



**ILT AGENDA
December 9th, 2020**

Meeting began at 3:02 PM

Attendance: Laura Brogden, Jessica Smitson, Olivia Ballard, Ferd schneider, Ploy Keener, Joe Stewart, Kasey Shao, Brian Sweeney, Sara McGuire-Jay. Elizabeth Duncan-Scruggs, Sam Bramlage, John Chambers, Denise Pfeiffer, Pete Riddle, Joe Gerth, Margo Fisher-Bellman, Michael Sherman. Heather Lloyd, Katie Sullivan, Ashley Morgan, Kathy Noland

Kenney: One item will be added to the agenda from Ms. Morgan and will be at the end of the meeting.

Review & accept the minutes from November:

Kenney: Received many complaints, but no one sent anything specific to adjust.

Pfeiffer: Can we add on the science information we sent to the staff?

Kenney: Something should be sent to me so I could have added them. It hasn't been looked at for the entire staff to accept.

McGuire-Jay: I asked for 3 things to be added.

Kenney: I think the best way to go is to table this vote for now and add our issues from November and then vote on both November and December in January.

McGuire-Jay: Things were missing and some of the discussion was incorrect.

Kenney: I'd be more comfortable not accepting minutes now and then accepting them in January.

Minutes tabled; will amend and vote in January.

Special Order of Business

Old Business

Originator

Honors Proposal

Honors Subcommittee

Stewart: We decided we would like to see honors move to ala carte where students choose on interests and mastery.

No honors in 8th at all; 9th grade only. 8th grade English and SS would be teamed. Honors will stand alone and will not be co-taught in any way. They would still have to have A's or B's to take 9th grade honors.

Schneider: The years were off - are we talking about 21-22/22-23?

Stewart- Yes. Sorry. We felt the ala carte model allows students to take the classes that reflect their academic interests. Keeping the team structure in SS and English allows for more cross curricular work. By allowing self-selection, it would allow nontraditional honors students the opportunity to take those courses.

Sherman: Fine arts is in favor, but we did have a question of how 8th grade teaming could impact the ability of students to take fine arts classes.

Stewart: From the scheduling perspective, we talked about how we'd like to see them taught back to back bells (go to English/SS and vice versa). We haven't put it into the master schedule yet. This would be a lot of sections teamed in the master schedule.

Morgan: There are already 180 kids in honors we're doing this with; it might actually be better.

Sherman: We are in favor in principle, but we've seen our numbers drop with teaming and the addition of health.

P. Morgan: It would be better to have them spread out throughout the day from a scheduling perspective.

Pfeiffer: We also looked at this as a phase out from the supports that student's get. So it's to help get them adjusted to a HS setting.

FB- We support this motion, but we have a question. If this is a better move, how might parents react? Is it just going to remain that cohort for next year?

Smitson: We had a lot of students who wanted to get into honors who did not. We talked about how the curriculum with AA and honors is so similar.

FB- If I was a parent whose kid was missing out on this, I'd be a little ruffled

Bramlage- is the goal for the SS and English teacher to have the same partner for all sections?

Stewart: Yes

Smith: It was asked that the teacher members share the LSDMC thoughts on the honors program. It was the belief of the parents. The belief is that the cohort is beneficial. Have there been any surveys of students/parents? What are the long term consequences? Head of LSDMC said that this is a selling point to the community at large. This is the argument they make as to why students should come to Walnut in 7th. There is concern of parents and community members that this eliminates what makes us unique. Another thing that came up was the issue of diversity- why not re-think the admission process? LSDMC wanted to see the data and wanted to see the rationale. They believe this should be a data based decision. They believe the honors program reflects the motto of the school.

Sweeney: Brad that is the entire reason we need to get rid of it. We don't get diversification of the program. The reality is that we want to do just the opposite. We're evaluating 7th graders? I think we should be careful of trying to pacify a certain group of people out there.

Kylie Bridgeman (Student): I think it's important to keep the lack of diversity in the back of our minds. When we bring up the conversation of disbanding honors, we get head nods, not head shakes. We all support this new model.

