

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
October 15, 2007
Minutes

Agenda:

Go over attendance, discuss length of terms.

October 23rd Congress of Councils 7:30 pm Sparrel building top floor. All school councils meet and prioritize the budget.

Review Class Organization Report in order to improve NHS:

- 644 students as of 10/01/07
- about 100 more students than last year enrolled in academic classes
- foreign language most taxed department
- review average class sizes
- teacher load from a low of 99.4 to a high of 116 in foreign language
- this report will also address AP, MCAS and SAT DATA
- Needs: foreign language support; math support.
- A lot of students double up in foreign language.
- English scores are not as strong as we would like with additional staff and lower class size, more writing can be developed.

Discussion about 4th and 5th year AP classes.

Congress of Councils:

- If you want a teacher, what are you willing to give up?
- Science – some science teachers can teach math. Possible drop of AP Physics.
- Math – 6.8 FTE's is what I would like the high school to have in each department. Good things: common planning. We did not receive any new staff last year but altered the schedule to bring down class size.
- There is a class over 200 students coming up in the next couple of years. We have not added staff in years even though our population has increased.
- If we only allow students to take one language, we still have the issue of where do they go in their schedule?
- Class limits because of technology and lab space: 24 in science labs and 28 in foreign language lab.
- What is the classroom capacity?
- Are we ready for Congress of Councils?
- How does it work?
 1. Prioritize cuts and additions.
 2. Any additional staff is an override.
 3. What does it take to get one teacher?
 4. This is what we need.
 5. What are we going to give up to get it?
- New procedure this year for Congress of Councils.
- 6.8 positions teach electives = 683 kids = 20.1 average.
- 4508 = 4 teachers to be sure each student has 7 periods per day.

School Improvement Plan:

- We will use this data and collect AP, SAT and MCAS data to include in October 1 report.
- Our plan is to provide lower class numbers and lower teacher loads especially in areas where there is high risk testing.

Next Meeting 11/12/07