Dear JBHS Families,

Monday Bell Schedule Change - Effective September 20:

Beginning on Monday, September 20 we will no longer be able to have an Early Release Schedule on Mondays. Starting September 20, all Mondays will be on our Traditional Bell Schedule, which is currently used only on Fridays. Updated Bell Schedule - Beginning Monday, September 20

Reason for the Change and Purpose of Early Release Mondays:

I know that this might be unpopular with students and inconvenient for families, so let me briefly explain why this is happening.

Every year we are required by the state of California to offer students a minimum number of instructional minutes. The state allows us to count instructional minutes for our zero period program as long as we have approximately 33% of our students enrolled in zero period. Unfortunately, this year we did not meet that threshold. Therefore, we will need to scale back the number of Early Release Days that we can offer.

The reason that we have Early Release Days is so that our faculty and staff members can attend trainings, conduct research, analyze data, collaborate with colleagues, and develop plans to accomplish schoolwide goals. For example, we used this time to create and implement the Academic Excellence Program. Unfortunately, this year we will need to be more creative in accomplishing these goals since we will not have Early Release time.

Plan for 2022-23

In November of 2019 Governor Newson signed a Senate Bill that requires high schools to begin their regular program at 8:30 a.m. This will go into effect for the 2022-23 school year. It will be our goal to reestablish interest in our zero period program as we redesign our bell schedule for the 2022-23 school year.
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SB328

Student and Parent Forums to Discuss:

Students are welcome to join me in the Auditorium next Tuesday, September 14 during lunch if they have any questions or concerns about this change.

Parents are welcome to join me and our Assistant Principal of Instruction, Mr. Knoop for a virtual discussion on Thursday, September 14 at 5 p.m. The meeting link:
https://burbankusd-org.zoom.us/j/84034088810?pwd=allwU2F6S2Fwd3lJWlJXN3RWSmVnUT09

I sincerely appreciate everyone's flexibility and understanding during this unique time.

Go Bears!

Respectfully,

Matt Chambers, Ed.D.
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