


Beaverton School District
Common Middle School Experience
Community Listening & Learning
February 2020

WHY is a Common Middle School Experience Important?

“We believe that all of our students, regardless of their home address, economic status, home language, initial proficiency levels, or other discriminating factors, should have the same opportunities as their peers across our system.”



We
Embrace
Equity

Background 2014-2019

- **2014-2015** Community Work Group
 - (Students, Families, Teachers, Administrators)
- **2015-2019** Middle School Administrator Work Group

Middle School Philosophy

- Teaming bridges Elementary to High School
- Instruction in Humanities, Math, & Science is longer
- Elective/Encore Courses
 - Physical Education & Health (Required)
 - World Language: Spanish
 - Fine Arts: Visual Arts, Band, Choir, Drama
 - Technology
 - Intervention and Support: Resource Room, ELL, AVID, Intervention

2019-2020

Process and Recommendations

Charge from the Superintendent and School Board

- Prepare a recommendation for common middle school course offerings and a common middle school schedule to be implemented for the 2020-2021 school year

Common Middle School Experience Team

- In the fall of 2019 Deputy Superintendent Hansmann convened a group of administrators from middle schools, Teaching & Learning, the Business Office, and Human Resources to analyze work that had previously been done.
- The group collected additional research.
- The School Board provided Scheduling Objectives
- The proposed schedules were analyzed using the Board's Scheduling Objectives.

School Board Scheduling Objectives

1. A Common Middle School Experience
2. Developmentally appropriate class length
3. Meet PE Requirements
4. Student Choice: 2 Electives in addition to PE
5. Quality Electives: At least one meets daily
6. Equitable Access: Dual Identified Students can take one year-long, daily elective in addition to PE

School Board Scheduling Objective 1

1. A Common Middle School Experience

- The length of periods should be consistent from campus to campus.
- The length of periods may vary based on the subject.
- Student choice may determine the courses a student takes.
- The menu of courses should be consistent.

School Board Scheduling Objective 2

2. Developmentally appropriate class length

- The length of the period should not be too long or too short.
- The requirements of the adopted curriculum should inform the length of the period.
- Teachers should continue to receive professional development that supports effective engagement of students.

School Board Scheduling Objective 3

3. Meet PE Requirements

- Senate Bill 4 amended [ORS 329.496](#) and requires students in grades 6 – 8 receive **225 minutes per week** for the entire school year.
- There is a phase in of the minutes starting in the **2021-22** for grades 6 – 8 with 180 minutes.
- Every school district is to be in full compliance for K – 5 in the 2020-21 school year, and for grades 6 – 8 in the **2022-23** school year.

School Board Scheduling Objective 4

4. Student Choice: 2 Electives in addition to PE

- The menu of electives should be consistent
- Students should be able to choose 2 electives in addition to PE

School Board Scheduling Objective 5

5. Quality Electives: At least one meets daily

- Students have the opportunity to engage in at least one year-long elective course that meets daily.
- This includes daily World Language, Theatre, Visual Arts, Band, Choir, and Technology

School Board Scheduling Objective 6

6. Equitable Access: Dual Identified Students can take one year-long, daily elective in addition to PE

- Students with support from Special Education or Multilingual Services should have at least one daily elective and PE

Middle School Administrator Priorities

- Focus on literacy (writing and reading)
 - Adopted curriculum requires at least 85 minutes per day for English Language Arts and Social Studies
- Focus on mathematics
 - At least 60 minutes per day
- A common experience for all students
- Allow student access and choice
 - Intervention / support students will get at least 1 choice elective
- Teaming - Bridge between Elementary and HS experience
 - 3-4 teachers share 90+ students

Core Instruction

Humanities - An integrated approach to learning English Language Arts and Social Studies. (OSAS: English Language Arts)

Math - (OSAS: Mathematics)

Science - Middle School marks the first science class for students. (OSAS Science will return)

Elective Courses

- Physical Education/Health (Not an Elective)
- World Language: Spanish
- Fine Arts: Visual Arts, Band, Choir, Drama
- Technology
- Intervention and Support: Resource Room, ELL, AVID, Intervention

Schedule Option A: SIX PERIODS

Student Schedule		
Minutes	Period	Course
70	1	Humanities
70	2	Math
70	3	Science
30	Lunch	Lunch
45	4	PE/Health
45	5	Elective
45	6	Core Plus/Extension

Schedule Option B: SEVEN PERIODS

Student Schedule		
Minutes	Period	Course
48	1	Humanities
48	2	Humanities
48	3	Science
30	Lunch	Lunch
48	4	Math
48	5	PE/Health
48	6	Elective
48	7	Elective

Schedule Option C: SEVEN COURSES, SIX PERIODS

- Students have 7 courses
- 6 courses meet each day
- The schedule changes daily in a 7 day cycle

Student Schedule Day 1			Student Schedule Day 2			Student Schedule Day 3		
Minutes	Period	Course	Minutes	Period	Course	Minutes	Period	Course
57	1	Humanities	57	7	Elective 2	57	1	Humanities
57	2	Humanities	57	2	Humanities	57	7	Elective 2
57	3	Science	57	3	Science	57	3	Science
30	Lunch	Lunch	30	Lunch	Lunch	30	Lunch	Lunch
57	4	Math	57	4	Math	57	4	Math
57	5	PE/Health	57	5	PE/Health	57	5	PE/Health
57	6	Elective 1	57	6	Elective 1	57	6	Elective 1

Schedule Option D: EIGHT PERIODS

Student Schedule			
Minutes	Period	A Day	B Day
42	1	Humanities	Humanities
42	2	Humanities	Humanities
42	3	Science	Math
30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
42	4	Science	Math
42	5	Math	Science
42	6	PE/Health	PE/Health
42	7	Elective 1	Elective 1
42	8	Elective 2	Elective 2

Survey and Next Steps

- Thank you for your participation in the Survey.
- The Survey will remain open until February 19
- All Feedback will inform Superintendent Grotting's decision regarding the Common Middle School Schedule and Implementation Process

Use the QR Code

