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)
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?

- **Spring 2021**: Stakeholder Engagement
- **July 2021**: Proposal Revisions
- **Aug 2021**: SELT Proposal Review
- **Sept 2021**: Included in BOE ARP Review
- **2021-22**: Strategy Planning
- **2022-23**: Strategy Implementation
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8/2 Block (79 minutes per class)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>“A” Day</strong></td>
<td><strong>“B” Day</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Class</td>
<td>5 Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Class</td>
<td>6 Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Class (and 25 min lunch)</td>
<td>7 Class (and 25 min lunch)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advisory (30 min)</td>
<td>Advisory (30 min)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Class</td>
<td>8 Class</td>
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</tbody>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Teacher</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>“A” Day</strong></td>
<td><strong>“B” Day</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Class</td>
<td>5 Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Class</td>
<td>6 PREP/PLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Class (and 25 min lunch)</td>
<td>7 Class (and 25 min lunch)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>4 PREP</td>
<td>8 Class</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
In May 2021, students in grades 6-11 and high school teachers were invited to share input about 7-period and and 8/2 block schedules.

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

Survey responses indicated that:

- 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/transfering schools
- Consistent number of credits required for graduation
- Aligned district-wide support from departments
- Supports SPPS Achieves focus area College and Career Paths
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
Questions