



Citizens For Education



Spring Issue

May 2009

The objectives of Citizens For Education are to ensure a quality education for all students of the Council Rock School District, to better inform the Council Rock community of educational issues, and to increase the involvement of the community in the decision making processes affecting the quality of education in Council Rock.

Possible High School Redistricting Affects School Sizes

Citizens For Education is interested in the effect the administration's proposal to redistrict Richboro Middle School will have on school size at CRHS North and South. Currently, Richboro Middle students split between CRHS North and South. The administration has tentatively proposed sending all students in Northampton to CRHS South, beginning with the 9th grade in the 2011-2012 school year (i.e., when this year's sixth grade students enter high school). The chart on page 4 uses current enrollment data to predict future student populations at the high school. By 2014-2015, when RMS populates grades 9-12 at South, there will be a large disparity in school sizes between North and South.

The chart on page 4 only includes students who are already attending Council Rock. Because of the unpredictability of projections, the chart does not take into account any growth from new housing, turnover of homes, or influx from private and parochial schools, which obviously occurs each year. (In 2008-2009, there were 63 more students in the high schools than the 2008 enrollment indicated – 52 at South, and 11 at North.) This means that the numbers in the chart are very conservative.

On March 6, 1997, the School Board voted to construct a 1600 seat high school. On June 15, 2000, School Board minutes report that the Board voted to increase that capacity by 400 student seats, making a total capacity at Council Rock South of 2,000 students. Council Rock North was built for a student capacity of 2,400. By the 2014-2015 school year, CRHS North (the larger school) will have 424 less students than CRHS South (the smaller school). Again, this number does not include the growth,

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Kyle McKessy Appointed to School Board

Kyle McKessy, of Wrightstown, was appointed in August to the Council Rock School Board to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Susan Vicedomini. The term expires this year and Kyle is seeking election to the seat for a four year term. Citizens sat down with Ms. McKessy recently to get some background information and to discuss her tenure, thus far, representing both Wrightstown Township and the northern sections of Newtown Township, Districts 1 and 2.

Born and raised in the Cheltenham area, Ms. McKessy attended Mount Saint Joseph's Academy in Flourtown. She received her B.A. in Communications from Elizabethtown College and later her Masters degree in Journalism from Temple University. Post graduation took Ms. McKessy to Wall Street and the Financial District where she was employed as a Technology Consultant.

After starting a family, the McKessy's lived in Newtown for three years and then moved to Wrightstown, where they have lived for the past eleven years. It was there that Ms. McKessy began her connection to Council Rock as the mother of three girls currently attending Wrightstown Elementary School and Newtown Middle School. Post Wall Street, she became active in her daughters' schools and served on the Crossing Cooperative School's Board for nine years in numerous capacities, including Board President. During this time Ms. McKessy took care of her elderly parents. She is forever grateful for the support given to her and her family by friends, neighbors and colleagues at Crossing Cooperative which enabled her to personally care for her terminally ill brother for eleven months. It was through this experience, and her husband working in World Trade Center 4 on September 11, 2001, that her path to giving back to her community and others became clear. A powerful message she has instilled in her children, to "pay it forward."

(Continued on page 6)

Council Rock College Counseling: How Do We Compare?

The counseling centers at the two high schools in Council Rock are busy places. The guidance counselors wear many different hats: course advisor, sounding board, personal advisor, and college counselor, to name just a few. Citizens chose, for this article, to look specifically at Council Rock's college counseling process and compare it to like school districts in the area and, in some cases, elsewhere in the country. In addition, Superintendent Mark Klein was contacted to see what districts he communicates with when he is looking for information from "like" school districts, and some of those districts are part of the list. Finally, a few nationally recognized high schools were also reviewed for comparison purposes.

The school districts we looked at are listed in the chart that follows this article. These school districts were selected based on their similarity to Council Rock in size and community. All high schools include students in grades 9 through 12. The smallest school (New Hope/Solebury High School) had 475 students; the largest, Cherry Creek High School in Colorado had 3,600 students. Citizen's goal in doing the first part of this counseling overview is to determine in what ways Council Rock is similar to, and different from, other high schools, thus ensuring the strongest opportunities for graduating seniors to get into and succeed at the college of their choice.

