



Shaker Heights Schools

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Middle School Program Planning Committee

2015-2016 Middle School Program

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Feedback

- The Program and Planning Working Group has continued to make revisions based on staff and community feedback and input
- We received 43 responses to the community electronic survey in addition to individual e-mails and phone calls. Most of the responses highlighted the longer class periods as a positive of the new schedule. Several community members shared concerns about the changes to the math leveling and changes to the arts and world language programs
- We received 11 responses to the staff & faculty electronic survey (out of more than 100 staff & faculty). We also held feedback sessions with each team and department. Written and verbal feedback from staff highlighted the longer class periods as a positive of the new schedule. Staff members have shared concerns about staffing patterns for next year, enrollment in music and visual arts classes and ensuring that Raider Time is used effectively to meet the needs of students

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Revisions/Updates

- Based on the input we received, we have made revisions and solidified decisions in the following areas:
 - Music/Art
 - PE
 - Design
 - World Language

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Schedule Summary

- Move from a 9-period day to an 8-period day with 50-minute periods
- 1st period will start at 7:50 AM instead of 8:04 AM
- 8th period will end at 2:51 PM instead of 2:52 PM
- Raider Time will be from 2:55-3:45 PM

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PE/Health

- All students will have one semester of PE each year, 5 days per week
- Health curriculum will be integrated into PE and through interdisciplinary units
- We will offer a PE class 4 days/week during Raider Time for students who are taking two world languages

Design

- All students will have one semester of Design each year, 5 days per week
- We will offer a Design class 4 days/week during Raider Time for students who are taking two world languages

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World Language

- All students will continue to take one world language class, except for students identified as significantly below grade level in reading
- Students will continue to have the option of taking two world languages during the school day. Students who take two world languages during the school day will be required to take PE and Design during Raider Time
- We identified 18 7th grade students who currently take two world languages and who receive a PE or Cycle exemption to accommodate this program. This cohort of Rising 8th grade students will be “grandfathered” next year and will continue to receive an optional exemption for PE/Design.

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Music and Visual Arts

- All students will have the option to take one year of music, one year of visual arts or one year of both
- Students who take one year of both will take an extended day visual arts class 4 days per week during Raider Time

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Why these revisions?

- Address staff and community concerns to continue to let students take two world languages during the school day
- Based on feedback from staff and community members, PE and Design will be most effective when it meets consistently over the course of a semester rather than 2 or 3 days a week over the course of the year
- Scheduling a section of PE and Design during Raider Time will provide students with the opportunity to take two world languages during the school day and continue to meet IB MYP standards
- We have examined all scenarios presented to the group, including those presented by teachers and community members and have integrated much of this input into our schedule. This structure meets our goals, including longer class periods within the IB MYP framework and adheres to the SHTA contract and District transportation needs.

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Next Steps

- Share Middle School Program and schedule with all stakeholders, including staff, faculty and community members
- Revise Middle School Program Planning Guide

8th grade:

- Program 8th grade students week of March 9

7th grade:

- Parent orientation to 7th grade program on March 18
- Placement and selection recommendations due by April 13
- Program 7th grade students week of April 20



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