

CRLS Council Meeting 6-14-2016

Attendees:

Damon Smith, Principal
Greta Hardina, Family Liaison
Ross Benson, faculty
Gail Stubbs, co-chair
Trudy Wilcox, parent
Teresa Walker, parent
John Delancey, parent
Kim Goldstein, parent
Victoria Harris, parent
Edwidge Hercule, parent
Trina Abbott, parent
Adam Manacher, parent
Kim Kaufman, parent
Marie Antoine, parent

Dress Code

School Dress Code being discussed now at School Committee and by Legal Counsel
Revised dress code policy was sent to Superintendent in May
There is some support from teachers
If it passes tonight, let incoming students know policy was written by students
Have students "police" each other

RSTA

Hard to explain RSTA
Some teachers have difficulty integrating it
Not every child is on a path to college
Poor showing at Senior Banquet
Seems like a cultural thing

Has its own director and operating budget
RSTA teachers are certified in a particular field and may not go through same academic training
Stands apart from CLRS
Last year had a lower number enrolled in RSTA so Principal moved an FTE faculty to CRLS
Deputy Superintendent supervises Director of RSTA
First-year computer science classes were combined
RSTA Exploratory is not the only way into RSTA
Trying to develop more dual-purpose classes
RSTA impacts scheduling
RSTA has tried to offer more electives to seniors (Personal Finance, Car or Home Repair)
Principal would like to have more exploratory like BE-IT; perhaps engineering or home/health
Principal wants to separate VPA requirements (2 years visual; 1 year technical)
Ninth grade RSTA Exploratory is just during Period 2
RSTA got renovated before the high school

Guidance Counselors

3 reserved FTEs for curricular: 2 FTEs for ELA and 1 FTE for History

Guidance Program will remain the same next year

Number of students per Counselor has risen in the past years

Guidance has requested two more people to reduce their caseload

CRLS chose to keep class size low, which is why the 3 FTEs went to academics

Student numbers have grown from 190 to 220/240 per Counselor

Some Counselors do not know their ninth graders because of focus on juniors and seniors

May introduce Guidance classes for about 50 students during one block period

(could extend the school day or add to Health)

Do not have enough dovetail/partner classes

Could have quarter classes on a Silver/Black rotating basis

Guidance Counselors do meet with ninth graders during Orientation

Principal wanted to change CM to M (15 min), R (30 min), and F (30 min) but not did not work

CM is heterogeneous and a way for students to have a consistent adult connection at CRLS

Find the teachers that hold good CMs and have them share their knowledge

Some students have said that CMs reflect what's happening in classes with black/white separation

OSS students have a liaison; what if every student had a liaison?

Break down to 5-10 diverse students for every staff member (deans included)