Schneider: We had those conversations, Brad. It does make Walnut look like we rise to the highest from the outside looking in.

Stewart: LSDMC concerns are valid, but the proposal isn't getting rid of honors, it's trying to restructure how it works to allow students to rise to the highest.

Chambers: I have no problem surveying parents and students. You'll get the responses from parents who think their kids should be in honors, then data from the parents whose kids didn't get in to honors and were made. The concerns brought up by LSDMC were not done by the entire committee. It was talked about at the parent association meeting. There has no formalized survey. There are honors material kids who are not afforded the opportunity to take part in the honors program. We need to be clear that we need to look at the GPA's of the junior and senior class.

Pfeiffer: Motion to vote. Sweeney second.

Chambers: The terminology- we need to vote to restructure. Disband looks like we're getting ready to get rid of it or not.

Kathleen Restle3:34 PM

cleanest: accept the honors proposal

Erin Kenney-Levin3:34 PM

Vote to Accept the Honors Proposal: Denise Pfeiffer yes Erin Kenney-Levin yes Kathleen Restle :)Laura Brogden YES

Heather Lloyd yes oseph Stewart Yes Jessica Smitson yes Elizabeth Duncan-Scruggs Yes Doreena Fox:Yes Samantha Bramlage Yes

Peter Riddle: Yes Kathleen Keener yes Margaret Fisher-Bellman yes Brian Sweeney Yes Sara Mcguire-Jay Social Studies votes no John Chambers: Yes Michael Sherman:Yes Patricia Morgan yes counseling Ferd Schneider :yes from math

Thelen: Yes* but I am personally no

This motion passes: 18 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain

End Science Honors
Pfeiffer withdrew proposal

Pfeiffer

Add Physics AA (Proposal Withdrawn 12/1/2020)

Schneider

Add Physics CP

Morgan

P. Morgan: We feel like college prep physics should be added back to the curriculum.

Pfeiffer: Why would a student take a CCP over an AP?

FB: You get college credit without taking a test.

Pfeiffer: Is it easier?

FB: A lot of students say yes

Pfeiffer: Were you wanting to add the class for 21-22 or 22-23?

P. Morgan: Waiting to see how this came out?

Pfeiffer: So if this passes, we're gonna need to order supplies because we don't currently have a CP class.

Brogden: We want to go back to the point that Katie made about the 8th graders working on a HS curriculum.

P. Morgan: They don't. It's science 8AA.

Sullivan: It helps prepare them for the AIR test

Brogden: So there's no way to give them credit in 8th grade to take care of this problem?

Schneider: Do our CCP students have to physically show up on a college campus then physically show up here at Walnut?

P. Morgan: You can take it either way, most are online this year.

Schneider: So we value in person learning. Did science throw away all the materials from two years ago?

Pfeiffer: We never had a CP physics class. We'll know what supplies we need once we know how many students have optioned for our classes.

Schnieder: Would a AA physics textbook be sufficient for teaching a AA physics course?

Chambers: I recall us not wanting to farm our kids out to CCP courses. We thought kids should take classes here at Walnut. This could have huge ramifications. It hurs the underresourced kid who doesn't have the resources to take an off campus course.

P. Morgan: We're talking about a college prep class. We have 87 students in AP physics 1; 10 are currently failing.

Sherman: We felt strongly that the science department should have a say in what their department teachers.

FB: Is there precedent for another department suggesting a change to another department's curriculum?

P. Morgan: I think counseling can talk about curriculum.

Chambers: Since I've been here, I would say no. If we use that as a standard, what are we doing here? I want to be 100% transparent. Are we just rubber stamping what a department says it's what they want to do?

It's up to this committe to make these decisions.

FB: Has this gotten to the point where if you have teachers resistant to the notion of this class, how do you negotiate that with having them teach that curriculum?

Chambers: It's their job. I'm sure not every teacher is happy with their schedule every year.

FB: I think part of it is professionalism and collegiality.

Stewart: I;d like to call to question. Chambers second.

