

Bellingham Public Schools
Bellingham, Washington

Memorandum

September 15, 2014

To: Dr. Greg Baker, Superintendent
From: Steve Clarke, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning
Re: Change in High School Schedule – Seven (7) period day recommendation

Dr. Baker,

An effort to review high school schedules began last year with a team of central office staff and high school administrators. It was determined by that team that a work group consisting of representative constituent groups (ex. teachers, parents, students...) should be established to do an in-depth analysis of high school schedules with the hope of finding a schedule that achieved the following outcomes:

1. Meets the needs of the greatest number of students across the district in the following areas: academics, electives, academic support, enrichment, and advisory/RTI time
2. Provides consistency between the high schools with: collaboration time and/or common planning potential, and cross-curricular PLC opportunities
3. Increases opportunities for on-time graduation through: flexible scheduling and increased credit opportunities

The work group conducted their analysis throughout the spring of 2014 and into fall of this school year. The group has recommended the following schedules for your review. Each schedule is based on a seven (7) period day with the student day being extended by 30 minutes. School would start at 8:00 for high school students and end at 3:00 daily.

Though there was one schedule that most group members felt best met the criteria established, there are two schedules presented as there was a small contingent that requested including a schedule that had four days of block scheduling (instead of three days of block scheduling as it exists in the front-runner schedule). Please let me know what thoughts you have and if I can answer any questions regarding these schedules or the process taken.

Next Steps:

Once your initial approval is granted, we believe next steps would include vetting this schedule through the high school staff, parents, and students during the 2014-15 school year in preparation for implementation in the fall of 2016. This timeline should give us enough time to process the schedule as well as prepare new courses that would be added and hire the staff necessary to make the transition to a new schedule in our high schools. We believe we would also need to reexamine our graduation requirements to possibly increase the total credits needed to graduate to a number more in line with a seven (7) period day structure while still in line with the State Board of Education's anticipated new requirements.

7 Period Bell Schedules 2014-2015 - 4 block days

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

6 Period Day

4 Period Block

4 Period Block

4 Period Block

4 Period Block

Per. 1 8:00-8:55	Per. 1 8:00-9:30	Per. 2 8:00-9:30	Per. 1 8:00-9:30	Per. 2 8:00-9:30
Per. 2 9:00-9:55	RTI 9:35-10:10	RTI 9:35-10:10	RTI 9:35-10:10	RTI 9:35-10:10
RTI 9:55-10:25	Per. 3 10:15-11:45	Per. 4 10:15-11:45	Per. 3 10:15-11:45	Per. 4 10:15-11:45
Per. 3 10:30-11:25				
Lunch 11:30-12:05	Lunch 11:50-12:20	Lunch 11:50-12:20	Lunch 11:50-12:20	Lunch 11:50-12:20
Per. 4 12:05-1:00				
Per. 4b 11:30-12:25	Per. 3b	Per. 4b	Per. 3b	Per. 4b
2 nd Lunch 12:25-1:00	2 nd Lunch	2 nd Lunch	2 nd Lunch	2 nd Lunch
Per. 5 1:05-2:00	Per. 5 12:25-1:55	Per. 6 12:25-1:55	Per. 5 12:25-1:55	Per. 6 12:25-1:55
Per. 6 2:05-3:00	Per. 7 2:00-3:00	Per. 7 2:00-3:00	Per. 7 2:00-3:00	Per. 7 2:00-3:00
(each period - 55 min)	(each period - 90+60 min)	(each period - 90+60 min)	(each period - 90+60 min)	(each period - 90+60 min)

