

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
Saint Paul, Minnesota
COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Administration Building
360 Colborne Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

December 7, 2021
4:30 PM

A G E N D A

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. AGENDA

A. Superintendent's Announcements

B. 8/2 ALIGNED HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

1. Introduction

2. Presentation

3. Discussion

4. Action (TBD)

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III. ADJOURNMENT

#BoldSubject#



8/2 Aligned High School Schedule

Committee of the Board
December 7, 2021

Objectives

- Provide the School Board with an overview of aligned schedules for high schools to be implemented in the 2022-23 school year



Aligned Schedule Workgroup

- Division of Schools
- Office of Digital and Alternative Education
- School Principals and Assistant Principals
- Teachers and other SPFE members
- Office of School Support
- Office of College and Career Readiness
- Office of Innovation
- Office of Specialized Services
- Office of Multilingual Learning



What is the timeline for the aligned schedules project?



Proposal Highlights: Aligned Schedules

An 8/2 block schedule means:

- Students will have 8 courses each quarter that rotate, 4 one day ("A" Day), 4 the next day ("B" Day).
- Teachers will teach 6 courses each quarter that rotate, 3 one day ("A" Day), 3 the next day ("B" Day), with daily prep time and job-embedded PLC time during the week.
- Block classes of **79 minutes** allow for more dedicated time each class period to engage in learning and implement Culturally Responsive Instructional practices.
- **Periods 1 and 5** will be **aligned** to start and end at the same time across our high schools for all 9-12 students to access **supplemental courses**.
- A strong **advisory** component will provide an opportunity to support community building and **social emotional learning (SEL)** for all high school students.
- **Professional development** will be essential to support teachers with best practices for teaching and learning on a block schedule.



Aligned Schedule Proposal Overview

8/2 block schedule with daily advisory

8/2 Block (79 minutes per class)			
Student			
"A" Day		"B" Day	
1	Class	5	Class
2	Class	6	Class
3	Class (and 25 min lunch)	7	Class (and 25 min lunch)
	Advisory (30 min)		Advisory (30 min)
4	Class	8	Class

8/2 Block (79 minutes per class)			
Teacher			
"A" Day		"B" Day	
1	Class	5	Class
2	Class	6	PREP/PLC
3	Class (and 25 min lunch)	7	Class (and 25 min lunch)
	Advisory (30 min)		Advisory (30 min)
4	PREP	8	Class



Aligned Schedule Proposal Overview

In May 2021, students in grades 6-11 and high school teachers were invited to share input about 7-period and 8/2 block schedules.

- **Student:** 1,651 responses = 11% (all schools represented)
- **Teacher:** 293 responses = 41% (all schools represented)

Survey responses indicated that:

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- Students and teachers **disagreed** that seven classes a day is a good workload
- Students and teachers **agreed** that classes should be split over two days; four classes one day and four classes the next day
- Students **agreed** they can manage having their classes every other day, and it's good to have a one-day break in between classes
- Teachers **agreed** that classes should be longer, more than an hour



What an Aligned Schedule means for students.

- Creates a calmer instructional climate, with fewer transitions and classes per day
- Increased course opportunities for 9-12 grade students including supplemental courses and access to district-wide programs and support
 - *4 additional elective opportunities for schools currently on a 7 period day*
- Improved systems that allow for sharing teachers
- Consistent experiences for student mobility/transferring schools
- Consistent number of credits required for graduation
- Aligned district-wide support from departments
- Supports *SPPS Achieves* focus area College and Career Paths

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Next Steps: Implementation

- Communication and Continued Engagement
 - Schools: administration and staff
 - Students and families
- Master Scheduling
 - Technical work with Office of Digital and Alternative Education
 - Additional meetings to support school scheduling
- PD and Support for Teachers
 - PD opportunities for teachers transitioning from 7 periods to 8/2

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Questions

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