

**New England Association of Schools & Colleges
Special Progress Report**

Tewksbury Memorial High School
320 Pleasant Street
Tewksbury, Massachusetts 01876

September 1, 2008

Required Areas:

- I. Report on the status of the FY 09 budget (Please see included documents.)

COMPLETED:

- A. The budget for SY 2008-2009 has allowed for a full-time certified library/media specialist.
 - B. Teaching positions lost: 2 Math, 2 Social Studies, 1 English, 1 Special Education, 1 Art, $\frac{1}{3}$ Applied Arts, and the reduction of the school psychologist from 2 days per week to 1 day per week
 - C. Support positions lost: 1 secretary and 1 hall monitor
 - D. The School Committee has approved a half-time position for an Internship Supervisor, a Lead Teacher for Foreign Language, and a Freshman Transition/Wellness Department Head to replace the Applied Arts Department Head.
- II. Describe the impact of the reduced final FY 09 budget. (Please see included document for further details.)

	Requested	Actual
Total Supplies	\$156,949	\$121,641
Total Textbooks	\$78,891	\$62,964
Total Library Supplies & Texts	\$25,870	\$20,370
Total Technology	\$37,495	\$18,322
Total TMHS Budget	\$591,312	\$385,695

- A. A reduction in the total student body has slightly reduced the severity of the required cuts.
- B. Classroom resources, such as a number of additional SMART Boards, new textbooks, and several supplementary materials, have been limited.
- C. Class size has increased causing 27 classes to include 30 or more students.
- D. Three elective offerings have been cut since SY 08 as well as the ability to offer multiple sections of some electives.
- E. The newly developed Advanced Placement electives could not be implemented due to budget cuts.
- F. The Guidance Office no longer has a dedicated secretary.
- G. One hall monitor was cut resulting in one remaining hall monitor who is responsible for covering the TMHS campus.
- H. User fees have increased from \$100 to \$150 and \$60 to \$75 with no individual or family caps.
- I. Funding for library/media resources is limited.
- J. Conversion of the former shop areas into freshman science labs and classrooms was prevented.

III. Discuss the impact of the failed override vote.

- A. Class size could not be reduced.
- B. Teachers could not be rehired.
- C. Psychological services cannot be extended to all who are in need of assistance.
- D. Funds for supplies and updated textbooks are limited.
- E. Students may not participate in as many co-curricular activities due to the elimination of individual and family caps and the fee increases.
- F. Renovations of the facility have been postponed.
- G. Program expansion has been postponed.
- H. Surveillance of the halls and grounds could not be restored to the 2007-2008 level.
- I. Some duties formerly performed by secretaries at TMHS have been eliminated or placed on a low priority level.

IV. Provide guidance services that meet the NEASC standards for acceptable counselor to student ratio.

- A. A reorganization of the guidance responsibilities has resulted in a dedicated freshman counselor in the position of the Freshman Transition Head. (Please see included documents.)
- B. A reduction in the total student body from 1150 in SY 07-08 to 1073 in SY 08-09 has reduced the counselor to student ratio. The freshman counselor will have a case load of 264 with two of the other three counselors having 269 students and one with 270 students.

- C. At least one guidance counselor intern is currently being sought for the 2008-2009 school year, thereby further reducing the counselor to student ratio.

- V. Submit the findings/recommendations of the committee studying the establishment of a freshman transitional program.

IN PROGRESS:

- A. A Freshman Transition Head has been approved by the School Committee and has been appointed. (Please see included documents.)
- B. The Freshman Transition Professional Learning Community will be visiting other high schools with transition programs during SY 08-09 to gather more information in forming its recommendations for the structuring of the TMHS Freshman Transition Program.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Lally

Patricia A. Lally, PhD
Principal

M. Eileen Taylor Osborne

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Chair, Follow-Up Committee