Vote:

Vote for Physics Prop: Doreena Fox yes John Chambers Yes Sara Mcguire-Jay No Jessica Smitson yes Heather Lloyd yes Joseph Stewart yes Denise Pfeiffer no Ferd Schneider Yes Thelen No Elizabeth Duncan-Scruggs Yes Kathleen Keener abstain Samantha Bramlage Bramlage Team- Yes Margaret Fisher-Bellman no from library Laura Brogden Classics - NO Patricia Morgan yes Erin Kenney-Levin yes Michael Sherman Fine Arts abstains Brian Sweeney:Yes

This motion Passes: 11 yes, 5 no, 2 abstain

AP Exam Policy

Stewart

Stewart: If a student does not take an AP exam, what happens to that student? The proposal stands that if a student does not sit for their exam, they will lose their AP status for the year.

P. Morgan: We can change the wording so it says strongly encouraged rather than required. We also need to add the point that they need to opt out by March or they will be charged.

Sara MJ: Is the College Board doing that differently than previous years? What happens if there is no regular class offered? If it doesn't exist in the CPS library of classes? Ex: There's no European History regular class.

Would a new course option need to go through the district to get that on their transcript? I didn't think they could just drop the weighting because the class doesn't exist.

Chambers: They will still have the class, just not the AP credit.

Sara MJ: But how will that show up on the transcript?

Stewart: They would lose the AP bump

Schneider: So the class would be a 1.0?

Stewart: Correct.

Schneider: A meet in the middle is something that the math department would be in favor of. You've met all of the requirements up to a certain point.

Stewart: I thought this would come up; this friendly amendment is already in the proposal.

Kenney: It might be helpful for time's sake to type in the chat what your departments feel about this.

FB- The one thing I didn't see addressed was the movement of students toward CCP. What I'd like to think about more is that if I know I'm going to lose something, I might seek that class elsewhere. So rather, we should incentivize it. The CCP seems like it could be a problem here.

Stewart: We have 900-1000 students taking AP courses per year; we have like 100 in CCP courses.

P. Morgan: We have 250 in CCP courses.

FB: It has doubled over the last 5 years. A better conversation may be how we get CCP on our campus.

Thelen: What's to stop kids from showing up for the test, signing in and leaving?

Sweeney: They've done the work- why not give them the credit?

Sara MJ: Two years ago, I only had one kid not take the test. I had one kid take the exam and write song lyrics. If it says in the course guide to keep it required, you can put in the asterisk that they need to take the test. We would like to see that remain as a requirement of the class.

Chambers: We have that and some kids don't do it.

Sara MJ: According to Stewart, as it is now, there is no consequence if they don't take the exam.

Schneider: We have colleagues who give kids an F for the semester because they didn't take the exam. This is to protect the kid from the over vengeful instructor themselves.

Pfeiffer: Call to question.

Schneider: Are we voting on the 1.25 or the 1.0?

Erin Kenney-Levin4:15 PM

Vote for 1.25 Credit for not sitting for the AP Exam: Denise Pfeiffer no Margaret Fisher-Bellman: no-library Erin Kenney-Levin yes Kathleen Keener yes Thelen No Laura Brogden Classics - YES Doreena Fox Yes Ferd Schneider math in favor of the 1.25 Joseph Stewart yes Sara Mcguire-Jay no John Chambers Yes Bramlage Team- Abstain Michael Sherman yes Jessica Smitson yes Patricia Morgan Yea Elizabeth Duncan-Scruggs Yes Heather Lloyd yes

This motion Passes: 12 yes, 4 no, 1 abstain

Schedule change

Smitson

Smitson: On the days we are off on Monday, we'd adjust to an A/B schedule.

Kenney: Are these dates accurate?

Smitson: Did they add district PD days?

Sara MJ: They added them 9/23.

Pfeiffer: Please don't give them extra work on a day off, especially since they won't get their Wednesdays. When it's a break, we're asking please don't give them extra work.

Kylie: We sent a survey out on Schoology. Almost every response said students were drained and tired.

Cameras are off a lot because we're generally not able to be there.

Thelen motioned to vote; Pfeiffer seconds.