In 2003, when ninth grade was incorporated into the high schools, Council Rock implemented a ninth grade parent/counselor/student meeting. The purpose was for parents and students to make a general plan for course selections through 12th grade, based on their freshman year and college goals. This program has changed somewhat in the past five years. In the 2008-09 year, some counselors ran group, instead of individual, sessions with students. In researching other districts, Citizens learned that in addition to a ninth grade meeting, many high schools also run an 11th grade meeting that includes parents, though Council Rock does not. This is a chance for parents, students and counselors to talk and plan, prior to the start of the college admissions process. Citizens believes that Council Rock should implement 11th grade meetings with all students and parents.

Most schools, along with Council Rock, utilize computer programs such as Naviance (formerly called TCCi) for access to college information, as well as statistical data concerning ad-

missions from the high schools themselves. Council Rock implemented this system over 5 years ago. All tenth grade students are given an overview of the program and instructions on how to use the system. At the last two Back-to-School nights at CR North, high school counselors have had mini sessions to explain this program to interested parents. This is just one of many tools at students' and parents' disposal as they navigate through the college admissions process.

Along with all the school districts we studied, North and South have individual visitations, where college representatives visit the high school, and students sign up in advance to meet with them. In 2008, CR North had 99 schools visit, and CR South had 102 visits. Additionally, each school studied alerted their students to regional college fairs, or ran them on-site, as Council Rock did.

Council Rock also has a "Focus on the Future" series, which includes:

- The PTO's at North and South host Peter Van Buskirk's program: "Winning The College Admission Game"
- A Financial Aid Night
- Two college information nights, one for students with special needs and one for students planning on a career in the arts

We found that in many of the school districts we studied, over 83% of graduates pursue four-year colleges, with some, locally, as high as 93%. CR North and South trend lower, around 75% to four-year colleges. Close to 20% of our students go to two year colleges or technical schools, with Bucks County Community College the most attended school for our graduates (see "Council Rock By the Numbers" on page 11).

We also found that the student to counselor ratio is far better at the other high schools we studied than at Council Rock. It is evident from the chart on page 3 that a lower student to counselor ratio has a positive effect on a school's graduates, including the percentage of graduates that move on to four year colleges. Council Rock has eight counselors at CR North and seven at CR South, and the number of students per counselor is close to or over three hundred. Locally there are only a few districts with numbers as high, or higher, than Council Rock.

Citizens has advocated for many years for a dedicated college counselor, someone who

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(College Counseling continued from page 2)

would be available to students and parents for consultation regarding the post high school planning process. The role would exist, as it does at other nationally ranked high schools, as an additional layer of support for students, parents, and counselors, beginning in 11th grade. In addition the College Counselor would serve as the district's contact with colleges and universities, a very important function in today's ever changing world of college admissions.

Citizens For Education feels that a dedicated College Counselor, or at the very least one additional counselor at each high school, would lower our ratio

of students per counselor, and afford students better assistance in the college admissions process. Citizens also strongly encourages the district to actively, and financially, support current counselors in their endeavors to develop relationships with college admissions officers (see High School Counselors article on page 6).

The Council Rock Strategic Plan states a goal of being "recognized among the top 5% of districts in the USA," which is only possible when all aspects of our educational system, including post secondary education, receive the attention, and support that is necessary.

Comparison of Student to Counselor Ratios and College Attendance

School	District	State	Number of Students	Number of Counselors	Ratio Students/Counselor	Percent to 4 Yr College	Percent to 2 Yr College
Conestoga	Tredyfrin/ Easttown	PA	1976	9	220	93%	3%
Northern Valley Regional	Northern Valley	NJ	2500	14	179	91%	n/a
Lake Forest Community High School	Lake Forest	IL	1765	8*	221	91%	6%
Radnor	Radnor	PA	1300	5	260	89%	7%
Mt. Lebanon	Mt. Lebanon	PA	1805	7	258	87%	7%
Cherry Creek	Cherry Creek	CO	3600	14**	257	86%	9%
Hew Hope/ Solebury	New Hope/ Solebury	PA	475	2	238	83%	16%
Lower Merion High School	Lower Merion	PA	1475	8	184	83%	12%
Council Rock North	Council Rock	PA	2251	8	281	75%	16%
Council Rock South	Council Rock	PA	2137	7	305	75%	20%
Pennsbury	Pennsbury	PA	3415	11	310	60%	33%
Tennent	Centennial	PA	2100	6	350	57%	31%
Hempfield	Hempfield	PA	2366	8	296	55%	12%

* This school also has a college counselor who is not reflected in this number

** Includes 3 Post Graduate Specialists who are included in this number

(Redistricting continued from page 1)

turnover and influx of private school students which occurs each year.

