

MEMORANDUM

TO: School Committee
FROM: Steven Hiersche, Interim Superintendent
DATE: January 26, 2013
RE: Recommendation for addressing 7th Grade Class Size

Attached is a memo Alan Keller put together to address the 7th grade class size. I included it so you could see the work he and his team did. We considered the options labeled Chart 1E and 1F as the most cost effective and flexible options. We also were attempting to build in flexibility for the future.

Option 1F cost:

2 Teachers (dual certified, i.e. ELA/Social Studies and Math/Science)

2.0 FTE (\$60,000 * 2) = \$120,000

Note this will be included under the 4.8% not in addition to.

AP proposal remains as is.

Foreign Language option remains viable. Through dual certifications it begins to build a staff that can handle some of the variances in 7th and 8th grade enrollments.

This option is my recommendation based on the most cost effective solution. It also begins to build for the future. I do not recommend reducing a foreign language teacher at this time due to the focus on building languages in the future. This one is built into the budgetary model.

~~Option 1E cost:~~ NOTE: Option 1F was selected, not option 1E, on 1-31-13 by the School Committee.

~~4 Teachers/Coordinators .6FTE Teaching and .4FTE for observations in the supervision evaluation system (note: requires HTA agreement)~~

~~4.0 FTE (\$60,000 * 4) = \$240,000~~

~~Replaces AP request \$86,000~~

~~Total Additional Impact to 4.8% Budget \$154,000~~

~~Note this will be included under the 4.8% not in addition to.~~

~~One challenge of this options will be finding the room and the second will be securing agreement from the HTA. It is, as Mr. Keller points out in his memo, possible to reduce one foreign language position and maintain class size. This does not reduce foreign language. As part of the~~

~~team structure now the foreign language teachers teach four classes, it is possible and probably required under each of these plans to decouple foreign language from the core team allowing them to teach five classes instead of four. Additionally this will require some retrofitting of classroom space. This will be factored into our budget work.~~