



October 3, 2022

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Michael J. Martirano, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

Subject: High School #13-9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Options

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Board of Education with information to inform decisions regarding which grade levels will initially comprise High School #13 (HS 13) for SY23-24. Below, please find a chart comparing HS 13 opening with 9<sup>th</sup> grade and HS 13 opening with 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade in the areas of staffing and scheduling, fine arts and extracurriculars, athletics, school culture and climate, and transportation.

	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Grade
<b>Staffing &amp; Scheduling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More supplemental staffing needed to meet student course requests</li> <li>• Supplemental staffing likely to provide sufficient course options; however, some classes will be small</li> <li>• Fewer courses will run than in other high schools due to 9<sup>th</sup> grade only</li> <li>• 40-60 staff required based on staff needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some supplemental staffing needed to meet student course requests</li> <li>• More balanced class sizes likely than with 9<sup>th</sup> grade only</li> <li>• Greater number of courses will run than with 9<sup>th</sup> grade only</li> <li>• 60-80 staff required based on staff needs</li> </ul>
<b>Fine Arts &amp; Extracurricular Programming</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More supplemental staffing needed to establish music, theater, dance, and visual arts programming</li> <li>• 9<sup>th</sup> graders will have greater opportunity for participation and leadership roles</li> <li>• Some clubs and activities found in other high schools may not run due to lack of student interest and/or staff availability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less supplemental staffing needed to establish music, theater, dance, and visual arts programming than 9<sup>th</sup> only</li> <li>• 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders will have greater opportunity for participation and leadership roles</li> <li>• Some clubs and activities found in other high schools may not run due to lack of student interest and/or staff availability</li> </ul>

<b>Athletics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Years JV level only for team sports would allow for focused skill development and culture without the pressure of varsity competition</li> <li>• Students who might not typically try out or play may have more opportunity</li> <li>• Some teams may not run due to lack of student interest and/or staff availability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 years JV level only for team sports would allow for skill development and culture without the pressure of varsity competition</li> <li>• Students who might not typically try out or play may have more opportunity</li> <li>• Some teams may not run due to lack of student interest and/or staff availability</li> </ul>
<b>School Culture &amp; Climate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specialized supports could be developed for 9<sup>th</sup> graders</li> <li>• Smaller population could strengthen staff/student relationships</li> <li>• Students would have unique opportunity to bond as a class</li> <li>• Staff should be able to quickly identify student needs and provide supports</li> <li>• Rising 10<sup>th</sup> graders would be allowed to stay in their current high schools where they have already started developing bonds/connections</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specialized supports could be developed for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders</li> <li>• Smaller population could strengthen staff/student relationships</li> <li>• Students would have greater opportunity to bond as a class</li> <li>• Staff should be able to quickly identify student needs and provide supports</li> </ul>
<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smaller student population may result in fewer bus runs for 1 year</li> <li>• Double bus routes will be needed for 3 years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Double bus routes will be needed for 2 years</li> <li>• Higher need in year 1 with uncertain driver availability</li> </ul>

Please direct questions to Patrick Saunderson, Community Superintendent, Area 1 and Caroline Walker, Executive Director of Program Innovation and Student Well-Being.

Copy to: Executive Staff  
Board of Education Office