

Good Afternoon,

My name is Therese Magnussen, I am a Stow parent and also a Stow Representative on the High School Council.

Last week we had a discussion at our monthly High School Council Meeting on the Honor Roll Changes. We as a group passed a motion to keep the current system as it exists today in place and to not move to a weighted GPA honor roll.

The reason for our opposition to any changes is that a weighted GPA would go completely against one of our School Improvement Initiatives which we have been working on for the past several years. This initiative is our Goal 1: Identify and begin to implement programs and resources to support students at Nashoba who struggle academically.

Under a weighted GPA honor roll the student who is in all CP classes can only achieve Highest Honors if they receive all A+ in every class. They would have to receive all A's in order to get High Honors and to receive Honors they would need to get all B+.

I would ask you this question - Who is the honor roll for? The parents? The teachers? The administration? The community? for Colleges? or the Students?

If an honor roll exists (which by the way Lincoln-Sudbury does not have an honor roll) what is its purpose? Is it to reward and motivate the high achievers? - In my opinion they are already motivated and in my discussions with students they don't care about the honor roll. Is it to motivate the students who work hard in a CP level class which is a "college-prep" class. Is it to de-motivate the hard working CP student who already struggles and here again is another unattainable school supported or district supported way to "pat the high achievers on the back" and leave the others behind.

I would believe as a parent, educator, committee member you would want to encourage all regardless of their intellectual capabilities.

A junior on our NRSD High School Council said last week: Last year, he was in all Honors classes, He has a good friend that was in all CP level classes. He said his good friend worked so hard at her classes, always doing homework. He said she worked harder than he did for his honors classes. He said it would not be fair to not give her the opportunity to be acknowledged in all honors categories due to a weighted system.

I encourage you to vote against a change and keep the current system in place at the High School. In the least I encourage you to delay your vote and spend more time speaking with students at all levels as to their opinion, as if you do I think you will find that the current Honor Roll is fine and no changes need to be made.

For your information- I have run the numbers and under the proposed weighted GPA honor roll each level of class (making the assumption that all classes are taken at that level) would end up like this:

Level Class: Classes	All Honors Classes	All Accelerated Classes	All College Prep
Highest Honors: A+	B	A-	All
High Honors: A's	B-	B+	All
Honors B+	C		All

A student in All honors classes would need to receive B's in all their classes to make Highest Honors, A student in All College Prep classes would need to receive A+ in all classes to make Highest Honors!

Thank you for considering my information in making your decision that I hope is in the best interest of all students, not just the few.

Regards,

Therese Magnussen