

Agawam Middle School Council
December 17, 2009

The meeting of the Agawam Middle School Council began at 3:30 pm with a greeting from Mr. Costanzi to members: Jennifer Benjamin, Dawn Winiarski, Eileen Fowler, Sandra Taft-Fairlie, Karla Young, Janice Fedor and Karen Langevin.

The first topic of discussion was the recent Student-Led Conferences. Parents gave feedback on a + delta chart, listing their reactions to the new conference format. One issue with having all the conferences the same evening, due to the cancellation of afternoon conferences (snow day) was parking. Many parents had to use the parking lot at City Hall.

The first meeting of the committee selected to begin reviewing and revamping the schedule at the Middle School will be held after the Christmas recess. One of the aims of the new schedule is an increase in instructional time, mandated by virtue of being a Level 3 school (not making Annual Yearly Progress). One hour of day for Math is required, as well as 2 hours a day for English Language Arts. Students are attending Project S.E.E. as well as Intensive Math and Reading.

The district has hired educational coaches: Christine Johnston as the Math coach K - 6, Nancy Farrell as the Math coach K – 12, and Bronwyn Monahan as English Language Arts coach K – 12. The coaches are working with the teachers with MCAS practice the focus. Workbooks have been purchased the last couple of years for practice.

The Council toured the new rooms at the Middle School.

The budget was reviewed. There is more money than last year. The budget update is due December 23rd.

The review of the School Improvement Plan was begun.

The next meeting of the Middle School Council was scheduled for Thursday, January 28th.

The December meeting of the School Council was adjourned at 4:30 pm.