Erin Kenney-Levin4:20 PM

Vote for Schedule: yes Denise Pfeiffer yes Laura Brogden Classics - YES Kathleen Keener yes Joseph Stewart yes

Margaret Fisher-Bellman library- yes Elizabeth Duncan-Scruggs Yes Bramlage Team- Yes Jessica Smitson yes John Chambers Yes

Heather Lloyd yes Doreena Fox Yes Patricia Morgan yes Michael Sherman yes Sara Mcguire-Jay Yes Brian Sweeney Yes

Ferd Schneider yes on schedule Thelen Yes

This motion Passes: 17 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain

New Business

Originator

Stewart: Edgenuity is replacing APEX. We need a certified teacher or intervention specialist to work with our students. I will come back to make these paid positions or schedule E positions. If departments could get back to me with names who would be interested.

Sweeney: Nobody volunteered from our department. There's a lot of grading involved.

P.Morgan: We could have the district eliminate some of the writing.

Stewart: We want to keep that on Edgenuity but we want to make sure the teachers get paid.

Kenney: It seems silly that we would pay this out of our budget if the district is making us do this. I don't think contractually we can pay this through schedule E .

Chambers: The goal here is to not have kids on Edgenuity. There's been some talk about each department coming up with override policies. This is the last best hope for kids who have been out for extended illnesses or mental health concerns. How can we give the interventions to get the kids where they need to be? If we want them to have the Walnut credit, we should provide them with the mechanism to do that work.

Schneider: I don't think there's any teacher who wants their kid on Edgenuity.

Schedule E:

Morgan: We feel like we're getting a grasp on the schedule E. We are getting the contracts out. We have a master club list. We are creating a transparent list so people know what positions are paid. We are making sure we're more consistent when sending out school wide emails when positions become available. Trying to alleviate our budget a little bit by creating interest groups instead of clubs.

Noland: We are getting more requests to keep adding clubs. We are trying to get more particular on our end. We don't have enough money to pay our club advisors currently. It also creates a headache with paperwork and for the treasurer.

We had an idea. We found that lot of students want to create clubs so students can just talk about things that interest them. So how can we do that without having to do all of the paperwork? So if they're just meeting in your room and not doing anything above that, then we would create an interest group. The club category would be a bit stricter of a criteria with club advisers.

Kenney: We are not going to vote on this today. I'd like this to go back to departments.

Smith: Can still have clubs, just not paid.

Kenney: Will go back to departments.

Kenney: Send me your adjustments for November and I will get them added.

Motion to adjourn: Chambers. Pfeiffer second.

Meeting adjourned at 4:36 PM.

Chat (votes were moved from the chat to the minutes):

Ashley Morgan 3:03 PM

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Nco2JNvoB3_QlrLVBFUMOXxyjOZQZmqGTeYNbwedkWA/edit?usp=sharing

ILT Request Form

Laura Brogden3:04 PM

@Sara, what did you send out? (sorry)

Sara Mcguire-Jay3:05 PM

Nothing was included about the Exam Week/ EOC Government exam.

The Physics AA proposal was missing most of what Denise said as the rationale for why the state standards were more cumbersome than the AP standards.

What I actually said about the AP exams was that the Social Studies department supported those who didn't take the exam having it affect their exam grade, not the gpa.

Doreena Fox3:06 PM

Did email go to everyone?

Laura Brogden3:14 PM

Seems like those kids who want to take a specific fine arts class could just be placed in 2 bells that don't conflict...

Laura Brogden3:16 PM

Can someone who was in the subcommittee that understands it better than me why we are calling 8th grade classes AA and 9th grade classes Honors?

*explain

You3:18 PM

Isn't honors not full this year?

Sara Mcguire-Jay3:18 PM

Semantics @Laura

WHY isn't Honors full then this year?

You3:19 PM

So does it limit the sections

Erin Kenney-Levin3:22 PM

I've added 10 min to this discussion.

Brad Smith3:24 PM

LSDMC said why not reconsider the admission process.

Ashley Morgan3:24 PM

The unique information that Debbie Heldman shared with the subcommittee was the history of the program. Honors did NOT start when WHHS was founded.

