

San Rafael City Schools Middle School Task Force Update

Board of Education
October 2019

Agenda

- Middle School Task Force Goals
- Overview & Progress
- Where Are We Now?

Middle School Task Force (MSTF) Goals

1. All students are able to enroll in an elective.
2. All students are able to enroll in two electives.
3. The MSTF will keep equity in mind as we work together.

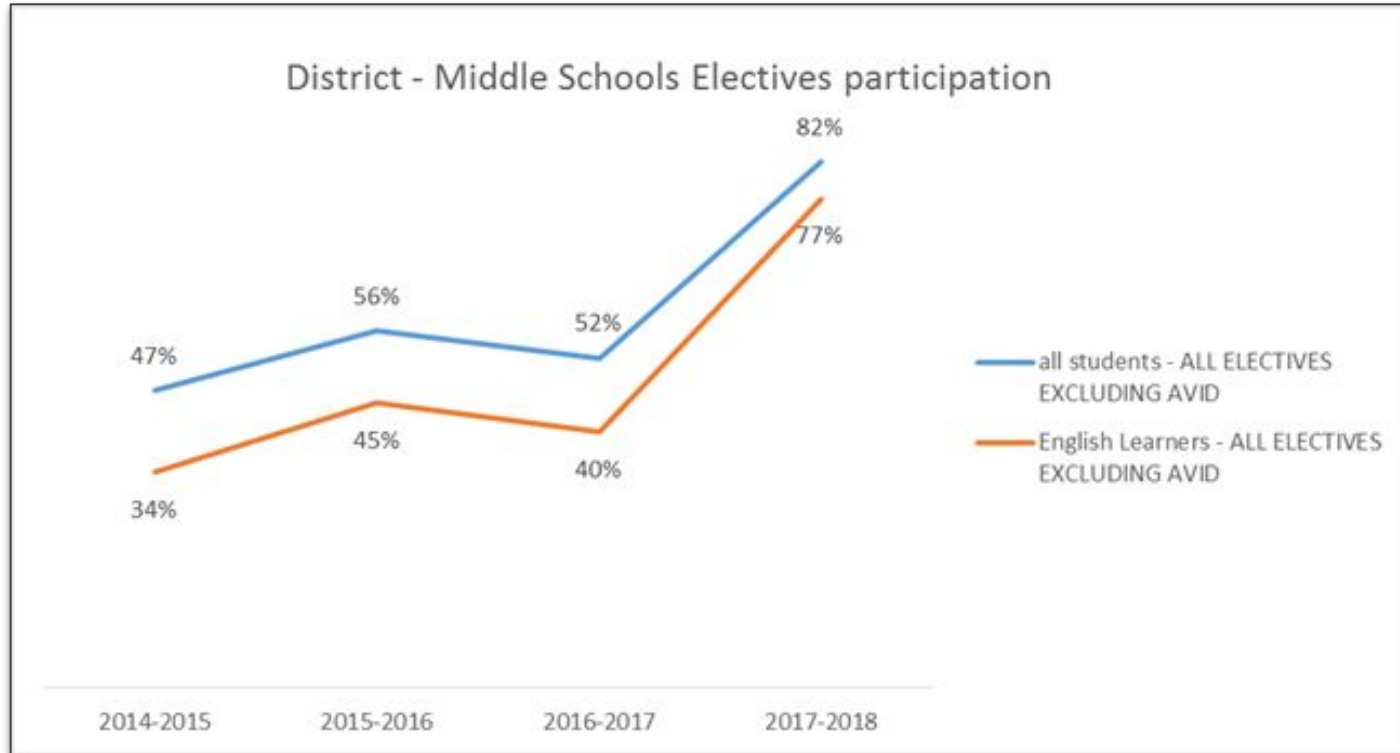


2016-2017 Overview

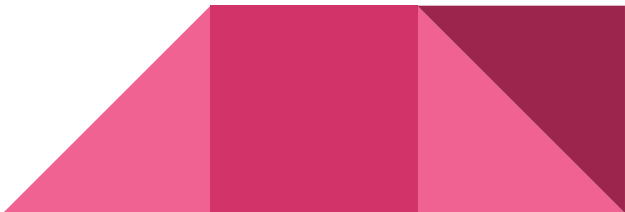
Through their work throughout the 2016-2017 year, the MSTF:

1. Identified working goals
2. Developed norms
3. Brainstormed ideas for increasing elective offerings
4. Discussed pros and cons of changes to schedule
5. Implemented a new A/B schedule at DMS in 2017-2018

Data Review



A/B Schedule Check In

- ⊕ Creative solution that spurred more thinking
 - ⊕ Some successful courses created (Chess, Intro to Violin, Garden)
 - ⊕ A/B schedule allowed for Sixth Grade “Skills Wheel”
 - ⊕ General consensus is more engagement in school
 - ⊖ A/B gives students 50% of support class - not enough
 - ⊖ Courses not true “electives” - students need choice
 - ⊖ Toll on teachers who teach A/B
 - ⊖ Created “pinch points” in master schedule
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Middle School Task Force: 2018-2019

1. Update on previous work: data review
2. Review of MSTF goals: progress
 - a. **All students are able to enroll in two electives.**
3. Challenges and obstacles
4. Create a clear and comprehensive analysis of what could work for DMS in terms of providing two electives for each student
5. Design a roadmap to achieve both short-term and long-term goals
6. Provide a financial analysis for supporting and sustaining two electives for students

Considerations: We've learned that the current schedule doesn't have additional flexibility and there could be negative impacts to reduction in instructional minutes.

2019-20 Where are we now?

There are roughly 150/1200 students that are not scheduled into an elective

- No students have two electives
- Some students have additional enrichment
- ELD 1 and 2 (newest newcomer students)
- 6th Grade ELD 5 (Students not yet reclassified)
- Represents 12.5% of students w/no traditional elective (87.5% w/elective)

How?: A/B solution was replaced with Eng 8 SDAIE & Core 7



Marin County Context

White Hill MS

- Option for two electives (zero period)
- Sections funded by YES Foundation

Mill Valley MS

- Option for two electives (rolling block), but 2nd is A/B with PE
- Sections funded by Kiddo

Sinaloa/San Jose (Novato)

- Similar offerings to DMS

Important to note:

- Families express the desire to be able to take Spanish *and* another elective
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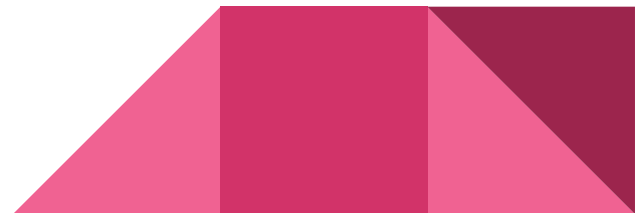
DXL (Davidson Extended Learning)

- A “new,” stronger partnership between BACR, Heads Up, and DMS
- Homework time + enrichment
- Heads Up after school classes offered:
 - Drama
 - Maker Tech
 - Steel Pan
 - Chess
 - Art
- Effort was made to prioritize students with no elective during school day and those that participate fully in DXL



Other After School Enrichment Offerings...

- Soccer (America Scores/DXL)
- Robotics (DMS computer teacher/DXL)
- Rocketry (DMS Science Teacher)
- DMS Athletics (Heads Up, PTO, site funded)
- Marching Band (Heads Up)
- Colorguard (Heads Up)
- DMS Live (YLI)



Questions?

