



The Path Forward

Changing the Master Schedule at
Penncrest High School



Needs Assessment

Why do we need to think about changing the schedule?

Workload and mental health

The daily student experience

Course offerings and capacity

Limited time for I/E

PVAAS growth

Acceleration opportunities

Depth vs. Breadth

Population growth

Financial Literacy requirement

Evolution of high school education

The Basics

Most courses are one semester, every day

.5 credit courses are one semester, alternating days

Some courses are full year, alternating days (this list is not all-inclusive)

- Most AP courses
- Band/Choir/Orchestra
- Adapted courses
- Little Lions
- Entrepreneurship

Shorter lunch periods

30 minute I/E every day

Block Schedule Proposal

Current MWF Bell Schedule

HR –7:30-7:35

1—7:39-8:26

2—8:30-9:17

3—9:21-10:08

4—10:12-10:59

5—11:03-11:50

6—11:54-12:41

7—12:45-1:32

8—1:36-2:23

Current I/E Bell Schedule

HR: 7:30-7:38

1—7:42-8:23

I/E-8:27-9:08

2—9:12-9:53

3—9:57-10:38

4—10:42-11:23

5—11:27-12:08

6—12:12-12:53

7—12:57-1:38

8—1:42-2:23

Block Bell Schedule

HR: 7:30 - 7:35

B1: 7:39 - 8:56

I/E: 9:00 - 9:30

B2a: 9:34 - 10:51

B2b: 9:34 - 10:12

10:16 - 10:51 (35 min lunch)

10:55 - 11:34

B3a: 10:55 - 11:34 (39 min lunch)

11:38 - 12:55

B3b: 10:55 - 11:34

11:38 - 12:13 (35 min lunch)

12:17 - 12:55

B3c: 10:55 - 12:12

12:16 - 12:55 (39 min lunch)

B4: 12:59 - 2:18

2 mins for announcements

Block Schedule Proposal

Current Schedule

MWF - 329 instructional minutes (+5 HR) for students, 235 for teachers

TH - 328 instructional minutes (+8 HR) for students including I/E, 246 for teachers

41/47 minute periods and lunches

32/36 minutes of passing time

47.8 hours of I/E

6:53 full day

7 courses per year - students

5 courses per year - teachers

Block Schedule

340 instructional minutes/day (+5 HR) for students including I/E, 261 for teachers (231 without I/E)

77 minute blocks (79 4th Block)

35 or 39 minute lunches

30 minute daily I/E

28 minutes of passing time

87 hours of I/E per year

6:48 full day

8 courses per year - students

6 courses per year - teachers

Benefits of a Block Schedule - Students

Less courses to focus on in a day

Homework for fewer classes per day

Increased instructional time

Room for one additional class per year

Ability to accelerate (“double-up”)

More time to dedicate to math in 9th grade

More than double the time for intervention/enrichment

Time for labs and high-level learning activities

Benefits of a Block Schedule - Teachers

Fewer classes per day to plan

Less grading on a daily basis

More opportunity for in-depth instruction

Time for science labs and other hands-on activities

More time to work with students in I/E

Less time in the cafeteria

New classes in January allow for a fresh start

Half days allow for 40 minutes of instruction per class

Looking Ahead

Professional Development

School Visits

Curriculum Work

Minga - Flextime Management

Changes to the Guide to Academic Programs

Student and Parent Information Sessions

Course Selection