Thelen: 3:25 PM

English did not want to team 10th grade last year. SS asked to partner 10th grade for the purpose of AP scores. English said there was no enthusiasm. Why the enthusiasm for 8th?

Brian Sweeney3:26 PM

Awesome articulation, Kylie!

Ashley Morgan3:26 PM

@Liz one of the discussion points specifically for our current 7th future 8th grade students was to give them a sense of community since they will all essentially be brand new to the building.

Laura Brogden3:26 PM

YAY KYLIE!!! (Hi!!!)

Kylie Bridgeman3:26 PM

Hi!!

Margaret Fisher-Bellman3:27 PM

@ Liz- The 10th grade teaming would be partial for 10AA students only. The 8AA is across the board. Additionally, serves as a bridge from 7th teaming.

@Kylie-- eloquent! nicely said

Thelen: 3:28 PM

I get all of that.

Margaret Fisher-Bellman3:28 PM

It's the reason for the enthusiasm

Brian Sweeney3:29 PM

I cannot emphasize enough how important it was for American Studies to have back to back bells (so it would be equally to have back to the bells in 8th grade).

Joseph Stewart3:29 PM

Brian, thats the plan

Laura Brogden3:29 PM

But..isn't it...actually going away...if we restructure it so there's no interdisciplinary teaching?

Joseph Stewart3:29 PM

it gives the teachers the opportunity for those longer activities

Thelen:3:31 PM

Didn't we decide to team based on surveys from parents and students?

Erin Kenney-Levin3:32 PM

Vote to disband honors:

Vote to restructure honors:

Brian Sweeney3:33 PM

I would say "Correct Honors"

Erin Kenney-Levin3:33 PM

Yes

Thelen: 3:33 PM

How would 8th grade teaming work? Would teachers be maxed on their 8th grade preps? If so, at what number?

Kathleen Restle3:34 PM

cleanest: accept the honors proposal

Erin Kenney-Levin3:34 PM

Brad Smith3:36 PM

So are the 8th grade teachers going to be teamed?

Laura Brogden3:36 PM

@Brad yes

Samantha Bramlage3:36 PM

Yes

Brad Smith3:37 PM

So when will those teams select their team leaders?

Thelen: 3:37 PM

Who is Kasey Shao? THAT person voted.

Denise Pfeiffer3:38 PM

shao is student rep

Kasey Shao3:38 PM

Yes, I am a student representative

Erin Kenney-Levin3:38 PM

She is a student rep- she doesn't get a vote but I will correct that when I tally the vote.

Joseph Stewart3:38 PM

Brad, I believe a team is three or more? this is only two

these will be partner classes

Brad Smith3:39 PM

So they will not be structured like the 7th grade teams?

Joseph Stewart3:40 PM

it won't be teams brad, they will be partnered, like American studies was in the past

Denise Pfeiffer3:45 PM

good question Laura

Laura Brogden3:46 PM

That sounds like a good problem to have, though...

Kathleen Keener3:47 PM

hahaha i used that book

Ferd Schneider3:48 PM

if we like CCP why are we here?

Denise Pfeiffer3:49 PM

Kathleen, they are sooooo old. Not great

Ferd Schneider3:50 PM

did you just call Ms. Keener old?

Sara Mcguire-Jay3:50 PM

You keep skipping me Erin!!!

Kathleen Keener3:50 PM

:(

Denise Pfeiffer3:50 PM

no the book is old I taught out of the book at Hughes in the late 90's

Sara Mcguire-Jay 3:50 PM

Is the proposal for a one bell class or two????

Erin Kenney-Levin 3:51 PM

Sorry your at the bottom of the screen so when my blue thing at the bottom is up i don't see you!

Ferd Schneider 3:51 PM

agree

Erin Kenney-Levin 3:51 PM

Your after Joe!

Sara Mcguire-Jay 3:52 PM

You're* (That's my payback)

Erin Kenney-Levin 3:54 PM

You're right!

Ferd Schneider 3:56 PM

i see 10 yes

Erin Kenney-Levin 3:56 PM

21 voting members

Ferd Schneider 3:57 PM

i see 2 abstain

i see 5 no

You 3:58 PM

Erin do you get a vote

Ferd Schneider 3:58 PM

so 17 voters

so the motion paases?

