

NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Office of Business, Finance and Planning

M e m o r a n d u m

TO: David Fleishman, Superintendent

FROM: Sandra Guryan, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: November 8, 2010

RE: Follow up on Middle School Space

This memo provides additional information for the continued discussion of middle school space options. Included in the memo is information on both Brown and Day Middle Schools.

Day Middle School Space

Previous memos have outlined the need for six additional team classrooms at Day based on enrollment projections over the next several years. There are additional space constraints addressed below for student services including Special Education, ELL, and specialists.

Special Education: Currently, the population of students on Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) in Grade 5 at Day's feeder schools is 74 students, while 48 students on IEPs will leave Day for high school in 2011-12. This is a projected net increase of 26 Grade 6 students on IEPs at Day, not including 6th graders entering Day's city-wide program from non-feeder schools in the district. The increase has implications for both space and staffing at Day; of most concern are the students with learning disabilities who constitute about 70% of the Special Education population. There is a projected increase of 19 Grade 6 students who will attend the Learning Center, or 6 to 7 additional students per team and per Learning Center Teacher. Three small classrooms are currently used by four Learning Center Teachers, with 5 to 10 students in each Learning Center group. Each room seats a maximum of 8 students; therefore the current spaces will not be adequate to house the larger groups of students. Instructional groups exceeding 12 students are not in compliance with Special Education regulations and require additional staff.

ELL: In 2010-11, Day's ELL program accommodates 30 students with one ELL teacher and one aide and is housed in a windowless converted closet. With further expansion of

the ELL program anticipated to include beginning ELL students, existing space will not be adequate.

Specialists: Preliminary enrollment projections indicate Day will increase by 74 students in 2011-12, increasing the need for specialists including 1.0 FTE Spanish teacher, 0.4 FTE Art teacher and 0.5 FTE Technology Engineering teacher. In order to accommodate the changes with least impact for all instructional staff, reconfiguring classrooms will result in a lack of space for the Chinese teacher, who will not be able to share with the current World Language teachers because of scheduling conflicts, as well as lack of space for 0.3 FTE Health Teacher, and the 0.3 FTE Latin Teacher.

Brown Middle School Space

Currently, Brown has 43 regular size classrooms. This school year, thirty regular size classrooms are being used for team classes. Other regular size classrooms include one for Special Education, seven for World Language, one for Health, one for Band, two for computer labs, and one for the Math coach. Based on preliminary enrollment projections, Brown will likely need thirty-two team classrooms by FY12, 34 by FY14, and 36 by FY16. In order to accommodate the increasing enrollment, rooms currently used for Special Education, Health, World Language, and Band would be used as team rooms instead. These include some small size classrooms. Special Education teachers (learning center) would have to share small classroom spaces. Band would be on the auditorium stage. English Language Learners would be in a smaller classroom space. World Language teachers would share classrooms. Presently, regular size classrooms are used throughout the school day. When a team class is not meeting, the rooms are used for teacher meetings, teacher planning and work space, Special Education pull-outs, conferences, and other similar activities. During the extension block in the middle of the school day, all spaces are in use, including dedicated spaces such as band, music, the stage, gymnasium, and library.

Please see the attached tables showing Brown Middle School use of space for the current year and for the years 2011-12 through 2015-16.

Brown Middle School Space
2010-2011

11/5/2010

Use of Space (2010-11)	Regular Classrooms Avg. 825 sf	Small Classrooms Avg. 480 sf	Other
Team Classrooms	30		
World Language	7		
Computer Labs	2		
Special Education, School Based	1	9	
Health	1		
Band	1		
Math Coach/Psych/SPED	1		
Special Education, Systemwide		3	1
ELL		1	
Faculty Lounge		1	
Conference Room		1	
Guidance			7
Technology Engineering			2
Locker Rooms			2
Art			1
Music			1
Drama			1
OT/PT and Speech & Language			1
Cafeteria			1
Library			1
Gymnasium			1
Book Room/Storage			1
Teacher Workspace			1
Total	43	15	21

Brown Middle School Space
2011-2012 and 2012-2013

11/5/2010

Use of Space (2011-12) and (2012-13)	Regular Classrooms Avg. 825 sf	Small Classrooms Avg. 480 sf	Other
Team Classrooms	32		
World Language	7		
Computer Labs	2		
Special Education, School Based	1	9	
Health	1		
Band	0		
Math Coach/Psych/SPED	0		
Special Education, Systemwide		3	1
ELL		1	
Faculty Lounge		1	
Conference Room		1	
Guidance			7
Technology Engineering			2
Locker Rooms			2
Art			1
Music			1
Drama			1
OT/PT and Speech & Language			1
Cafeteria			1
Library			1
Gymnasium			1
Book Room/Storage			1
Teacher Workspace			1
Total	43	15	21

Brown Middle School Space
2013-2014 and 2014-2015

11/5/2010

Use of Space (2013-14) and (2014-15)	Regular Classrooms Avg. 825 sf	Small Classrooms Avg. 480 sf	Other
Team Classrooms	34		
World Language	6		
Computer Labs	2		
Special Education, School Based	1	9	
Health	0		
Band	0		
Math Coach/Psych/SPED	0		
Special Education, Systemwide		3	1
ELL		1	
Faculty Lounge		1	
Conference Room		1	
Guidance			7
Technology Engineering			2
Locker Rooms			2
Art			1
Music			1
Drama			1
OT/PT and Speech & Language			1
Cafeteria			1
Library			1
Gymnasium			1
Book Room/Storage			1
Teacher Workspace			1
Total	43	15	21

Brown Middle School Space
2015-2016

11/5/2010

Use of Space (2015-16)	Regular Classrooms Avg. 825 sf	Small Classrooms Avg. 480 sf	Other
Team Classrooms	34	2	
World Language	6		
Computer Labs	2		
Special Education, School Based	1	7	
Health	0		
Band	0		
Math Coach/Psych/SPED	0		
Special Education, Systemwide		3	1
ELL		1	
Faculty Lounge		1	
Conference Room		1	
Guidance			7
Technology Engineering			2
Locker Rooms			2
Art			1
Music			1
Drama			1
OT/PT and Speech & Language			1
Cafeteria			1
Library			1
Gymnasium			1
Book Room/Storage			1
Teacher Workspace			1
Total	43	15	21