



*Memo from the Office of the Superintendent
Millville Area School District*

To: Curriculum Committee/MASD Board of Education
From: Mr. Joseph Rasmus, Superintendent of Schools
Date: 5/23/24 Jr./Sr. Library
Time: 5:30 – 6:30PM
Topic: MASD Policy Committee Meeting

● **2024-25 Elementary Schedule:**

- Departmentalized Scheduled
- Teachers will be predominantly responsible to plan, deliver, and assess instruction in TWO content areas
- Science/Math or ELA/Social Studies
- Science and Social Studies will be offered in alternating 6 day cycles
- Compulsory Chorus for Grades 5 and 6
- Ensemble Band and Chorus will meet once in a six cycle during Quaker Time
- 3 minute transition time
- Abbreviated Activity Period
- Lunch Schedule Changes

● **2024-25 Secondary Schedule:**

- Quaker Time Eliminated
- Double ELA and Math academic periods every day for Grades 7 and 8
- Social Emotional Wellness
- Careers
- STEM
- CTE: Based upon guidance from PDE, the district will be introducing a new class structure:
Double periods: Engineering I, Engineering II, Engineering III: This will afford CTE completers with optimal opportunity to ascertain the prescribed number of hours required by PDE to attain industry credential and sit for NOCTI exam
- Students will still be able to take CTE program classes for elective credit
- District Administration will be situating clear expectations for double periods to ensure that within the double period, there is time situated for direct instruction, guided practice, independent practice, differentiated instruction, and collaboration.

• 2024-25 Guidelines for Early College

- Students will be permitted to enroll in college classes that are offered at the following times:
- Limiting the times at which students can access Early College classes enables the administration to maximize the academic schedule so that students enrolled in Early College have access to courses necessary for graduation when they are back in district
- Collaboration with Jerome Manley, Commonwealth University: CU explains that the parameters being implemented are very consistent with other districts within the region and thus the university offers a broad continuum of courses at the times being targeted.
- Credits earned for Early College will be attributed to elective credit requirements
- Credits earned via Early College Program will not count towards Core Graduation Requirements.
- Students will be encouraged to enroll in classes in both semesters and/or be enrolled in district classes for alternating semester.
- The district will consider extenuating circumstances particularly with Early College students in the 2024-25 SY.

• 2024-25 Guidelines for Work Release

- The Work Release Program is designed for seniors who are interested in gaining job experience while still in high school.
- Class schedule and graduation requirements take first priority. A minimum of 4 credits must be scheduled and include any subjects needed for graduation.
- The school assumes no responsibility for transportation, safety, employment problems or appropriate insurance.
- Work release applications are to be initiated and completed by the student. The application must be signed by the student, parent or guardian, employer and a school official. Students participating in the Work Release Program must abide by the following additional regulations:
 - Must be able to schedule all required courses to meet graduation requirements by the time of the requested release.
 - May not be failing any courses.
 - When a student is not able to attend school they are not able to attend their work release program.
 - If a student is assigned detention, the student is required to return to school at 3:00 PM.
 - Terminate work release if suspended from school for any reason.
 - Maintain a minimum 15 hours of work weekly between Monday to Friday during school hours.
 - Must notify the guidance office immediately of a termination and return to full time.
 - Notify administration or senior high school counselor in advance if there is a change in location of the job site, doing work related errands, or having an excused appointment.
 - Sign out daily in the main office at the end of the last scheduled class period.

- All required paperwork must be completed and turned into the Guidance Office for initial approval. The Guidance Office will forward all documents to the High School Principal for final approval prior to the student being allowed to begin work release.
- An administrator or the senior high school Coop Coordinator will be checking the work site to confirm that the student is complying with the Work Release Guidelines. Final approval is granted by administration. Consideration will be given to the student's educational goals, attendance, scholastic record and school citizenship. If problems arise in any of these areas, Work Release may be terminated.

Health Textbook:

- The current health textbook have been utilized within the district for over ten years. The teachers believe that the book was in rotation prior their employment. Consequently, the current curricular resource does not reflect current understandings in Health Science nor includes prioritized Health Science topics within it.
- Subsequent to exploring various resources, the district Health teachers have recommended the Glencoe Health and Teen Health by McGraw Hill to be considered for procurement.
- The subscription includes text resources as well as online which will promote student engagement and afford ease of access.
- In addition to the typical hardcover textbook (and online feature), McGraw Hill offers a supplemental soft cover "Teen Health Healthy Relationships and Sexuality" book that outlines important points and safety around dating, relationships, and identifying sexuality as well as the male and female reproductive systems.
- Within in the current 7th Grade Wellness curricula, the topics of male and female reproductive system are covered.
- Within the secondary Wellness curricula, dating/relationships is not explicitly discussed. However, the health teachers perceive that discussion on such topics could be beneficial.
- The Glencoe text provides this "sensitive" information in a manner that respectful, clear, and correctly informative as compared to what students may seek out on their own through a google search.
- Cognizant of student needs and what they are experiencing throughout their high school years, the health teachers perceive that the series provides relevant and valuable information that is critical to students' overall health and wellness.