

Town Meeting

1-9-14

TOWN MEETING

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Precursors

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- SAB – meeting tonight.
- Staff Meeting – Yes. Pipe Issue in Nancy's room, Muscular Dystrophy Overview, Junetime Presentation, Classrooms Needed for English Electives, Field Trip Communications Issues, NHS Tutoring, Science Fair "Upon Us," Middle School Mural Background Papers Up, Scheduling Committee (as a discussion, below)

Announcements

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- Course Requests on 2/6/14.
- Online Program of Studies by mid-January.
- Cupcake decorating in GSA on Wednesday, 1/15. All are Welcome.
- Arlington-Aachen Exchange Information Meeting Upcoming – see Scroll.
- Middle School Dance TOMORROW Night.
- DAART (Doing Art Together) resumes on SATURDAY.

Motions

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- Best Buddies Bulletin Board. Best Buddies would like to take the FBLA Bulletin Board, as there might not be a FBLA club currently at the school. Best Buddies is a large organization that currently works with Stratford. We have High School and Middle School sections here. Kristale Grant is in charge of Bulletin Boards – see her to see what is available. Nekya Ball or Jen Hamilton may know something about the current status of FBLA. Motion Withdrawn.
- Outside Teacher Request – Tom Mallan. Last year the APS film festival was started and the judges were given outside teacher money stipends, not only for their time commitment in judging but they also worked with the filmmakers. The judges that TM paid for helped to legitimize results. Since the festival was so successful, several grants were obtained as a result. This year asking for \$125 a judge, with 6 judges this year for a total of \$750. Motion PASSED

Discussions

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- Students needed for a committee on Scheduling to make a proposal to Town Meeting. Background: Teachers have been discussing issues related to instruction this year in our staff meetings. Overwhelmingly, there has been a concern that our current schedule does not support instruction as we would like it to. This committee would meet during school, outside of the building, on January 24th and after school (here) on January 28th and February 4th. Food and transportation, naturally, will be provided. The teachers selected will be representative of the department (six or seven) as well as several students. Looking for three students. The list will be put up and Frank will contact interested students. List will be posted right next to the Town Meeting discussion board.
- NHS tutoring – Jennifer. NHS has been offering tutoring to students. This year the model is slightly different, with free tutoring blocks instead of more specific tutoring. Three to five members are in one location (Cafeteria), offering tutoring. Discussion is whether it is worth it to continue the program as there have been very low rates of attendance. Casey wonders who the targeted audience for the tutoring is, speculating at the 9th and 10th graders (10th may be too close to the tutor age to feel comfortable), proposes a greater targeting effort for students who might be served by the model. Middle schoolers, for

instance, don't have H free. She suggests sending a tutor or two to the Core+ classes (TA also gets busy). Eleanor suggests inviting specific people who know they need help might produce greater rates of attendance. Suggestion of having more teachers forward students to tutoring when they go to the classroom for help during a teachers planning block. Need communication so the tutors know who is going to show up and what subject they need to work on. Liz suggests further to put tutors in the teachers planning blocks classrooms, so they can help students with the teacher.

Chair: Amanda Hayes

Co-Chair: Julian Cohen

Secretary: Eli Spiliotopoulos