The chart below also does not account for natural growth that takes place in the early grades. Analysis of past growth trends indicate that the number of students in a specific grade level grows as they age through the

school system. For example, the 3rd grade in 2002-2003 is in 9th grade now, and they number 144 students more in 2008-2009 than they did in 2002-2003. This is another example of the conservative data of the chart below. Actual numbers will likely be much higher. Because of this, Citizens will continue to evaluate enrollments going forward.

Enrollment Comparison for North and South
With All Northampton Students Attending South Beginning in 2011-2012

	Actual Enrollment				Future Enrollment * (Current students only - does not project growth)					
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11**	2011-12***	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
South	2081	2110	2142	2134	2081	1995	1999	2011	2028	2050
North	2258	2266	2273	2242	2204	2178	2019	1886	1768	1626
Difference between S&N	-177	-156	-131	-108	-123	-183	-20	125	260	424

* Calculated with actual enrollment figures from April 2009. Does not include growth of grade levels as students age, or influx from private and parochial schools.

** Assumes RMS historical split of 53% to South and 47% to North (after 20 students at RMS, who live in the NMS sending area and attended RMS, are added to North's enrollment).

*** All of Northampton begins attending South.

Tracking Class Sizes

In the last two newsletters, Citizen's For Education informed our readers about the class sizes at the two high schools and the three middle schools, with the objective of tracking class sizes over time. The charts were compiled using enrollment figures provided by the administration. The data reflected only those courses in the five major subject areas: Math, Science, Social Studies, English and World Languages. In English and Social Studies, several electives, often taken by juniors and seniors, were omitted in order to compare like classes and maintain a workable set of figures.

Citizen's continues to track class sizes, and the chart on page 5 displays the same information, in the same format. This year, Citizen's added a second chart, which highlights class sizes after removing Foundations and Humanities courses. These classes tend to be significantly smaller, and therefore skew the data of the other three course levels (Academic, Accelerated and Honors/AP).

Citizen's will continue to compile the class size data in this same format over time as population trends evolve.

See Class Size Chart on Next Page

CR South 2008-09 Including Humanities and Foundations

<u>GRADE</u> <u>2008-09</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>Totals</u>
# of Classes					
19 or Less Students	18	17	13	12	60
% of classes	19%	18%	15%	16%	17%
20-25 Students	24	36	35	25	120
% of classes	25%	39%	42%	34%	35%
26-29 Students	40	33	32	26	131
% of classes	41%	35%	38%	36%	38%
Over 30 Students	15	7	4	10	36
% of classes	15%	8%	5%	14%	10%
Total Classes	97	93	84	73	347

CR North 2008-09 Including Humanities and Foundations

<u>GRADE</u> <u>2008-09</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>Totals</u>
# of Classes					
19 or Less Students	21	19	8	15	63
% of classes	18%	19%	9%	19%	16%
20-25 Students	53	32	46	41	172
% of classes	46%	32%	50%	52%	44%
26-29 Students	41	46	35	23	145
% of classes	35%	46%	38%	29%	37%
Over 30 Students	1	3	3	0	7
% of classes	1%	3%	3%	0%	2%
Total Classes	116	100	92	79	387

CR South 2008-09 Without Humanities and Foundations

<u>GRADE</u> <u>2008-09</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>Totals</u>
# of Classes					
19 or Less Students	7	8	7	9	31
% of classes	8%	10%	9%	13%	10%
20-25 Students	23	36	35	25	119
% of classes	27%	43%	45%	36%	38%
26-29 Students	40	33	32	26	131
% of classes	47%	39%	41%	37%	41%
Over 30 Students	15	7	4	10	36
% of classes	18%	8%	5%	14%	11%
Total Classes	85	84	78	70	317

CR North 2008-09 Without Humanities and Foundations

<u>GRADE</u> <u>2008-09</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>Totals</u>
# of Classes					
19 or Less Students	10	9	3	11	33
% of classes	10%	10%	3%	15%	9%
20-25 Students	53	31	45	40	169
% of classes	50%	35%	52%	54%	48%
26-29 Students	41	46	35	23	145
% of classes	39%	52%	41%	31%	41%
Over 30 Students	1	3	3	0	7
% of classes	1%	3%	3%	0%	2%
Total Classes	105	89	86	74	354

(Kyle McKessey continued from page 1)

Once at Wrightstown Elementary School she became active serving on the PTO's Executive Board as President-Elect as well as numerous committees such as Fundraising, Newsletter, Yearbook, After School Clubs, etc. She has been able to utilize her technology expertise by serving as the webmaster of both Wrightstown and Newtown Middle schools, creating a user friendly and informative vehicle for the school's communities. Additionally, she built the Wrightstown PTO website from scratch. Further technology improvements established by Ms. McKessey included creating an online directory for WES.

