, but you must do your part.

ATTENDANCE Attend meetings. Each meeting is a lesson and you build on that knowledge as you work through your research project. Your teacher will set both 1) after school meeting times when school is in session and 2) remote times if school is virtual.

JOBS We know many of you work. If you have a job, talk to your employer to arrange your schedule so you are available for meetings. They will understand and help and if not, ask your Field Site or teacher to help you explain the importance of HSTA.

SPORTS Sports are important, but so is HSTA. Talk to your coach about the importance of your HSTA meetings. They too will understand. Your coaches and teachers can work out a compromise if you bring the conflict to their attention. **100%** of students successfully completing HSTA receive a tuition waiver, fewer than **2%** of high school student athletes are offered athletic scholarships and most are not full rides. HSTA attendance is money in the bank.

ACADEMICS Stay on top of your assignments. If you fall behind, ask for help. Talk to your teacher. Find a study group. Your HSTA teacher and peers will help you.

GRADES You must maintain a 3.0 after your freshman year or you are not eligible for your waiver. You can do this.

FAMILY Your family is a support for you. They want you to be successful. Sometimes, families are under duress and fall upon difficult times. We understand. We've all been there. Your HSTA family is here to help.

In closing, let's remember to look after one another, communicate, be flexible and have a successful year.

*Cathy*

Interim Vice President Health Sciences