



Introduction to 2021-22 Block Schedule & Vincentian Day

April 2021

Planning for 2021-22!!!

Next Fall, we will start the school year with all grade levels on campus for 5 days per week, provided that COVID 19 transmission remains low and it is safe to open our school.

We need ALL students to continue to wear a mask and practice social distancing when in groups. Also, try to get vaccinated this summer!

Exciting Changes for 2021-22

Beginning in the Fall of 2021, DePaul Prep will use a **Block Schedule** as our bell schedule.

A **Block Schedule** is similar to what we have been doing this year.

Key Features:

- 4 Classes per day
- Longer class periods (80 minutes)

Block Schedule Description

Our schedule will have 8 class periods instead of 7 like our old schedule from 2019-2020.

Each day, students will have either Periods 1-4 OR Periods 5-8. These will rotate.

Periods 1-4 = BLUE Day

Periods 5-8 = RED Day

Block Schedule Description

Here is what a 2 week time frame would look like with Blue and Red Days:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	Blue Day	Red Day	Blue RAM Day	Red Day	Blue Day
Week 2	Red Day	Blue Day	Vincentian Day	Red Day	Blue Day

How will we help you remember what day it is?

- It will be posted on the School Calendar on the website
- We will use the TV screens around the campus
- We will announce this during morning announcements
- Students will note this in their planners!

What else do I need to know about our new Block Schedule?

How long will my classes be? **80 minutes**

How long will my lunch be?

**30 minutes PLUS 30 minutes for a
Extra-Curricular meeting or a Study Hall**

Can I eat lunch with my friends? **Yes, as long as they are assigned to the same lunch period!**

What else do I need to know about our new Block Schedule?

Blue Day/**Red Day** Start Time: 7:40 a.m.

Blue Day/**Red Day** Dismissal Time: 2:45 p.m.

Passing Periods = Brain Breaks for 10 minutes

WEDNESDAYS are different!!

There are two types of Wednesdays...

Ram Day Wednesdays

Start Time: 7:40 a.m.

- 4 Classes - 70 minutes each
 - (Blue Ram Day 1-4 or Red Ram Day 5-8)
- Assembly/Mass Period 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Dismissal Time: 3:00 p.m.

Vincentian Day Wednesdays

Start Time: 12:00 p.m. (Unless your grade has Advisory)

Dismissal Time: 3:00 p.m.

12:00 Start time on Vincentian Days?!?! What is a Vincentian Day???

Vincentian Day is a NEW model we will implement in Fall 2021. But before we talk about that, let's revisit our school vision statement:

Our Vision Statement:

We strive to create an educated, compassionate and just world, one student at a time.

What does our Vincentian heritage teach us about education?

The Core Values of Vincentian Education (from Sullivan, Louise, D.C.. *The Core Values of Vincentian Education*. Niagara University, New York: 1994)

- **Holistic:** Vincentian education seeks to respond to the intellectual, spiritual, moral, and affective needs of students-- educating the heart as well as the head.
- **Integrated:** Vincentian education blends the humanistic and the professional, the abstract and the practical.
- **Creative:** Vincentian education is ever seeking new or renewed ways to meet changing needs among the student population while maintaining a clear 'sense of the possible.'
- **Flexible:** Vincentian education is willing to make the effort to adapt to the needs of the non-traditional student.

Vincentian Day Purpose

To increase student opportunities for:

- Learning experiences rooted in our **Core Values**
- Authentic learning based on **student choice**
- Time and space to address and discuss issues of **equality, inclusion and diversity**
- Deeper understanding of different perspectives based on our **individual identities**
- **Positive student connections** across grade level, gender, race, faiths and identity
- Using the **City of Chicago** to learn and explore

What does a Vincentian Day Look Like?

- Scheduled on every other Wednesday from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. for a semester
- Individual seminar designed around a topic that is connected to our Core Values
- Taught by individual faculty/staff or pairs of faculty/staff
- Participation in Vincentian Day is required
- Students choose the seminars they want to participate in through a registration process

What does a Vincentian Day Look Like?

In the MORNINGS on Vincentian Day, two things will happen:

- **Teachers will be working in Professional Development**
- **One Grade Level per week will participate in Advisory**

8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

11:00 - 11:55 Lunch Break

12:00 - 3:00 Vincentian Day Seminar

What are some of the Vincentian Day Seminars I can register for?

Rock and Pop Lab: Exploring Popular Music from 1940-Today

Studio Photography - Light subjects for photos: headshots, magazine covers, posters: Camera, Lightroom & PhotoShop

Ultimate Frisbee: Spirit of the Game

RPG Makers: Create your own RPG game on STEAM

Adventures in Baking: Bake your own bread, soft pretzels, pizza and more

DePaul's Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives

What are some of the Vincentian Day Seminars I can register for?

The Magic of the Mouse: Walt Disney & American Culture

DePaul Prep Irish Dance Club

Exploring Chicago by Foot and Train

Introduction to Camping and Backpacking

Pizza Can Change the World

Ear Hustle: Exploring Storytelling Podcasts

East Asian Food Cultures

See you in the Movies!: Watch and discuss some of the all-time classic films

Vincentian Day Registration is Coming Up!

Once teachers have completed their planning for their Seminar, students will begin the registration process in late May or in August during Student Orientations