**School Council Meeting – February 5, 2019**

Attending: Clare Landrigan, May Chiu, Hema Roychowdhurry, Hope Zhu, Nayleth Lopez-Lopez, Peter Meyer, Bella Ertel, Martha Hausman, Lucia Dolan, Deborah Bernhard, Ricardo Gessa, Marcia Okun, Didem Vardar-Ulu, Xiaoguang Zhen

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1. Introduction of attendees
2. Principal’s Update: Schedule committee is recommending new schedule that Principal Stembridge shared with us today. The 5 day schedule seems to be most preferred. There are benefits from 6 and 7 day schedules as well but not enough to override the benefits of the 5 day schedule. Newly proposed 6:45 minute schedule allows us to begin later in the morning. The new schedule proposal includes 65/75 minute classes, 3 meets per week. Research shows that students get much out of long blocks as long as they are taught effectively. This proposal reduces the number of total meets each day, max of 5 classes per day, usually 4. Flex block in the middle of the day when students can meet with teachers but unlike J block, this time is more mandatory. New schedule would go into effect not this coming Fall, but in Fall 2020. The hope is to match later start time concurrently. Half time and quarter class options are also being considered to provide additional schedule flexibility New schedule needs to be reviewed, discussed and approved by the union, and Superintendent, who has ultimate approval for this new schedule. Later start time would also impact start times at middle and elementary schools. Question was asked about being able to pilot the new schedule with a smaller group prior to full implementation. Would be difficult to do this but there might be a way.
3. Revised traffic study letter to be approved and sent to school committee, study will encompass school campus grounds only. Vote passed unanimously
4. Discussion on Weighted GPA project: Students present at the meeting today described how they’re in favor of eliminating the WGPA. Many students describe taking AP classes solely because of the potential impact on the overall WGPA. Discussion on how students choose classes based on grade potential and level of challenge. The three work groups reviewed their research and work on the subject. Focus moving forward needs to be on completing our research among other schools comparable to ours, continuing to collect additional feedback from students, parents and educators and determine the best means to present to the community in a clear, compelling manner. At next meeting, survey group will share their completed student and parent survey for group review prior to distribution.