



Realignment Update

Full Day Kindergarten Minutes
and MS Schedule

February 6, 2025



Goal of Presentation



- Present and explain the instructional minutes for the pioneer year of Full Day Kindergarten
- Review MS Schedule to be implemented in the 2026 – 2027 school year



Presentation: 30 minutes



Agenda- Full Day K



Background



Curriculum Overview



Next Steps



Background

2023-2024

Reviewed kindergarten instructional minutes of local school districts

2023-2024

Created a draft of instructional minutes and reviewed with realignment committee

Fall 2024

Visited local school districts to see full day kindergarten

Winter 2025

Revised kindergarten minutes based on visits



Overview

Subject	Proposed FDK Time	Half Day K Time
Morning Meeting	20 minutes	15 minutes
ELA (Reading and Writing)	130 minutes	86 minutes
Math	60 minutes	28 minutes
WIN (What I Need)	30 minutes	
Specials	40 minutes (5)	20-30 minutes (2)
Purposeful Play/Recess/Snack	30 minutes	
Lunch/Recess	60 minutes	
Quiet Time	15 minutes	
Closing Circle/Pack Up	15 minutes	10 minutes
Content	<i>Embedded in other areas</i>	12 minutes



Overview

- Increased time for RELA to allow for Reading Horizons (phonics instruction), My View (comprehension instruction), small group instruction, and writing instruction
- Embedded content (science and social studies) into purposeful play, morning meeting, reading, writing, math, and specials
- Increased time for math to allow for calendar math, Math in Focus, and small group instruction
- Increased special time and attendance of all 5 specials
- Added a WIN block
- Added purposeful play
- Added quiet time
- Add lunch/recess
- Increased time for morning meeting and closing circle



Next Steps

- Share instructional minutes with pioneer schools
- Work with pioneer schools to develop schedules
- Write kindergarten curriculum for Art, Music, and QUEST
- Align all curriculum pacing guides to the new instructional minute guidelines
- Implement minutes/schedules in pioneer schools



Agenda- MS Schedule



Background



Summary of Benefits in Revised Schedule



Schedule Overview



Next Steps



Background – Survey Nov 2023

We value your expertise and insights in shaping the educational experience for your students. As part of our realignment planning for the 2025 - 2026 school year and an ongoing commitment to enhancing learning environments, we invite you to participate in this survey aimed at understanding what teachers prioritize in a school's bell schedule to address the current needs of our students. Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

1. Current Grade(s) Taught (You may select multiple grades if applicable) *

- ☐ Grade 6
- ☐ Grade 7
- ☐ Grade 8
- ☐ Grade 9
- ☐ Grade 10
- ☐ Grade 11
- ☐ Grade 12

2. Subject/Department *

Background



Hatboro-Horsham School District



Neshaminy School District
We Build Futures



NHSD

NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT



**Radnor Township
School District**



LOWER MERION
SCHOOL DISTRICT



**TREDYFFRIN / EASTTOWN
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
Inspiring the Future



Background

5 schedules:
2 with 7
periods, 2
with 4
periods, 1
with 8
periods

Additional MS
Teachers Invited to
Participate in a
Review of the
Schedules at the
Realignment
Committee Meeting on
May 9th, 2024

Schedule was finalized
by small team of
realignment committee
members and middle
school principals

Schedule created that
accomplished all goals
expressed by special area
departments and the
recommendations from the
scheduling survey.
Schedule reviewed and
approved by special
coordinators and principals

Sharing
MS
Schedule
at Ed
Committee
Meeting



MS Principals – 3
schedules
promoted to
Realignment
Committee

Realignment committee
recommended a schedule
with seven instructional
periods and suggested two
schedules with 7 periods
for further consideration

Teacher leaders serving as
specials area coordinators
reviewed schedule and
made requests for all
specials offered in 6th – 8th
grades

Schedule reviewed
during MS faculty
meetings and middle
school teachers
provided feedback
using a survey



