

Town Meeting

5-26-15

TOWN MEETING

5/26/15

Precursors - none

Announcements - none

Consent Items - none

Motions (see below)

Discussions

· Two items were posted for discussion, both of them tabled topics from the last Town Meeting: Graham's discussion of possible schedule changes for next year and Bill's discussion of Junetime. Town Meeting was held at the end of an SOL testing day, in a shortened block, and time ran out before we could discuss Junetime.

· Graham handed out a chart listing four possible schedules for next year. **Proposal A** put one TA slot at the last block on Monday, Town Meeting at the second block on Tuesday, and the second TA during the first block on Thursday. **Proposal B** put one TA at the first block on Monday, Town Meeting during the second block on Tuesday, and the second TA during the last block on Thursday. **Proposal C** put a TA during the last block on Monday, Town Meeting during the first block on Tuesday, and the second TA during the second block on Thursday. The fourth schedule shown was our current schedule.

· Graham started the discussion by saying that the impetus for these proposals was the general consensus that we need to make TA more meaningful. One school of thought suggested that moving a TA slot out of the last block on Friday would help in that effort. He added that there had been suggestions to even out the block times, and said that doing so was still an option, regardless of any other changes that might or might not take place, but that his main topic today was the overall schedule.

· After some general discussion, Brooke (8th) made a motion that we first decide (vote) whether or not we wanted *A CHANGE*, and then vote later on *WHICH* change. This led to a short but heated discussion: Eleanor said she feared such an immediate vote would be an easy way to shut the topic down quickly, Dave said he worried about voting for a blanket change without first knowing specifics, and others added similar thoughts. Brooke then amended her motion to first narrow down which change we liked best and then to vote yes or no.

· Discussion then continued on the pluses and minuses of the various proposed schedules. Some liked the idea of TA first thing on Monday; others liked it being at the end of the day on Monday. Dave suggested that a TA early Monday morning would encourage kids to leave homework undone during the weekend. Hannah (9th) said she thought TA at the end of the day on Friday was beneficial since it allowed for off-campus trips, but others responded that such trips, since they weren't frequent, were not a valid reason for keeping TA at that time. Michelle pointed out that option C allowed for set-up time for major activities scheduled during TA time.

· Brooke's motion was NOT voted on, but a different motion to table the discussion was made and passed unanimously.

· As this had been the last scheduled Town Meeting of the year, Eleanor made a motion that Thursday's TA slot (scheduled for 3:30 - 4:06 due to SOLs) be used for Town Meeting. She amended her motion to allow students to sign up for next year's TAs at the beginning of that block, and a motion to hold a second Town Meeting on Thursday (5/28) at 3:40 passed unanimously.

Chair: Jacob Hall

Co-Chair: Nathaniel Klein

Secretary: Nils Ayer