Erin Kenney-Levin 3:59 PM

Yes that motion passes

Brian Sweeney 4:00 PM

Voting members of ILT: Principal, two assistants, two parent reps, two non-teaching staff, building rep, all department chairs, one elected representative for ESP teachers, one elected rep for specialists, team leaders...

Olivia Ballard 4:00 PM

I believe only one parent rep is a voting member

Laura Brogden 4:00 PM

But the AP designation remains on their transcript, correct?

Brian Sweeney 4:01 PM

Contract says up to two parent reps can vote

Kathleen Restle 4:03 PM

Yes, AP remains on transcript

Laura Brogden 4:04 PM

Classics too

Michael Sherman 4:04 PM

Fine Arts as well

Doreena Fox 4:04 PM

WL too

Doreena Fox 4:05 PM

WE did

Ferd Schneider 4:05 PM

1.25 is better

Patricia Morgan 4:06 PM

meet in middle

Brian Sweeney 4:06 PM

Nothing punitive--they are already going to lose their status and not receive college credit, but totally benefited from the year-long experience.

Denise Pfeiffer 4:06 PM

Tha is my thought too margo

Ferd Schneider 4:07 PM

agree

with sewweny

Denise Pfeiffer4:07 PM

Why can't we say required in the course guide?

Samantha Bramlage4:07 PM

Mixed feelings on our team- some think there shouldn't be any punitive approach taken for students who choose not to take the AP exam. The "punishment" is that they forfeit the opportunity to earn college credit.

Denise Pfeiffer4:07 PM

mixed in science too

Brian Sweeney4:07 PM

I want to say "encourage" to take the AP exam in the Curriculum Guide.

Kathleen Restle4:08 PM

Required is in the course guide. There is the issue of what happens if you don't meet the requirement.

Sara Mcguire-Jay4:08 PM

Why can't we just enforce the requirement as written?

Joseph Stewart4:09 PM

but sara there has to be something behind it if the dont take it

Julie Vernon4:10 PM

Gonads

Haha

Sara Mcguire-Jay4:10 PM

So then we need to KEEP the word REQUIRED. Don't change the course guide!!!

Joseph Stewart4:11 PM

so if it stays required, and they do not take it, then what do we do?

Kathleen Restle4:12 PM

We need some consistency in outcome in the limited times that students do not sit for the exam.

Brian Sweeney4:12 PM

Where did "required" come from? Never did say that, as far as I know.

Kathleen Restle4:13 PM

Brian, it also says required in the LRP

Laura Brogden4:14 PM

Brian, from the student handbook: "Admission to Advanced Placement (AP) courses is by application and approval only. Sitting for the AP exam administered in the spring is required for course completion."

Patricia Morgan4:14 PM

We are taking the approval only out for next year

Brian Sweeney4:15 PM

I see it but it never was there. I will check on previous years. I could be wrong.

No

Sara Mcguire-Jay4:21 PM

Social Studies- Jim Martin said he would be the teacher of record

Laura Brogden4:22 PM

Schedule Ashley Morgan paid positions :)

Brad Smith4:22 PM

Wouldn't they be paid extended time?

Brad Smith4:24 PM

It's not a schedule e position

Ashley Morgan4:24 PM

NOT schedule E- yes Brad. I think he is just referring to a stipend.

Kathy Noland4:27 PM

Student Congress clubs vs. interest groups

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XLF3uK8ZaaDZIUoE1VI7qCtsGR1MuFv1wklw0X_kjJw/edit?usp=sharing

Patricia Morgan4:28 PM

I love the interest group verbiage. Good document!

Brad Smith4:32 PM

The CBA says we have club advisors. We can't create a new category of schedule e outside of the negotiations process. These are clubs, they just aren't paid. If they aren't paid, they don't have to have submit anything to the treasurer and have no responsibilities to submit nay paperwork. .

any

Ferd Schneider4:34 PM

10 to 5 to 2

*Ten Minute Limit