

Allocation TOWN Meeting HBW

04/18/2017

Chair:

Co Chair:

Secretary:

Precursors:

Announcements:

Motions:

Discussions:

Allocation

Goal is to create a proposal for
Town Meeting on Tuesday

For anything new join speakers
line. One or two quick points

0.8 increase since last year

Last big chunk of money in our increase

Possibly there will be other meetings to finalize smaller allocations, work off of this

Department chairs:

English: asking for .2, last year dropped .2

Math: Staying at current, shifting courses

Science: Staying at current, some position changes, new chemistry teacher and biology changes, no change in allocation

Social Studies: converting .2 from Ancient Civ to AP Modern Euro, asking for .2 for Philosophy

Languages: No change

P.E.: No change

Fine Arts: dropping .1, if there is extra think of us

Business: requesting .1 for Hilt Elective

HILT: No Change

Distance Learning, Core +,

Outside teacher: no change

Middle School TA: Asking for .8 increase, as size increase happens slowly been growing,

students view new TA program in positive light, adding it to 8th grade, need more allocation to support full-time TA for 8th grade, total allocation needed would be .8, 6th and 7th grade have determined Core + is not needed, Core + would be cut from 8th grade and replaced with TA, actual needed amount is .6 .25 is about what is available, unusual position, Questions:

Would 8th grade teachers teach less, or would core teachers teach one less class?

Core teachers teach 5 instead of 6 and teach a TA now, changes occur naturally to avoid new teachers being required

Not a current perfect solution for math compared to other classes, but it will remain intact as determined later

This new TA class is important and good for 8th graders, and Dave will

do something like having a smaller TA to fix this problem

Does the English Request involve any new staff? No.

Does the Social Studies request require new staff? A philosophy teacher is needed, so yes

Support for Philosophy, Paul is offering to possibly help teach philosophy

Fine Arts is asking to take back their .1, to possibly find a use for it later, as long as it still works for other classes

A new proposal could be made for this

Where are the STEM classes in this proposal, currently robotics, Comp sci, and others are spread between many teachers, hopefully next year a comp sci teacher could be hired to increase consistency
Proposal to set aside .2 for STEM classes, need for 3rd AP stat, if there is extra allocation another AP stat block

An idea about spreading allocation around for instructional leave days

for teachers to plan for TA
activities

Fine Arts planned their request
thinking there was a deficit, now
they would like to have it back

Full time STEM would be
interesting, impressive abilities
would be required to teach all
STEM, if any departments want
new things now would be the time
to think of those, fine arts -.1 is not
so much a loss as it is a lateral
change to a different department
A TA planning block would be
helpful for everyone, ninth grade

bubble is another situation that could be addressed with this new allocation

If we have an extra .25, it might make sense to approve our base and spend some extra time to plan what we're bringing, motion to approve this and let departments reconvene for future plans

Good motion, but don't want to cut off discussion about current base too soon

Motion withdrawn for the time being

High school TAs do have a lot of stress and time would be very appreciated

Teachers have said that the 6th and 7th grade TA meetings are very good

Voice support for high schools also having planned TA

If the option was to return to the old way of TAs that would be okay

No seniors were cut from classes, but some juniors were

Because it was almost an elective, rather than a math class, it was okayish to cut them from that

This is a strong alternative as a upper class math class that's not calculus

The TA program has been very successful in middle school and in high school that could be interesting

Would making TA more rigid help lower stress for high school teachers

Changing high school TA would be an important and large step, regardless of changing 8th grade as well

Middle and High school TAs are so different they're incomparable, high school TAs have so much more on their plate, and possibly over the future change the entire focus of TA

Support Dave's proposal, 8th grade TA and High school TA changes are not one or the other, maybe High school TAs could meet to lower intensity and increase planning

High school TAs being misrepresented, completely spent

working with students and other teachers

There is no High school “Team”, instead of comparing middle school to high school, open TA time is very valuable, support anything to lower stress for high school teachers

If allocation was spent on middle school, could we go back and retrieve it, probably not

Meghan idea very interesting

Money from allocation could be used in many different various ways, like into outside teacher then

anywhere, but a plan would be needed to be more thought out and structured than current system

Maybe another school-based sub to help, many ways to accomplish this, but more thought as to the goal would be needed

Ninth grade teachers could sit down and discuss what is a good idea to change for the future, an overall unique plan would work better

Mentor system from older students, wildly varying TAs could be part of the problem, evening out

the numbers for several TAs could be easier, do 8th grade off campus privileges cause many to skip TA? In reality 2 planned TAs a week is not sustainable

If we went to this model, would kids lose privileges? Probably not Maybe a dedicated 8th grade TA would help off campus stay safer in the future

Any thoughts on the high school TA situation are legitimate, but do they relate to our current allocation situation?

Jobs cannot be compared easily

Will the 6th and 7th grade plan help make 8th grade TAs easier if 8th grade adopts it? Yes?