This was the catalyst that prompted Ms. McKessey to seek a seat on the School Board. She feels the district could well benefit from greater communication among the School District entities and the community at large. She would like to see constituents get their information from sources besides the Bucks County Courier Times and has set a goal to be a conduit to streamlining such communication stating that "we as a Board are not communicating properly to the best of our ability." She would like to spearhead uniformity of district websites. Another goal would be to accomplish better relations with the community's senior citizen population. She is the chairperson of the Board's Academic Standards committee and serves on the Facilities and Finance committees.

Now that the first months are behind her, and the learning curve is complete, she wishes to extend her term and accomplish her goals by being elected to a full four year term beginning with the upcoming May primary election. She feels that she has a unique vision as an emissary uniting both Newtown and Wrightstown townships, having lived in both communities and having children attend schools in, what will soon be, all three levels. Ms. McKessey feels that a school board director does not solely serve their own community, but must "realize they are part of one global district." To that end she plans to work hard for all residents of Council Rock.

High School Counselors Reaching Out to College Admissions Officers

Kudos to CR for sending two high school counselors to the National Association for College Admission Counseling Conference. Last year, the district sent Tim Rothrock and Joseph DeFrancesco of Council Rock North to this important Counselor-Admissions Office networking opportunity. The National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) is an organization of more than 11,000 professionals from around the world dedicated to serving students as they make choices about pursuing post-secondary education.

A list of last year's college conference attendees included almost every Ivy and Top Tier college in the country. In addition to Council Rock, local attendees included private college counselor Francine Block, Lower Merion High School and Conestoga High School, who are all well-known for their ability to successfully promote their students to the best schools they are qualified to attend.

This year's conference will be in Baltimore from September 24-26, 2009. One of the main events is a Counselor's College Fair. This is where secondary and independent counselor attendees of the national conference can share information, network with colleagues and meet post-secondary representatives from more than 500 colleges and universities from around the world. High school counselors have the unique opportunity to meet directly with staff, and in most cases the Dean of Admissions, from every major university in the country. It is here where high school counselors can speak directly with many admissions counselors about particular students who are interested in their school. There are also opportunities for counselors to attend sessions that directly relate to a high school counselor's duties.

Sending Council Rock counselors to the NACAC conference is a cost effective way to promote both North and South, and for counselors to network with many post-secondary schools. It is for this reason that Citizens For Education hopes that this year Council Rock will send as many counselors as possible to this very important event.

Wendi Thomas Brings Long History in District to School Board Position

Mrs. Wendi Thomas is not a newcomer to the Council Rock School District. In August, when Christopher Ayoub resigned from the School Board, Mrs. Thomas felt it was a natural progression for her to apply for the position.

Mrs. Thomas has many years of involvement in the district as PTO president at both Churchville Elementary and Richboro Middle School, participation on the district Growth Committee, Science Curriculum Committee, IT Tech Committee and Superintendent's Parent Advisory Board, as well as being President of Citizens For Education. When Wendi Thomas applied to fill the opening left by Mr. Ayoub, she was unanimously appointed to the School Board Director position. Her husband and three children, all students in Council Rock, supported her decision to take her district involvement to this new level.

Mrs. Thomas graduated from Gettysburg College with a double major in Political Science and Accounting. She worked as District Manager of Sales for Aetna prior to taking her current position as Vice President of Member Education for Health Advocates, a health benefit company.

When asked what she found surprising or unexpected when she joined the Board, Mrs. Thomas said that the variety and volume of information that Board members are provided with is tremendous. She said that as a Board Director it is imperative to prioritize and synthesize a great deal of data to make the most informed decisions possible.

Mrs. Thomas has found the CR Administration very responsive and supportive, and she stated that the Administrators seem interested in giving her the information she needs to make informed decisions. She and Mrs. Kyle McKessey, who joined the board at the same time, had several meetings to talk with the administrators, the school principals and to tour all the schools.

Mrs. Thomas said that her goals as a Board director are to "balance the needs of the entire district" and to "address the current economic downturn without compromising the quality of education" in Council Rock. To that end she serves on the Board's Finance and Facilities committees and also attends Academic Standards committee meetings.

