

To: Superintendent Morse  
From: Mike McCann, Interim Principal ORHS  
RE: Request for Additional FTEs at ORHS  
Date: April 20, 2016

**Background:** For the upcoming school year, FY 16-17, Oyster River High School is expecting an increase of 29 students in the freshmen class from last year, and a projected increase total of 63 students overall. As enrollment increases it becomes increasingly important to maintain flexibility in the schedule to ensure course options that are consistent with our career pathways.

With overall enrollment at the high school increasing from 707 to 770 there are two specific areas of impact if staffing is left at current levels. First, all freshmen are required to take Essentials of English and World Cultures in addition to an entry level world language. These courses are core to the freshmen experience and will be overcrowded at current staffing levels. Second, some upper level elective options, which are a key component to engaging our students in career pathways, would not be able to run at current staffing levels.

#### **Summary of requests to address enrollment increases:**

##### **World Language**

**Request:** Provide additional .2 FTE, increasing current .8 FTE to 1.0 FTE.

**Rationale:** This request was included in the budget deliberations and is needed to address the increasing need for entry level World Language courses. Along with students within the district who are starting a language for the first time, many students from outside of the ORCSD enter into the high school with little or no World Language experience, increasing the need for more level 1 and 2 courses.

##### **Business**

**Request:** Due to increasing demand for business course and increased need for elective offerings to meet graduation requirements the high school is requesting an additional .3 FTE to increase the current position from .5 to .8 FTE.

**Rationale:** As a positive outcome of the board's support of the .5 Business position last year, student interests in business programs are at an all-time high. Through adding the Marketing program we were able to start a school store, an FBLA chapter, along with a group competing in DECA. The adding of this position will allow us to provide additional classroom opportunities to 129 students.

##### **English**

**Request:** Due to enrollment numbers and increased student interest in the high school we would like to request an addition of a .5 FTE English teacher. This position would be responsible for teaching 3 classes in the fall and 2 classes in the spring. The course taught by this position would be 2 classes of Essentials of English (yearlong freshmen course) and one class of Poetry and Fiction.

**Rationale:** In order to ensure that students can accrue the required 4 credits of English prior to graduation there needs to be available options for all students. The increase in the number of students in the freshmen class by 29 students from last year will have an impact on the Essentials of English courses and available English options. Since all freshmen are required to take Essentials of English, the available options would be negatively impacted for the other three grade levels, impacting a minimum of 60 students (grade 10, 11, 12).

## **Social Studies**

**Request:** Due to enrollment numbers and increased student interest in the high school we would like to request an addition of a .5 FTE Social Studies teacher. This position would be responsible for teaching 3 classes in the fall and 2 classes in the spring. The course taught by this position would be 2 classes of World Cultures (yearlong course) and one class of United States History 1.

**Rationale:** In order to meet all student initial requests and stay within the policy for class size of 22 additional staffing is required. All students are required to take 2.5 credits of Social Studies prior to graduation (World Cultures, US History 1&2 or their equivalent, and Citizenship Education). Without additional staffing approximately 110 students will be impacted.