

College and Career Readiness Task Force
April 13, 2016

Six Main Features of What We Want to see in a High School Schedule (not in order of importance):

1) Post-graduation and/or college and career ready class options

- Support student success in post-graduation pathways via planning, opportunities (career interest, electives, internships), structures (schedules)
- College and Career Readiness classes: personal finance, internships, job credits, volunteerism, etc.
- Expanded look at advisory that is differentiated and comprehensive: connections with parents, connections with community
- Student access to other programs – Running Start, WANIC, STEM Signature Programs, Internships, Work-Based Learning

2) Beyond the school day – protection for extra-curricular activities

- Schedule that accommodates non-school activities: sports, clubs, jobs
- Protection for extracurricular activities
- Ability to support after school activities with other districts

3) Adequate time for high quality instruction

- Adequate time for instruction within a period and across the year
- Balance length of class periods with number of times per week a class meets
- Ensure enough time in a period for meaningful learning, student processing, and reflection
- Align with best practices, good pedagogy, and optimize learning: retaining learning from class to class, year to year (ex: Math), or AP classes

4) Additional course offerings in interest/passion classes

- Additional offerings in classes that appeal to students' interests/passions (art, additional years of world language, music, tech, etc.)
- Additional opportunities for students to explore their interests/passions
- More than 24 credit opportunities to explore interests

5) Intervention time in school day, not just for students who are struggling

- Ensure opportunities for enrichment and remediation during the school day
- Intervention time for all students
- Time during the day for academic and social/emotional intervention
- Flexible time during the day to meet various needs: intervention/extension, HSBP – career interests, counselor meetings, IEP consult, make-up/retake, executive function – study skills, personalization, ELL
- Opportunities for intervention to seek help, to work across classes/team projects, etc.

6) Collaboration and planning time for teachers

- Collaborative time for teachers
- Time for teacher collaboration during contract hours
- Provide time for teachers to plan and meet in teams as well as individual planning time (even if not daily)

Additional high school schedule features:

- Opportunities for interdisciplinary or project-based learning
- Meaningful opportunities to build school community
- More than 24 opportunities to earn credit
- Teacher voice in the process/decision time for them to plan and process after a decision
- Support, or not be detrimental, to students' mental health and well being – balancing school, extra-curricular activities, and family
- Allow for balanced, integrated lives for students, parents, and staff
- Opportunities for help, support or challenge during the day (see teachers for help, makeup tests, social support)
- Start and stop time flexibility for students and teachers (ex 2-8, 3-9, 1-7)
- Flexibility in number of periods taken in a year to reach credit requirement
- Transportation is not a barrier to access (clubs/sports start after last class ends)
- Non-punitive credit retrieval opportunities