

Town Meeting HBW

1/24/18

Chair: Rylee

Co-chair: Henry

Secretary: Nathaniel

**Precursors:**

**Motions:**

**Discussions:**

What time should Fab Fest be? (& how to sign up)

-Initial motion passed was 9:30-12, some may want it to be 10-12. Some lesson plans for 2 ½ hours already exist

-In the past, a number of fab fests have struggled to use 2 hours fully Planning 2 hour lessons are significant chunks of time

-Possible 9:45 start time to allow for a checking with TAs and allow people to get their bearings

-Wednesday schedule would be morning classes, Thursday would be afternoon

-^possible issue with the parttime teachers

-Fab Fest is two mornings

-Maybe Fab fest should be morning and afternoon rather than switching classes around

-30 minute classes better than having nothing

-tabled

Use of personal devices (outside of class mostly)

- Graham collected iPads and phones at lunch, some fine, some very not fine. What are we as a community doing about personal device overuse?
- Somewhat of an issue, willing to experiment, but hard to take concrete action to avoid it
- Devices critical for doing work
- A bigger issue in the younger grades
- Collecting devices goes against personal responsibility and trust
- Can't assume people are being unproductive on their devices
- Not really a question of making rules, this should be a word to the wise about positive electronic usage. Important not to be tied to a device during formative years
- Possibly having one day a week where no devices during lunch

-High schoolers could take that time also to get off their devices and engage with middle schoolers

-Really a problem for the whole school, even teachers

-Mass confiscation is never going to happen. This discussion is not about restriction. The question is, are teachers doing students a disservice by not doing anything? Studies have shown social media has been linked to increased mental health issues in teens. Students absolutely have a choice in this matter. This is not about the logistics of Graham walking around with a box. Is there a will for this?

-One of the greatest gifts you can give someone is undivided attention.

-Having this conversation is extremely important and a very HB thing to do

-Where do we trust students? Where do we need to make a change?

-Students should model positive social media behavior

-It is out freedom of choice to value the humans in front of us. We don't fully understand what we're sacrificing when we multitask.

-This is not just a middle school issue, we need to all be a part of the solution and set an example for younger students -Dan Environmental Club could help out?

Encouraging self-reflection and such in nature

Brooke- Making electronics off limits makes them more appealing. Social concept would be more effective, no hard and fast rule.

Social media is different from playing a game from doing homework.

Town Meeting HBW  
1/2/2018

Chair:

Co-chair:

Secretary: Brooke

**Precursors:**

Staff meeting - room committee for 2018-19  
(no trailers & several classrooms changed)  
should probably be earlier this year

**Announcements:**

Maggie - Library announcements (new tab  
books, book talks for African American  
history month) Come see Maggie with book  
suggestions!

Nathaniel - night of the auk

Thursday-Saturday 7:30 (astronauts going to the moon! Suspense!) Many people you know!

Casey - Friday at lunch to talk about senior projects (staff, students)

Volunteers for Friday - Ray Anderson has many documents and would like to move boxes to cafeteria (to his car) and go to his storage unit to unload. Wednesday at lunch? As well as Friday afternoon. (Could be a TA activity?)

### **Motions:**

### **Discussions:**

Jamie - Prom there's already been a date set, (may 21)

Casey - same date as last year, one of the only dates that works, falls between music concerts but open to suggestions.

Prom hasn't historically been a <sup>TM</sup> decision (challenging calendar)

Town Meeting HBW

11/14/2017

**Precursors:**

SAB

Teacher Meeting

**Announcements:**

6th grade toy drive and bake sale - new, unopened toys (Donate them to Toys for Tots in Jeff's room #126), bake sale the week of Dec 4th - money going to the American Red Cross (hurricane fund).



Science Olympiad (sixth graders) until the late bus on Tuesdays!

**Motions:**

Rewrite TM bylaws - PASSED (writing guide to amendments to TM, guide itself has yet to pass, simply the process of writing it)

“Spirit Animal”

- Humpback Whale
- Preposterous Pandas
- Spork
- Honeybees (HB)
- Trees (historical mascot “Grow trees grow!”)
- Maybe should be done in a committee?

MOTION WITHDRAWN

Committee today, during lunch, room #109

## Food drive (drive?)

- Thanksgiving is coming up, organize a drive for homeless, and less fortunate families for thanksgiving. Donate to A-SPAN and AFAC.
- Date? Start this week on Wednesday. Bring food to the main office, or a box in the main entrance.

Turkey Bowl Schedule - Tuesday. Flag football games between 11&12 and 9&10 to be played during the morning. Have A block and play turkey bowl from 10:20-lunch. Cut Town Meeting from that day.

