

**CDSP**  
**JANUARY 7, 2023**

#	RC	Question	Response
1	1	<b>What other schools have Teen Talk? And are they available after school?</b>	New Canaan, Greenwich, Westport, Wilton, Norwalk, Stamford, Newtown, Ridgefield.
2	1	<b>What do the department chairs do?</b>	<p><b>Supervision and Evaluation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lead and facilitate recruiting and hiring efforts (reviewing applications, coordinate, schedule, and run: screening interviews, committee interviews, demo lessons, reference checks)</li> <li>- Conduct classroom observations/teacher evaluation (including observations, post-observation discussions, reviews of practice, and conducting rounds).</li> <li>- Facilitate and support teacher goal-planning (including goal-setting meetings, mid-year meetings, end-of-year meetings).</li> <li>- Plan, schedule, and facilitate meetings</li> </ul> <p><b>Teaching and Learning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lead curriculum development efforts</li> <li>- Plan and execute Professional Development sessions</li> <li>- Facilitate all course placements/advanced course placement process</li> <li>- Develop budgets/provide resources for teachers and students</li> <li>- Support academic integrity policy</li> <li>- Coordinate and collaborate with MMS and DHS building administrators to support school vision and initiatives.</li> <li>- Support school-wide assessment efforts, including SAT, SBAC and NGSS assessments.</li> <li>- Develop DHS schedule based on student registrations. This ranges from creating sections to fit student registrations to developing course schedules, room assignments and teaching assignments for DHS teachers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Parents and Students</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Facilitate parent-student-teacher communication</li> <li>- Advise parents and students about courses</li> </ul>
3	1	<b>Are there any other exchange programs available given china exchange is on pause?</b>	We have not pursued other exchange programs given the challenges of the pandemic and the significant investment in creating new coursework to support such changes to the current model. The Social Studies Department hoped that we could renew this relationship and we are disappointed that we have not been able to do so. Given the decision to postpone the China Exchange again, we will explore other opportunities.
4	1	<b>Does it even make sense to have Talented and Gifted at the High School given enrollment and all the other course offerings at DHS?</b>	Recommendations for changes to the program will continue as the District works through the recommendations of the 2021 Gifted Education Program Evaluation. An update on the recommendations will be presented at the February Curriculum Committee.

5	1	<b>What is the gender balance in robotics?</b>	<p>Club participants were selected at random with upper grades given preferences and we tried to split groups evenly by gender.</p> <p>Elementary is approximately 50/50 (Boys/Girls)  Middle School is approximately 60/40 (Boys/Girls)  Darien High School is approximately 60/40 (Boys/Girls)</p>																								
6	1	<b>What enrollment do we anticipate in ASL?</b>	We expect to run one section of ASL for next year with an enrollment of up to 24 students. This is reflected in the request of .2 FTE.																								
7	11	<b>What is the determination for adding a coach?</b>	<p><a href="#">Coaching Ratios</a></p> <p>Coaches are added to be consistent with the attached ratios.</p>																								
8	11	<b>Where do hockey gate receipts go?</b>	The Hockey arena keeps the gate receipts.																								
9	25	<b>Can we expand the bus radius?</b>	This would be a BOE policy decision. Presently if we were to expand the radius we would not have enough drivers to staff the additional buses at this time.																								
10	25	<b>How much would we save if we had a bus depot?</b>	While there is no exact way to know how much we would save if we had a bus depot, First Student does pay approximately \$480,000 a year to rent the facility in Stamford.																								
11	25	<b>Could coaches drive buses for athletics?</b>	Coaches can drive rental vehicles providing they have the right endorsement. They are not permitted to drive buses owned by First Student. We sometimes do this with smaller teams such as golf.																								
12	22	<b>Can you break down robotics costs by grade?</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Account</th> <th>Budget</th> <th>Grade Level</th> <th>Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>General Teaching Supplies</td> <td>\$3,500</td> <td>1</td> <td>5 BeeBot Sets</td> </tr> <tr> <td>General Teaching Supplies</td> <td>\$7,500</td> <td>2-3</td> <td>5 Class Packs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>General Teaching Supplies</td> <td>\$2,250</td> <td>4-5</td> <td>5 FLL Kits</td> </tr> <tr> <td>General Teaching Supplies</td> <td>\$450</td> <td>6-8</td> <td>1 FLL Kit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>General Teaching Supplies</td> <td>\$16,300</td> <td>9-12</td> <td>FTC Game Set, FRC Game Set/Parts, Vex Kit, Battlebots</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Account	Budget	Grade Level	Description	General Teaching Supplies	\$3,500	1	5 BeeBot Sets	General Teaching Supplies	\$7,500	2-3	5 Class Packs	General Teaching Supplies	\$2,250	4-5	5 FLL Kits	General Teaching Supplies	\$450	6-8	1 FLL Kit	General Teaching Supplies	\$16,300	9-12	FTC Game Set, FRC Game Set/Parts, Vex Kit, Battlebots
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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>		
Professional Development	\$5,000	1-3	
Professional Development	\$5,100	4-5	
Professional Development	\$5,100	6-8	
Professional Development	\$6,000	9-12	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,200</b>		
Field Trips	\$600	1-3	In-District Competitions
Field Trips	\$600	4-5	Bus Transport to MMS Intramural Tournament
Field Trips	\$800	6-8	Waterbury FRC Event
Field Trips	\$18,000	9-12	Vex (Local), Battlebots Norwalk, FRC Waterbury, Hartford
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>		
Advisor Stipends	\$6,602	9-12	
Advisor Stipends	\$3,301	6-8	
Advisor Stipends	\$14,890	4-5	All Elementaries
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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$39,683</b>		

<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>When will IEP direct go away?</b>	Once CTSEDs is fully implemented and we are fully transitioned to CTSEDS.
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Are there less expensive versions of Zoom?</b>	Yes, there are versions that reduce the number of licenses available to the district. Zoom is still currently used throughout the district for administrative meetings, PPT's, BOE meetings, Committee meetings. We feel the current model is appropriate given the district's needs.
<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>PTO's have been asked to pay for code monkey in the past. Is this the complete cost?</b>	Code monkey is a district expense.
<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>What is the status of Marilyn Friend?</b>	We are in communication with Dr. Friend and will keep the community updated.
<b>17</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Do we need more PD for new staff?</b>	We have adequately budgeted for professional development needs for all staff.
<b>18</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Are there funds for compensatory education needs?</b>	Yes, these are reflected in consultant services, contracted speech, contracted OT, and contracted PT.
<b>19</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Is it cheaper to hire district OT/PTs rather than contract out?</b>	No, it is not given the accelerating costs of benefits. The District PT currently costs more than contracted PT providers.
<b>20</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Why did we have trouble with Teacher in Residence candidates?</b>	The program itself, run by the Capitol Region Educational Council, had trouble attracting participants because fewer people want to become teachers.