



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

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 basics 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

Return of a testing center to remove testing from 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

Future Growth

This schedule allows for growth in population and programming

Programming

- Full year FOA and Algebra 1 (standard level) to enhance learning
- 80 additional class sections will allow for more electives
- Ability to “double up” in World Language, Math, and Science
- Inclusion of Freshman Seminar and Financial Literacy without losing an elective

Population Growth

- Equivalent of 16+ FTE in a budget neutral way to serve a growing population
 - Four lunches alleviates the need to spend up to \$5,000,000 on cafeteria expansion, allowing for other improvements
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