

February 20, 2020
2:45-4 pm
Main Office Conference Room

Most of the staff is in favor of unweighting all courses. Some teachers wonder if unweighting will make our school less competitive. A few teachers mention that a pro of weighting is the courses offered and a reward for work done. A teacher notes that enrollment may go down if unweighted and less AP/Honors courses will be able to be offered.

None of the staff was interested in adding a third tier of weight.

The committee discusses a survey for students about whether they would still take classes unweighted.

Lauren reports on 2nd focus group: Consisted of students who take 0, 1 or 2-3 AP/Honors courses. The students report a mix - some would not take Honors/AP without the weight and one reports that they would take most of the same classes as they do now. They take the Honors/AP for challenge and interest. One notes that they would not take it without the weight and then they wouldn't have seen what they are capable of.

Holly feels that students would still take the classes and that we would not lose too many sections. The students who don't take advanced courses because they are nervous are the students that will be impacted.

World Language might be impacted regarding enrollment as well as Social Studies.

Some teachers stated that when a student is not at the appropriate level the curriculum gets watered down. Holly expresses that differentiation is necessary regardless of level. Some students will not take classes if not weighed, some will.

Math department feels that student games regarding course choice and transcript padding will be limited if unweighted- example less VLACS honors classes. Holly disagrees with this statement in that students will still take VLACS classes to get an easy A.

Other feedback includes students not taking enough electives or unweighted courses - Holly expresses that students will take even more honors or AP because they only have their transcript without weight. Holly explains that there are larger colleges who do not unweight GPA.

We can hurt the middle of the road students by unweighting.

One department mentioned that if some electives have a weighted option then all should.

Another recommendation: put unweighted and weighted GPA on transcript.

The committee discusses the possibility that the students who take many AP and Honors will be more stressed with unweighted courses.

The committee thinks that a big takeaway is that the weighting system protects the middle of the road student.