Mr. Ayoub's term had not expired when he resigned; therefore Mrs. Thomas needs to be elected to the School Board Director position in the May primary election. She will represent Northampton Region 4. This includes districts 2, 6, 7 and 12; primarily the Churchville Elementary, and some of the Welch Elementary sending areas.

Wendi Thomas brings a great wealth and depth of knowledge of Council Rock, as well as strong business acumen and a background in employee benefits systems to her position as School Board Director.

While Citizens For Education was sorry to lose her as our President, we wish her well in her new position and are confident that she will continue to be a voice for quality education for all Council Rock students.



Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Successful Ski and Snowboard Clubs



The Ski and Snowboard Clubs are very popular at both Council Rock high schools. At North, the four year old club has nearly doubled from its initial 153 involved students, to this year's 377 members. At

South, the club is in its first year with 73 members.

The Ski and Snowboard club is very important to many of the participants because many of the members, for the most part, are not involved in other school related activities. If not for the staff advisors, Mr. Rothrock at North and Mr. Pasko at South, the clubs would not have come to fruition. Both men assume great responsibility in making sure this program is a success.

The clubs meet several times during the year and the members went on five trips to the Blue Mountain Ski slopes during the months of January and February. Eight coach buses leave North and two leave South at 2:45 on Friday afternoons and return at approximately 11:30 pm. (This year seniors and juniors who are regular club members also attended a weekend trip to Stowe and Sugarbush in Vermont in March.) The chaperone rate is approximately 20 to 1, and the Blue Mountain ski patrol has the cell numbers of the schools' chaperones.

There are many procedures and arrangements needed in order for this club to operate. All students are held to the same rules that apply during school hours while on the trip. Students must also maintain their grades. If they are on the athletic list for ineligibility they are not allowed to participate in the club. All stu-

dents are required to wear a helmet. This provides safety and warmth and has become an industry standard. The rule is "No helmet, no go!!!" The cost and other details for participation are posted in the Activities section of the crsd.org website.

The clubs at both schools have a strong sense of camaraderie. One freshman we spoke to stated that he doesn't participate in any other school activity and the club allows him to not only experience snowboarding, but to be with friends and other students outside the classroom. He felt the experience has been positive and made his first year of high school enjoyable. Citizens For Education recognizes and thanks Mr. Rothrock and Mr. Pasko for their leadership that allows the students at Council Rock North and South to belong to such a great club.



Citizens For Education Officers 2008-09

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For
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...a voice for our children!

North Mentors Help Students' Transition

KOM, the Kick off Mentoring Program, has had a very successful first year at Council Rock North. Throughout the school year, upper-class mentors provided an array of activities to freshman students both during their homeroom period and at special events, to help their transition to high school. The mentor's responsibilities also included working at the school store to raise money for the program.

In addition to homeroom activities, numerous social activities were held, including a breakfast and an ice cream social, which took place on December 18. During the ice cream social adult leaders, mentors and ninth grade students participated in events ranging from Guitar Hero to board games to bingo. The event was an enormous success; it was probably the most attended ninth grade function of the year. Plans for an end-of-year social are in the works.

On February 10, a meeting was held to recruit new volunteers for next year. Sophomores and juniors were eligible to apply to be mentors. Juniors were also asked if they were interested in being on the KOM Counsel, which is a group of six students who act as officers of the KOM program. There is no limit to the number of volunteers the KOM program can accept. The more volunteers recruited, the smaller the peer groups can be. A volunteer needs to fill out an application and obtain a teacher recommendation. The mentors also must be able to commit to several hours of training during the summer.

Once the school year ends, Ms. Wargo and Ms. Warshaw, North's KOM advisors, will assess the past year to see if there was a significant change in the ninth grade class as compared to prior years without the Kick Off Mentoring Program. They will look at attendance, discipline referrals, CARES referrals, activities participation and grades. They are also hoping to conduct a survey, which will supply feedback from students, mentors

and adult leaders who were involved with the program. They will also evaluate the need to make changes to the program based on this year's experience. Some of the areas to be looked at are the days in which mentors go to homerooms, the communication between mentor and students, generating interest and awareness of the program at the middle schools and Program Planning Night, and ninth grade parent meetings.