Summary of Benefits in Schedule

Concern/Feedback/Area of Need	Win in the Schedule
Maintain sufficient instructional time	Did not reduce length of instructional periods; More instructional minutes 6 th – 8 th grade in Social Studies; More minutes 6 th – 8 th grade in Science; More minutes 6 th – 8 th grade in Family Consumer Science (Financial Literacy); More minutes 6 th – 8 th grade in Integrated Technology
Interdisciplinary teaming is important	Maintained teaming structure, included dedicated team planning built into schedule
Grade/Subject-alike team planning is valuable (PLC)	Increased Grade/Subject-alike (PLC) planning time; Removed this planning time from I/E so all teachers are available every day during I/E
I/E is having a positive impact	Maintained 40 minute I/E that is available everyday for students
Too much unstructured time when students have resource and I/E	Removed resource period from the specials rotation; This allows additional specials opportunities for all students
Need more instruction in study skills and decision-making	Creating a “Seminar” class to teach study skills and executive functioning to support decision making
Need for career guidance	Career-Readiness Benchmark activities done during new “Seminar” special
Student wellness is area of need for our students (includes physical health and need for social skills instruction)	Adding a dedicated Health special for all students in 6 th – 8 th grade; This also ensures students have physical activity every day they have physical education



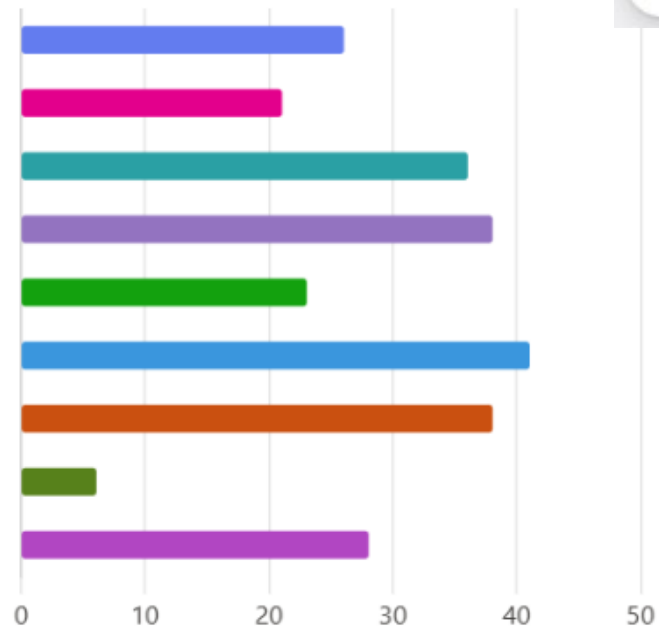
Summary of Benefits in Schedule Continued

Concern/Feedback/Area of Need	Win in the Schedule
Need more instruction in financial literacy	Added Family Consumer Science as a 6 th grade special (financial literacy)
Concern students in music ensembles cannot take all specials	Change from an A/B day rotation to a 4-day rotation will allow music students to be in music for full-year and also take all specials every year which aligns to true middle school philosophy
Student executive functioning skills are weak	Creating a “Seminar” class to teach study skills and executive functioning
Reading and writing deficiencies need to be addressed	Maintaining close to the same number of instructional minutes in 6 th grade; Adding a scheduled MTSS ELA class in 7 th and 8 th grade for students who require interventions; MTSS ELA class will not impact student specials
Deficiencies in various math skills impacting several areas of instruction were mentioned	Maintaining 6 th grade math instructional minutes; Adding a scheduled MTSS Math class in 7 th and 8 th grade for students who require interventions; MTSS intervention class will not impact student specials
Deficiencies in technology skills including file management, digital citizenship, use of learning management systems, office applications	Adding Integrated Tech as a 6 th grade special

Most Recent Feedback on Changes to the MS Schedule

What is your department

● Social Studies	26
● Science	21
● English Language Arts	36
● Math	38
● World Languages	23
● Specials	41
● Special Education	38
● English Language Development	6
● Other	28