7 Period Modified Block (2 afternoon RTI) Bell Schedule

<u>Monday</u>		<u>Tuesday</u>		<u>Wednesday</u>		<u>Thursday</u>		<u>Friday</u>	
7 Period Day		5 Period Day		4 Period/RTI Day		5 Period Day		7 Period Day	
Per. 1	8:00-8:50	Per. 1	8:00-9:10	Per. 1	8:00-9:10	Per. 2	8:00-9:10	Per. 1	8:00-8:50
Per. 2	8:55-9:50 (+5 min/announcements)	RTI	9:10-9:30	Per. 3	9:15-10:25	RTI	9:10-9:30	Per. 2	8:55-9:50 (+5 min/announcements)
Per. 3	9:55-10:45	Per. 2	9:35-10:45	RTI	10:25-10:45	Per. 3	9:35-10:45	Per. 3	9:55-10:45
Lunch (1)	10:45-11:20	Lunch (1)	10:45-11:20	Lunch	10:45-11:20	Lunch (1)	10:45-11:20	Lunch (1)	10:45-11:20
Per. 4 (a)	11:25-12:15	Per. 4 (a)	11:25-12:35	Per. 4 (a)	11:25-12:35	Per. 5 (a)	11:25-12:35	Per. 4 (a)	11:25-12:15
Per. 4 (b)	10:50-11:40	Per. 4 (b)	10:50-12:00	Per. 4 (b)	10:50-12:00	Per. 5 (b)	10:50-12:00	Per. 4 (b)	10:50-11:40
Lunch (2)	11:40-12:15	Lunch (2)	12:00-12:35	Lunch (2)	12:00-12:35	Lunch (2)	12:00-12:35	Lunch (2)	11:40-12:15
Per. 5	12:20-1:10	Per. 5	12:40-1:45	Per. 6	1:15-2:25	Per. 6	12:40-1:45	Per. 5	12:20-1:10
Per. 6	1:15-2:05	Per. 7	1:50-3:00	RTI	2:30-3:00 (RTI and 6 th could be switched)	Per. 7	1:50-3:00	Per. 6	1:15-2:05
Per. 7	2:10-3:00 (each period - 50 min)	(each period - 70 min)	(each period - 70 min)	(each period - 70 min)	(each period - 70 min)	(each period - 70 min)	(each period - 70 min)	Per. 7	2:10-3:00 (each period - 50 min)

Pro (2 Afternoon RTI):

Day starts at 8:00, ends at 3:00.

First Lunch is the same time every day.

The end of first lunch is exactly half way through the school day (for people that say it's "too early")

Second lunch is the same on every block day and same on every 7 period day (so only two times to remember, some high school staffs had three different times this year and issues were minimal).

Announcements are read/shown during 2nd period Monday/Friday and during RTI on Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday so no class time is lost.

All 7 period days are 50 minutes long and block days are 70 minutes long.

All classes start/end on a 0 or 5 (8:00, 1:45, etc., no 9:24, 2:31, etc.).

5 of 7 classes have RTI (1,2,3,4,6, as opposed to 4 out of 7 in the other schedule).

RTI periods are shorter (20-35 minutes long...they flex to keep lunch time starts the same)

Con (2 Afternoon RTI):

Staff/Students need to learn the days for blocks (1,2,4,5,7/1,3,4,6,/2,3,5,6,7), but that's what paper is for.

5th period on Tuesday and 6th period on Thursday are 65 minutes long. (This keeps lunch start times consistent/ 5 minutes could be added to Wednesday's 6th period [75 total] to help counteract this. Time could be taken from RTI period [30 minutes to 20 minutes]). Is 5 minutes short that bad?

5 of 7 have RTI (teachers need to be flexible to let students move those teachers during their RTI time).

On Wednesday, Teachers with 2nd lunch have RTI for 4th period after lunch on Wednesday. Otherwise, 2nd lunch would start too late. (So, teachers need to keep kids accountable and remind them they earn credit for being there on time).

On Wednesday, 6th period teachers have RTI at the end of the day. If teachers struggle with managing kids they may choose to put RTI at start of class. This means kids coming from 2nd lunch could have RTI at the end of 4th and start of 6th. Some might say this is too much RTI time back to back. (Again, this can be dealt with proper structure in place to keep kids on task).