

## **OMS Staffing Needs For 2015/2016 School Year**

I would like to begin tonight's presentation by thanking you for taking the time to hear about the progress at OMS. We are very appreciative of the additional staffing we received for this school year. While there have been many successes already this school year, based on growing enrollment, our needs continue to grow. I will review what has been happening this year and then present our requests for next year.

### **Grade 6 Cluster**

- The additional grade 6 cluster has allowed us to have cluster sizes of fewer than a 100.
- This allows the teachers an opportunity to get to know their students better, and help with the transition to OMS while continuing to provide supports for increased student success.
- The additional cluster also makes cluster time and meeting with parents more productive and students are far less likely to "fall between the cracks".
- Teachers feel far less overwhelmed and therefore are able to better serve their students.

### **Part Time Specialists**

- The school committee was also generous in being able to help with the growing specialist numbers. Our Family and Consumer Science, Technology, Foreign Language, Physical Education, Art, Music and Digital Modeling class sizes have increased as our cluster classes have increased.
- During last years scheduling process we realized that there was a need to add sections to many of the specialist areas. Although it was a tremendous help having the additional staffing and sections, because the staffing and sections were added later in the year, we were not able to perfectly balance the schedule. This caused some of the specialist sections to be higher or lower than average.
- As our enrollment grows, the ability to maneuver through the schedule becomes more difficult. We anticipate that we'll need to add additional sections in the specialty areas this year. For that reason we are working on the schedule now so that we can be aware of our needs for next year.

In addition, we were the recipients of more technological resources thanks to the Town and the AEF.

## 2015-2016

- Our hope is that now that the grade 6 students and teachers have reaped the benefits of the extra cluster and what it can do to enhance student achievement, we can add a half cluster to grade seven.
- Grade 7 is currently 342 and will increase to 397. This is an increase of 55 students. This half cluster would mean that the two teachers would need to be certified in two content areas. One teacher would need a math/science certification and the other humanity's certification.
- The half cluster would be responsible for 60-70 students. This would create more manageable class sizes for teachers and students.
- Our hope is that this half cluster will expand and service both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students the 2016-2017 school year.

### **Total Staffing Needs 6.1**

2.0	Cluster Teachers
.6	FACS (Add will make 3.0 FTE's in FACS)
.4	Technology (Add will make 3.0 FTE's in Technology)
.4	Digital Modeling
.4	Art
.4	PE
.4	ACE
.5	Social Worker
1.0	School Nurse

### **Space**

- Along with the increase in staff, we will need to increase the space for the new sections.
- All of the space at OMS needs to be looked at and a plan needs to be developed within the next month.
- We are going to look at combining programs and dividing other space.
- In 2016-2017, we will need more space added at OMS for the specialists.
- There will also be a need for desks, chairs and other classroom materials.