Planning ahead TAs

Maybe a day after school ends could be used to continue these discussions

6th grade plan has helped fix some problems, and this could be implemented otherwise, and this new system has really helped, and maybe this could be adopted as a school-wide system, changing the philosophy could be welcome

Lack of kid participation in these decisions changes how they're gonna work

Student input is very important to discuss a new high school TA system

The middle school structured TA system would not be pulled up completely

Support pulling system up to 8th grades, it's a matter of time to fix this

This kind of meeting is very useful as a staff to talk about these kinds of situations

Even for those high school teachers without TAs

Planning blocks for future TAs with a sub teaching would not work for any teachers, possibly extra time would be useful

Current group activities like the camping trip would be very useful

A group of student resource teachers could be useful to help relieve the stress load for many high school teachers

Middle school 8th grade TA changes would be valuable, High

school TA one of the most useful things for high schoolers

Student input would be valuable when discussing this

Repeating that there are always kids around looking for help

Apologize for noise, Time Turners solution for this, college

recommendations are hard to

balance many of them, maybe a huge amount of money could be

set aside for this purpose

Vision of changing TAs might not be possible with this current

available amount, maybe this extra

allocation could be better saved as a buffer for the future. Better to have it and not need it rather than need it and not have it? This will always be something to think about

Maybe start working towards a resolution, this could possibly be pushed back one week but definitely not beyond that

“If you build it, they will come” if 33% (50%) more time was added to community building in middle school, maybe that would reduce stress for high schoolers

Remembering middle school TAs is fond, now in high school it's tougher to organize these kinds of things, don't want to give up after-school time, all time spent with students, not guilty, but sad Increase students and increased demand

New students parents must be acclimatized to HB, and seniors get full attention especially for beginning of year, insane level of stress, love working with kids, but it's not that easy

Kid input very important to this kind of discussion

Should this be postponed until town meeting, small groups? Meet 5 days a week

The current allotment is not enough to give an extra block to every teacher

Maybe there could be something like a trip planner, who gets an extra .2 to plan trips for the 9th grade or something like that

What if the topic of the town meeting next tuesday is about this instead of allocation

Maybe something like office hours or a college counselor would be helpful to reduce the workload, amazing how there is no guidance counselor, maybe this could help students

What would this kind of allocation be? Our 3.0 guidance counselor has been turned into other teachers

Maybe a guidance counselor is a good idea, helps at other schools, administrative assistant would be useful

Maybe high school teachers
having to spend a large amount of
time outside of the classroom
re-teaching lessons could find a
better system

Is there any proposal?

Put forth Dave's motion, everything
as written

Reminder: if you're voting against
this, do you have a better idea?

If we have this kind of person,
running stuff for the 9th grade
team

11th graders turning in PSPs said
they would've loved to had a

person to go to for help, maybe we could have someone like that

Maybe on next thursday we have another allocation meeting the second block to discuss this more

8th grade team thought process: students came in and brought forth what they wanted TA to accomplish, relieves stress when 8th graders want more from TA, and 8th graders still want more

Some students wanted an emotional safe space but lacked the time and space for that

Over time we decided we wanted a change, other parts of the staff have already gotten stuff, and maybe now it's up for us to get something, but high school changes would also benefit many people

There is a calculus exam that would conflict

Changing High school TA would be a hard transition

Maybe now it would be good to take a vote

Make a meeting from 1:30 to 2:15 next thursday

Motion to close Speakers list

PASSES

Now that both 7th grade TAs are filled they have less time to do their own things, maybe now

Motion to continue discussion next tuesday, move up C D E blocks

and meet after lunch next thursday

Dave's Motion PASSES

Maybe meet on monday to discuss what will be brought to

Motion Adjourn PASSES

4/25/17 Notes

Bill: Reduced proposal to a 0.4.

How would it be used?

More project support, more trips and bonding experiences. “For a more rounded and integrated experience”, Bill.

“We're really excited about the possibility...” -Eleanor.

The 0.4 would be a shift of the current teacher schedules.

Increased amount of team meetings to four. “This is about reimagining the 8th grade experience...” -Dave. Kris: Maybe we need more allocation for class time and less for TA? Maybe a

new teacher to spread out work instead of it overflowing to TA. Bill: Maybe more allocation for high school TA's too. Casey: We have received more allocation to make up for increased class sizes. If we want smaller class sizes we reduce the amount of electives and reduce the amount of classes each student is allowed to take.

Meghan: Shift more allocation from six and seventh grade to 8th and 9th. Anne: Maybe we should change the 9th grade TA experience. Jamie: "There are

definitely positives to having multiple grade level TAs.” Casey: Should we consider more counselors? By Thursday each department should come flowered with a proposal. Nathaniel: We should have increased funding for independent study classes. Jacob: This is a prime opportunity to try some things that we've been talking about. Dan: reiteration of shifted allocation from 7th and 8th to higher grade levels (for TA).

Eleanor: motion to take what have so far + 0.4 to 8th and 9th.

Discussion:

W/ current proposal we have 0.45 leftover. Regarding 9th grade allocation, increased pressure for support of students work. Carl, "...a wonderful step in the right direction...(regarding allocation for TA funding)." Bill: Friendly amendment to Eleanor's motion to make a committee for discussing problems addressed in today's TA.

*amendment accepted

*motion to close speakers list
passes.

Meghan: asking for a change to
motion to consider not making a
quick or rash decision, “I don't
know what a point four would look
like... (For the 9th grade).”

*Amendment not accepted

*Motion to call to question,
accepted.

*Vote on ready to accept
philosophy class and extra
allocation is not decided on yet.

Passes.

*motion to adjourn passes.