Mrs. Irene Cavatore, CARES coordinator at South, has been working closely with Ms. Wargo, to see how the program can be adapted and brought to South. Because North's homeroom philosophy is different from South's (i.e., students at North stay in their first period class for homeroom, while South students go to distinctly separate homerooms that are assigned alphabetically by grade level), the program would look a little different at South. Mrs. Cavatore was encouraged by the positive feedback North has received and is looking forward to introducing the program at South at some time in the future. Transition is a very important factor for ninth graders. Mrs. Cavatore knows how scary it is for freshman to enter ninth grade and adjust to the high school program. Most especially in the first few days of school, a mentoring program would certainly help ease the freshman into their new routines. The KOM program is all inclusive; it is a program that gives back. Not only do the ninth grade students receive help from their older peers, the mentors are gaining life experience and leadership skills.

At North, this coming school year, the program will not only incur fees for training and lodging for the trainer, but an additional \$1,000 per school fee. (South would have to pay this \$1,000 fee as well, if the program were to move forward there.) Ms. Cavatore thinks once funding is obtained, KOM will get off to a quick start at South thanks to the all the work already done by Mrs. Wargo and Ms. Warshaw. Citizens commends the KOMS team for this outstanding program and sincerely hopes that the students at South will also soon benefit from all it has to offer transitioning students.

CR Projects Significant Budget Shortfall

Each year, when the district works on preparing the next year's budget, a valuable tool has been to look at past revenue sources. In the current economy, this is no longer helpful. Council Rock has consulted with experts to help devise realistic best and worst case scenarios for revenue.

Eighty percent of the district's revenue comes from local sources, such as real estate tax, earned income tax, and realty transfer tax. In addition to these areas, the district is looking at unemployment rates, interest rate decreases, construction slow-downs, housing price declines and weak consumer confidence. Also, the volume of tax assessment appeals has tripled this year.

Based on their research, the administration came up with the following projections for revenue losses vs. last year:

- Real Estate Tax
 - o Best Case: -\$900,000
 - o Worst Case: -\$1,500,000
- Earned Income Tax
 - o Best Case -\$750,000
 - o Worst Case: -\$1,270,000
- Real Estate Transfer Tax
 - o Best Case: -\$1,700,000
 - o Worst Case: -\$2,300,000
- Interest Earnings
 - o Best Case: -\$2,000,000
 - o Worst Case: -\$2,200,000

With these assumptions the best case loss of revenue for next year is \$5.4 million. The worst case scenario is a loss of \$7.2 million.

In Governor Rendell's proposed budget there is a minimum 2% increase in state education funding for each school district. This would add only \$272,500 to Council Rock's revenue stream. The proposed budget does not increase any Special Education funding. Special Education mandates cost Council Rock approximately \$30 million per year and represent 16% of the total budget. Of that \$30 million, \$6 million is reimbursed by the state.

The Council Rock administration is also projecting a multi-million dollar revenue loss in the current budget year. In the fall, administrators set out to find \$2 million in cutbacks. To date, they have found \$1.5 million through the following savings: \$285,000 in energy reduction, \$111,400 from maintenance, \$121,000 in restricting professional development, \$50,000 through curriculum, \$400,000 from teachers sharing supplies, \$225,000 in transportation, \$120,000 through diesel fuel and \$107,000 from bond refinancing.

***“the best case loss
of revenue for
next year is
\$5.4 million”***

***“the worst case
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loss of
\$7.2 million”***

The district will continue to look for ways to save money and is seeking community input. Comments on budget saving ideas can be emailed to savings@crsd.org. School board directors may be copied as well.

COUNCIL ROCK BY THE NUMBERS

Student to Counselor Ratios (2008-2009)

	No. of students	No. of counselors	Student to Counselor Ratio
CR High Schools	4,388*	15*	293 to 1*
CR Middle Schools	2,057	8	257 to 1
CR Elementary Schools	5,934	5	1,187 to 1

* South has 7 counselors. South's ratio is 305 students to 1 counselor

* North has 8 counselors. North's ratio is 281 students to 1 counselor

Top Colleges Attended By CR Class Of 2008**

	<u>South</u> (Class Size: 518)	<u>North</u> (Class Size: 597)	<u>Total</u> (Class Size: 1,115)
Bucks County Community	79	87	166
Penn State Main	45	33	78
Temple University	35	34	69
Penn State Satellite	31	21	51
Bloomsburg University	23	22	45
East Stroudsburg University	15	9	24
University of Pittsburgh	15	16	31
West Chester University	14	19	33
Drexel University	11	19	30
Indiana University of PA	8	17	25
Kutztown University	15	2	17
West Virginia University	9	7	16

Total for Top 12 Colleges **585**

** Over half of the class of 2008 attended the above 12 colleges

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