



SINGAPORE AMERICAN SCHOOL

A TRADITION OF INNOVATION

Good evening students,

We hope you all had a great rest of the day. We're writing today as a follow up to the Weekly Eagle we sent earlier this afternoon. **Please take the time now to read this entire letter carefully.**

Since the start of the school year, we have been receiving some really thoughtful feedback from students, parents, and teachers. Here are some of the important (and completely valid!) questions we've heard from students:

- When will I be able to buy food at school?
- Could the lunch block be extended?
- If it is possible (and safe), can I have lunch with a few of my friends?

From the very beginning of August, we have worked hard to put safety first. It is absolutely amazing that we have the opportunity to come to campus each day, and we still have to remember not to take that privilege for granted. The schedule we have been using so far has helped us all to learn our new safety procedures, to start and end the day smoothly and to feel safe. Students, you have done admirably. We have been incredibly impressed not only by how you've adjusted to our current reality but also by how supportive you have been of one another and your teachers.

Now that we've arrived at the beginning of September, we are ready to move to a schedule that will help us to focus on bringing a bit more flexibility and fun back to high school! I'll summarize the four major changes that students will soon see along with the reasons for the changes.

- **Change #1 – Start in Block 1**

Instead of starting each day in Advisory, we will start the day in Block 1. When students arrive on campus, they should go directly to their Block 1 classes. Starting in Block 1 gives us the opportunity to reduce passing time at the beginning of the day and to use that time to lengthen lunch! Here is the [new bell schedule](#).

- We will use our current bell schedule until the end of the day on Thursday, September 3.
- We will use the [distance learning bell schedule](#) on Friday, September 4.
- The new bell schedule will go into effect on Monday, September 7.

When we start in Block 1, we'd like to ask all of you to please be respectful of your teachers who use the beginning of the day to prepare for classes. Please help maintain a quiet classroom environment until 8:00 a.m., and please understand that your teachers cannot provide tutoring or instruction until Block 1 officially begins.

- **Change #2 – New End-of-Day Study Hall Locations**

Beginning next week, students will move to new Study Hall locations for some of their end-of-day Study Halls. Your Advisors will give you more details about where to go.

- Red Team students will have Study Hall with their Advisors on Mondays, Advisory on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and Study Hall in another location (not with their Advisors) on Wednesdays and Fridays.
- Blue Team students will have Study Hall with their Advisors on Mondays, Advisory on Wednesdays and Fridays, and Study Hall in another location (not with their Advisors) on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

- **Change #3 – New Day Schedule**

Right now, we use the A/B/C/D-day schedule. Starting next week, we will begin using a [new day schedule](#) – the A/B/E/F-day schedule. C Day and D Day will be replaced by E Day and F Day. On these E Days and F Days, A Day and B Day classes will occur in reverse order. E Days will start with A4 and end with A1, while F Days will start with B4 and end with B1. This has been reflected in an updated version of the high school [calendar](#). As we look ahead, the day schedule will look like this:

- Thursday, September 3, will remain a D Day;
- Friday, September 4, will remain an A Day and will be a Distance Learning Practice Day;
- Monday, September 7, will remain a B Day;
- Tuesday, September 8, will be an E Day;
- Wednesday, September 9, will be an F Day;
- Thursday, September 10, will be an A Day;
- Friday, September 11, will be a B Day;
- Monday, September 14, is an In-Service Day and there is no school for students;
- Tuesday, September 15, will be an E Day;
- Wednesday, September 16, will be an F Day;
- etc.

If we did not make this change to the day schedule, you would start the day and have lunch with only two groups of students. Making this change to the day schedule gives students more variety – it allows you to start the day and to have lunch with four different groups of students. Hopefully, this gives you all a better chance of being able to see more of your friends!

- **Change #4 – Lunch in Block 3**

Right now, you all have lunch right at the end of Block 2. In the [new bell schedule](#), students will have lunch at the start of Block 3. Why make this change? Well, it's because we will soon be able to allow students to pre-order and pick up hot lunches at school! We expect lunch to be offered at school within the next couple of weeks. Moving lunch to the start of Block 3 allows you to pick up your lunches during the passing period.

Students can already choose their seats in Study Hall. Once those choices are made, seating arrangements are maintained for at least a couple of weeks. In a similar way, you can now also choose where to sit within your Block 3 rooms when you have lunch (when Block 3 instruction begins, students may have to move to other seats assigned to them by their

teachers).

In the future, we hope that this change might also allow us to (eventually) come up with a system for allowing you each to have lunch with a few friends even if you don't have a class with those friends and/or to participate in club meetings during lunch time. We are working hard to explore these possibilities, but truthfully we do not know yet when we might be able to do this.

Please do not worry if you do not yet fully understand these changes. We will continue to explain them through Advisory and into the start of next week. Thank you so much for all of your feedback and ideas. Once we adjust to these changes, we hope they will feel like significant improvements! We'd love to hear from you if you have time to provide us with [feedback](#).

Please don't hesitate to reach out anytime. We're here for you!

Best,

Mr. Ly, Mr. Murgatroyd, Mr. Poullard, and Ms. Zuber Meehan



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