

Budget Requests for the
Ottoson Middle School
FY 2022

Requests for Next Year's Budget is Based on -

1. **Enrollment increases.** This year we were staffed for 941 students, and we believe we will have more students next year.
2. We are concerned that some students will need extra help due to gaps in their learning. Next year, we are going to have to provide students with more **individual attention and support**, especially with reading and math.
3. We are worried about the **social-emotional impact** the last year has had on our students.

Enrollment Numbers

Year	Enrollment
2018 - 2019	855 Students
2019 - 2020	899 Students
2020 - 2021	Projected students: 941 (Actual on October 1: 892)
2021 - 2022	Projected Post-Covid: 937 Projected Pre-Covid: 993

Half a Learning Community (2.0 FTE)

Last spring the school committee approved an increase of half a learning community. This gave us eight and a half learning communities at the Ottoson Middle School. This summer we added another half a learning community to support students. As a result, this year we have nine learning communities.

Enrollment Increases - We are requesting that we keep nine learning communities for next year's estimated 937 to 993 students. With a ninth learning community, there would be 104 to 110 students per learning community with average class sizes between 21 to 22 students. Otherwise, the 8th grade learning communities could be as large as 114 students per learning community with average class sizes of 23 students.

Individual Attention and Support - Smaller class sizes and less students would help teachers give more individual attention to students.

Reading Teacher (1.0 FTE)

Presently, the Ottoson Middle School has two reading teachers. One teacher works with individual students or with small groups of students primarily on IEPs. The second teacher works with students reading below grade level. This class size ranges from four to six students.

Enrollment Increases - The Gibbs School has three reading teachers who are responsible for 82 students. The Ottoson Middle School has 38 seventh grade students who will need reading support again next year.

Individual Support and Attention - We are concerned that students will need more reading support.

Math Support Teacher (.2 FTE)

Currently, we have 1.6 FTEs for math support. We would like to add another section of math support for next year.

Enrollment increase - We believe that enrollment will increase and that we will need more math support for students.

Individual Support - We believe students will need more support in math post-Covid.

Social Worker (FTE 1.0)

We currently have two social workers that work with our students on IEPs. For students who need counseling and are not on IEPs, we do not have a counselor to support them. We are looking to have this additional social worker be split between the Gibbs and the Ottoson.

Social-emotional - We would like to offer more counseling services for students that do not have IEPs. We are concerned about students post-Covid. The social worker would also support the Bridge program.

Two Instructional Support Specialists (2.0 FTE)

Many students who do not take band, orchestra or chorus have a study hall. Due to the number of students who are in the class, the study hall teacher, usually a building sub, cannot give individual attention to students. We would like to have a program where two instructional assistants could meet with small groups of students and provide them with support.

Individual support and attention - Currently, we are seeing students struggling with homework, executive functioning skills, and motivation.