Any info about chicken bowl? Tradition that HILT students play soccer on the upper field, would like to suggest that HILT students could use this field to play soccer.

Friendly amendment that A block doesn't happen that day. Change B block to the first block of the day.

Cancels TM again. Also, no students are suggesting it.

Graham amending to B block starting.

Chicken Bowl has historically been on Monday. Change to Monday?

<b>Original Proposal-amended</b>	<b>Amendment #1</b>
	B
The day before	D
during G block and	TB
TA will be used for	Soccer/HILT
middle schoolers	TB
B	E
D	G
E	

Lunch	TM (suggested
Soccer/HILT	amendment)
F- TB	
G- TB	
H-TM	

<b>Dave's proposal-</b>	<b>Amendment #3</b>
B	B
10:15-10:45 Chicken Bowl	F- TB
5 min break	G- TB
10:50-11:20 9th and 10	Lunch
11:25-55 Soccer game	D
12-12:30 11th and 12th	Soccer/HILT
E	E
F	H- TM (suggested
H	amendment)

Good community aspect of having both games happening at the same time.

HILT Program was originally going to go to the gym, this would give them more space. B block is already a PE period for some of the middle school, could it be spaced in there?

Maybe middle school could play Monday afternoon on the same field. (TA?)

A lot of alumni coming in that day, so it's difficult to have classes.

Eleanor proposes a class during that time - HILT students would have to miss classes.

### **Discussions:**

Activity blocks  
Halloween Feedback

High School Mural

Alt dance

**Chair: Henry**

**Co Chair: Ava**

**Secretary: Brooke**

**Precursors:**

**Announcements:**

Wed 208 Discussion on  
Leadership class

Casey holding interest meeting for Leadership class Wednesday 1/3 to gauge interest

Remainder of the Year Schedule

Different schedules coming up (SOL's, Arena Scheduling, etc)

Graduation is a Tuesday night

### **Motions:**

Outside Teacher Funds

Liz Waters- teach Junetime class on comic creation and illustration, HB Woodlawn alum, would teach full Junetime class

We have payed people to teach Junetime before

Liz wants 30\$/hour (540\$)

Motion passes unanimously

Outside Teacher Funds-Dan

Last year Sarah Linick (HB alumna)

helped with Songwriting, Dan

wants to bring her back again for

Junetime (30\$/hr)

Motion passes unanimously

### **Discussions:**

2017-18 Calendar Special

Activities

Carol- Halloween/community

day/last day before break-

scheduling ahead for next year (lot

of stress this year planning wise)



Ask HIVE to start planning  
community day earlier next year

Tom: Greater distribution of  
responsibilities by HIVE chairs,  
Febfest and Community day more  
successful this year than last

Brooke: beneficial if we start  
planning earlier, but is it really  
town meetings job to organize this  
and make

Carol: nothing is going to happen  
unless people step forward

Jennifer: no reason community day  
can't evolve to involve clubs doing  
something outside of HB

Hesitation about putting stuff on calendar before kids get a chance to talk about new initiatives (maybe new discussions about fall v spring, etc).

Casey: We've added a lot of activities, hope these continue but Halloween started as TA driven, then turned into full school activities

Roll of TA in high school? For fun or for strictly academic planning?  
How do we not put too much on teachers for planning

Henry: students have little involvement in passing of Halloween schedule

Eleanor: put leadership role to juniors (rising seniors)

Brooke: how do we distribute leadership? We need to change middle school culture because they do not know they can bring stuff up at town meeting? They CAN organize. Is it a good idea to have mandatory town meeting for middle schoolers? IT can dissuade them from coming.

Jamie- worried about culture changes at town meeting and kids not knowing their responsibilities

Eleanor- senior class goes to sixth grade and teaches them about town meeting to get them more involved

Henry- seniors and sixth grader work together- put responsibility on them, system is corrupt, take a stand to make sure students pass it or not have the event happen

Jennifer- Keep valuable traditions, get rid of not valuable traditions, town meeting allows us to be new

and reflect on our current values,  
allow new traditions

Brooke- get middle schoolers more  
involved with decisions, their own  
activities (dances, etc).