Responses

253



Most Recent Feedback on Changes to the MS Schedule

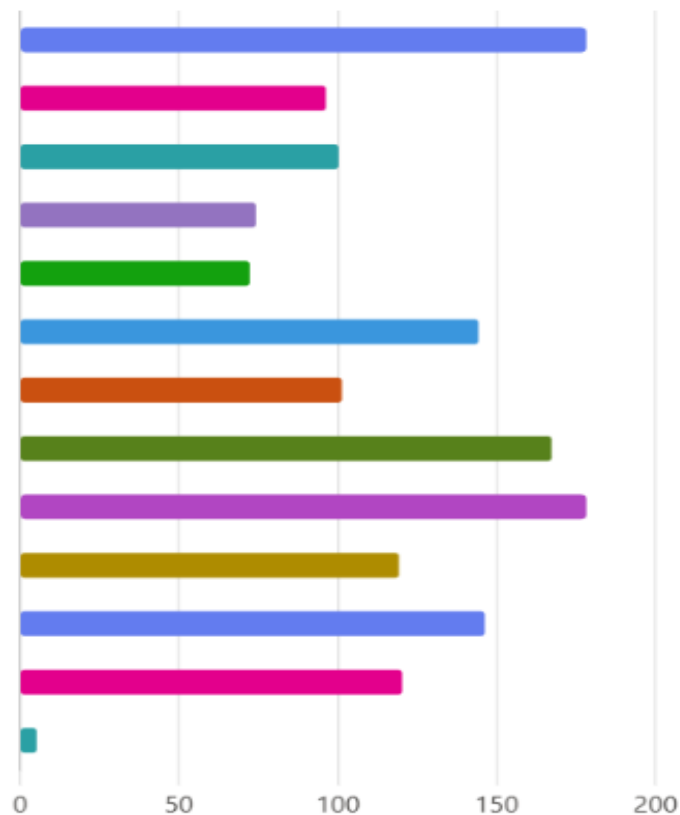
Responses

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What features of the proposed schedule and courses do you believe will positively impact our students? Choose all that apply.


- Preserving 47 minute periods 178
- More Social Studies Instruction 96
- More Science Instruction 100
- More Family Consumer Science Instruction 74
- More Integrated Technology Instruction 72
- The new Seminar special (executive functioning, study skills, career readiness...) 144
- The new Health special 101
- Maintaining I/E 167
- Eliminating resource period (less unstructured time and more specials... 178
- Providing equitable specials instruction (all students take all specials) 119
- Providing an opportunity for students to start World Language instruction in 7th... 146
- Building MTSS English/MTSS Math classes that are scheduled for students in need of... 120
- Other 5



Most Recent Feedback on Changes to the MS Schedule

Responses

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How does the proposed schedule address the areas of need that were shared through the schedule survey that was completed in November of last school year?

- Most all of the areas of need are addressed in a way that should support our students 153
- Some of the areas of need are addressed in a way that should support our students 93
- Only a few of the areas of need are addressed in a way that should support our students 7
- None of the areas of need are addressed in a way that should support our students 0





Overview – 6th Grade

6 th Grade					
Period	Marking Period 1	Marking Period 2	Marking Period 3	Marking Period 4	Length
Period 1	Core				47 min
Period 2	Core				47 min
I/E	I/E				40 min
Period 3	Core				47 min
Period 4	Core				47 min
Period 5	Special				47 min
Lunch	Lunch				30 min
Period 6	Core				47 min
Period 7	Core				47 min

Highlights

- **7 period day + an I/E period** (same as current MS Schedule)
- **6 core instructional periods** and **1 period of special** (This is the same as current 6th grade instructional day)
- **Core Classes:** 1 period Social Studies, 1 period Science, 2 periods of ELA and 2 periods of Math - This more than doubles the Social Studies and Science instructional minutes over the course of the year and keeps the amount of ELA and Mathematics instructional minutes as close to the same total of instructional minutes as possible over the course of the school year.
- **Specials Classes:** Art, FCS, STEAM 1(Tech Ed Department Wants to Rename classes to STEAM), Physical Education, Health 1, Integrated Tech 1, General Music or Ensemble Music (Band, Choir, Orchestra), a new special called 6th Grade Seminar (Study Skills, Executive Functioning Skills, Career Readiness Benchmark Work) – Students receive all specials.



Overview – 7th Grade

7 th Grade					
Period	Marking Period 1	Marking Period 2	Marking Period 3	Marking Period 4	Length
Period 1	Special				47 min
Period 2	Special				47 min
I/E	I/E				40 min
Period 3	Core				47 min
Period 4	Core				47 min
Lunch	Lunch				30 min
Period 5	Core				47 min
Period 6	Core				47 min
Period 7	Core				47 min

Highlights

- **7 period day** + an **I/E period** (same as current MS schedule)
- **5 core periods** and **2 period of specials** (same as current MS schedule)
- **Core Classes:** 1 period Social Studies, 1 period Science, 1 period ELA, 1 period Math, 1 period World Language or MTSS ELA or MTSS Math or MTSS ELA/Math (Students who require additional support in ELA or Math will receive a Tiered Intervention as their 5th Core course. Students in need of additional Intervention can receive additional doses of ELA/Math intervention during I/E period.)
- **Specials Classes:** Art, FCS, STEAM 2(Tech Ed), Physical Education, Health 2, Integrated Tech 2, General Music or Ensemble Music (Band, Choir, Orchestra), 7th Grade Seminar (Study Skills, Executive Functioning Skills, Career Readiness Benchmark Work) – Students receive all specials. (No resource during specials)



