

2010/11 DHS Budget Information

- High School enrollment is expected to increase by 59 students next year.
- This year enrollment **was expected to decline by 7 students but instead increased by 40.**
 - No additional funding was given to support this increase – no new teachers or textbooks.
- Net increase in student population over 2 years is +99 students or +8%.
- To support enrollment increases, DHS Administration requested 4.05 teachers.
- The Superintendent's Office cut the request to 1.25 teachers and additionally proposed 4 non-certified staff cuts and an operating account cut of 10.1%.
- For 2009/10, the Darien High School budget increased only +1.8%. Importantly, this included contractual staff increases of approximately 3.0% and thus resulted in reductions in the operating budget. For next year, with the cuts proposed by the Superintendent, the budget for DHS will increase only +0.4% and again will include approximately 3.0% of contractual staff salary increases. This will result in further significant cuts to the operating budget.
- If there are no further cuts to this year's proposed budget, the total budget will have increased only 2.2% over two years while enrollment is climbing 8%.
- Potential ramifications of the budget cuts :
 - Reduction in teacher request:
 - Larger class sizes
 - Reduction of elective offerings based on courses that are under-enrolled (art, tech-ed, video, business and computers)
 - Reduction of Programs (ALP, New Teacher Coaching, China Exchange)
 - Non-certified staff cuts:
 - Reduced support for students and teachers means teachers spend more time on clerical rather than instructional responsibilities on top of higher student loads.
 - 10.1% Operating Budget reduction:
 - No new textbooks for history classes
 - No transportation money for curriculum mandated field trips or extra-curricular activities
 - Staff development critically reduced
 - Science teaching supplies for labs critically reduced

- The Board of Ed recommended class size policy is 18-22. **Due to the increased enrollment this year, we are already at or above the maximum class size of 22 recommended by the BOE in a significant number of classes.**
 - Currently there are 101 English, Science, Social Studies and Math 300/400 level classes with 22 or more students enrolled. That represents 43% of the total 300/400 level classes in those subject areas.
 - There are a total of 43 English, Science, Social Studies and Math 300/400 level classes with **24 or more students and 17 classes with 25 or more students.**
 - With an estimated 60 new students next year and only 1 additional teacher, class sizes will increase further.

Current Student Enrollment

<u>Department</u>	<u>At or above 22 students</u>	<u>At or above 23 students</u>	<u>At or above 24 students</u>
All 300/400 English	36 classes/63%	27 classes/47%	17 classes/30%
All 300/400 Social Studies	31 classes/53%	23 classes/40%	14 classes/24%
All 300/400 Math	15 classes/24%	9 classes/15%	8 classes/13%
All 300/400 Science	19 classes/33%	10 classes/17%	4 classes/7%
Total	101 classes/43%	69 classes/29%	43 classes/18%

- The average teacher load is currently 88 students, the highest in the past 7 years. Without new teachers, as the enrollment increases so will teacher loads. Coupled with the reduction of 4 non-certified staff members, teachers will spend more time on clerical work and less on instructional time despite the larger classes.