Dan- 6th and 7th graders do town  
meeting training

Tom- there is no apocalyptic  
change in town meeting, other high  
schoolers have fun or academics,  
they know town meeting is going  
on they just don't care, and that's  
okay. Build scaffolding, bare  
minimum of support for students  
who then lead stuff

Nathaniel- situation not so dire,  
actions taken that lessen the  
support of town meeting has hurt  
the integrity of town meeting  
(symbolic point), issues because  
things can't get passed because of  
activity blocks, some teachers  
make students come during town  
meeting, hard to get middle  
schoolers to feel comfortable in  
town meeting

Dave- in 1989 we formed  
committee to get students to come  
to town meeting, teachers better  
than in the past about scheduling

during <sup>TM</sup>, community action events earlier in the year builds community early on

Anne- Leadership class gives students opportunity to connect with teachers and organize and facilitate problem solving

Jamie- leadership class may diminish the importance of town meeting

Josue- people don't realize they can do stuff about things until you take it away, let them know you can do all of these things

Carol- only 15 kids in leadership class that decide everything? We need to have a balance, how is information dispersed on the grade level? Communication at the end of year necessary

Graham- activity block was direct result of structured middle school TAs, sixth graders use town meeting as free block because they don't have a lot of free time

Brooke- you can't force people to come to town meeting

Carly said middle school didn't really change much



Motion passes to table discussion

Arena Scheduling

Tabled to next weekend

Chair: Emma Siegel

Co-chair: Jack Dunham

Secretary: Jamie Staeben

## Allocation

3rd meeting on allocation,  
proposals listed on board

Total allocation is 46.7

Total contingency is unknown

Math requests .2 increase

English .2 increase

Social Studies .2 increase

Leadership class .2 increase

Jennifer and Anurag available to  
answer questions

Ninth Grade support .4 increase

Middle School teams .4 increase  
when balanced with Core +, to  
expand 8th grade team experience  
Within .15 over proposal than  
allocation

Remember to embrace this  
opportunity as a community

Watch out for the impact of your  
statements

To answer direct questions people  
are here from every proposal

Anurag + Jennifer: Leadership  
class as proposal, idea is to give  
students time and space to engage  
in a school aspect, eg. hold a

writing or math lab, which could help lower class sizes, ideas for middle school TAs, increase levels of student input, would help to build culture in HS and MS

Jacob Hall: support leadership class, use student body to support classes, allow HSers and MSers to help each other

Nathaniel: support leadership class, good system to reduce stressors, also want to speak about increasing independent studies

Oliver: Requesting more detail about math and writing labs, curriculum, etc

Anurag + Jennifer: Purpose of the lab idea is a sense as to the direction of the leadership class, help refresh students knowledge on specific topics, give time and space for students to accomplish tasks,

Brooke: support leadership class, possibly putting money into just one grade won't work, and this idea is a more widespread solution for this problem

Ben: student initiative and action is a step in the right direction, part of HB, employ independent studies for more than scheduling conflicts

Anurag: Goal is not to remove teacher,

(Break in notes, from 2:00 to 2:10)

Use leadership class to put forth own ideas, eg. body image

Casey: Speak in support of all ideas, remember that this is a class you would sign up for, think of what would be given up, think of 8th and 9th grade proposals

Unfair to give allocation to only 8th or 9th grade, leadership better solution for overall

Josie: 9th grade big transition, support unnecessary, .4 too much allocation

Maya: large difference between club and class, class helps provide a better support system, Question to Eleanor, how does this help students balance free time and structured time?

Bill: Not about taking away free time, about more project based learning, more AID days, helps

increase student time  
management skills

Jacob: Heard support for 9th grade  
proposal, but little info about how  
that money would be used

Dave: community focus is lost  
most during growth, and resources  
should be used to regain that

Question to Eleanor: Explain  
specific ideas for next year?

Eleanor + Leigh + Bill: Zombie  
geography, project based learning,

Rebecca: New time would be used  
for teachers to give one on one  
help to students, fill need



Carl: Speak to proposal for math course for extra class, ask 8th grade if a .2 reduction to proposal, then scaled back to .6, then reduced to .4, have compromised

Casey: 9th grade has also reduced their proposal, hard to put toothpaste back in tube, now is maybe not the time for all these proposals to be fixed, a conversation about TAs will be needed

Casey: Need to wrap up conversation, close to finishing proposal, need to cut .2, math

proposal has a smaller impact than others

Mark: the math department was considering requesting more support as it is needed, but instead requested this, trying to keep math classes smaller, larger classes for upper level maths, that is why .2 is being requested, but other proposals are good

Brooke: Accountability, leadership would be good, math department class sizes,

Cynthia: 8th graders working on PSP is ridiculous, 8th grade

structured TA is unneeded, agree that more help would be appreciated in 9th grade

Grace: teaching independence is an important part of HB, and if we increase the structure we lose some of that

Meghan: 9th grade proposal does *not include* structured TA

Maya: Request to bring allocation from .6 to .4 for 8th grade to enable all things to pass, 9th grade



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

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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.