Overview – 8th Grade

8 th Grade					
Period	Marking Period 1	Marking Period 2	Marking Period 3	Marking Period 4	Length
Period 1	Core				47 min
Period 2	Core				47 min
I/E	I/E				40 min
Period 3	Core				47 min
Lunch	Lunch				30 min
Period 4	Core				47 min
Period 5	Core				47 min
Period 6	Special				47 min
Period 7	Special				47 min

Highlights

- **7 period day** + an **I/E period** (same as current MS schedule)
- **5 core periods** and **2 period of specials** (same as current MS schedule)
- **Core Classes:** 1 period Social Studies, 1 period Science, 1 period ELA, 1 period Math, 1 period World Language or MTSS ELA or MTSS Math or MTSS ELA/Math (Students who require additional support in ELA or Math will receive a Tiered Intervention as their 5th Core course. Students in need of additional Intervention can receive additional doses of ELA/Math intervention during I/E period.)
- **Specials Classes:** Art, FCS, STEAM 3(Tech Ed), Physical Education, Health 3, Integrated Tech 3, General Music or Ensemble Music (Band, Choir, Orchestra), 8th Grade Seminar (Study Skills, Executive Functioning Skills, Career Readiness Benchmark Work) – Students receive all specials. (No resource during specials)



Overview – Sample Student Specials Rotation

6th Grade – General Music Student

Special Period 5	MP 1	MP 2	MP 3	MP 4
Day 1	Music	Music	6th Grade Seminar	6th Grade Seminar
Day 2	PE	PE	Health	Health
Day 3	Art	FCS	STEAM 1	Integrated Tech 1
Day 4	Art	FCS	STEAM 1	Integrated Tech 1

6th Grade – Ensemble Music Student

Special Period 5	MP 1	MP 2	MP 3	MP 4
Day 1	B,C,O	B,C,O	B,C,O	B,C,O
Day 2	PE	PE	Health	Health
Day 3	Integrated Tech 1	Art	FCS	STEAM 1
Day 4	Integrated Tech 1	Art	FCS	STEAM 1



Overview – Sample Student Specials Rotation

7th Grade – General Music Student

Special Period 1	MP 1	MP 2	MP 3	MP 4
Day 1	Music	Music	7th Grade Seminar	7th Grade Seminar
Day 2	Music	Music	7th Grade Seminar	7th Grade Seminar
Day 3	PE	PE	Health	Health
Day 4	PE	PE	Health	Health

Special Period 2	MP 1	MP 2	MP 3	MP 4
Day 1	Art	FCS	STEAM 2	Integrated Tech 2
Day 2	Art	FCS	STEAM 2	Integrated Tech 2
Day 3	Art	FCS	STEAM 2	Integrated Tech 2
Day 4	Art	FCS	STEAM 2	Integrated Tech 2

7th Grade – Ensemble Music Student

Special Period 1	MP 1	MP 2	MP 3	MP 4
Day 1	B,C,O	B,C,O	B,C,O	B,C,O
Day 2	B,C,O	B,C,O	B,C,O	B,C,O
Day 3	PE	PE	Health	Health
Day 4	PE	PE	Health	Health

Special Period 2	MP 1	MP 2	MP 3	MP 4
Day 1	Integrated Tech 2	Art	FCS	STEAM 2
Day 2	Integrated Tech 2	Art	FCS	STEAM 2
Day 3	Integrated Tech 2	Art	FCS	STEAM 2
Day 4	Integrated Tech 2	Art	FCS	STEAM 2



Overview – Sample 7th Grade Student Schedule

Ensemble Music

Student Schedule Grade 7 Day 1 and 2 B,O,C Music Student				
Period	MP 1	MP 2	MP 3	MP 4
1	Music			
2	Art	FCS	STEAM	Int Tech 2
I/E	I/E			
3	Social Studies			
4	Science			
Lunch	7th Grade Lunch			
5	WL or MTSS ELA or MTS Math			
6	ELA			
7	Academic Math 7			

Student Schedule Grade 7 Day 3 and 4 B,O,C Music Student				
Period	MP 1	MP 2	MP 3	MP 4
1	PE		Health	
2	Art	FCS	STEAM	Int Tech 2
I/E	I/E			
3	Social Studies			
4	Science			
Lunch	7th Grade Lunch			
5	WL or MTSS ELA or MTS Math			
6	ELA			
7	Academic Math 7			



Next Steps

- Create Sample MS Schedules in Infinite Campus
- Share MS Schedule on District Realignment Webpage
- Write Curriculum for Any New MS Classes