

## Town Meeting

1-5-12

### TOWN MEETING

1/5/12

#### Precursors:

- SAB - tonight.
- Staff Mtg - no.

#### Announcements:

- Welcome to 2012!
- Flip-flopped TA/TM in three weeks for Course Request Forms. More details forthcoming.
- This Friday after school, Calvin and Dave will be playing Settlers of Catan and eating pizza in the Cafeteria. Five dollars to enter.

#### Motions:

- None listed

#### Discussion:

- Virginia has just passed a new requirement for teacher evaluations. Arlington Public Schools is looking at how to implement the new policies and has asked the SAB for input on how students should have input into evaluating teachers. Something more than "ratemyteacher.com" J

How should we evaluate teachers? Forty percent will be student achievement. This is usually defined as test scores. Studies show that this is ineffective, and I believe that this system should not be dominant over to the remaining 60%, so what should we use? Casey: 40% will be student achievement, but that isn't defined as test scores, how would we like Arlington to phrase "student achievement"? What about classes that don't have SOLs? Liz: how can student input reflect student achievement? Ben: these criteria must be specific; we don't want teachers to be evaluated on ease of classwork. Paul: basing something on student achievement is biased. Not all students come in at the same level. A high-achieving student can score well even with a poor teacher. Calvin: this is a bigger issue at college than high school. Joe: I fear that this could degenerate quickly. We do need a way to keep questions specific. Dave: can we use an input/output system? Teachers should not be graded on score, but improvement of individual students over time. Jaime: Do we already have a teacher evaluation system? Casey: the current system is new teachers get evaluation/observation by administrators for three years, after that they are on contract. Contract teachers get to create their own goals, but have to present their ideas at the end of the year.

- Random discussion - Dave. Calvin & Elise, what's being at college like and sharing a room? What are classes like? Calvin: classes are different. Humanities should not keep credit, Sciences should. Elise: classes are harder, but are on pass/fail. More collaborative. Dave: wanna hear more? Come to the Choir room at 7:30 tonight to hear college students talk about their experience.

Chair: Calvin McPhail-Snyder

Co-Chair: Robi Rahman

Secretary: Will Hubbert

