



Subject: FMHS Update - Enhancing Learning Through a New Quarterly Model

Dear Five Mile High School Families,

We are excited to share two important updates to our academic schedule that will take effect September 3, 2025. First of all, we will be moving from using the name “Five Mile High School” to “**Mead Learning Options High School**” or “**MLO HS**,” so please note that exciting name change. Second, beginning next school year, our school will transition from a semester-based calendar to a **quarterly schedule**, with a focus on **two-hour block periods for core content classes**.

Why The Change?

Since we have moved off of the historic prairie site, we are trying to mitigate the confusion of where our school is located, so for the time-being, we will operate as Mead Learning Options High School.

In regards to schedule, this shift is part of our commitment to providing a learning experience that is more engaging, focused, and supportive of deeper understanding. Here's what you can expect:

- **Fewer Classes at a Time:** Students will move from taking 5–6 on-site classes all year to 2–4 classes per quarter.
- **Focused Learning:** Longer class periods (two hours) will allow for more in-depth exploration of subjects and extended hands-on activities. These will run on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9-11 am and 12-2 pm with a 30 minute lunch and 30 minute access/Advisory session in-between. We will also have elective classes on Fridays with a similar block schedule.
- **Faster Progress:** Courses will be completed in a quarter instead of a semester, helping students stay motivated and on pace. Based on student preference, they can choose to take multiple content area courses (that would have previously taken two full school years) over the course of four quarters (one school year).

- **More Flexibility:** This model opens opportunities for enrichment, shared schedules (programs and campus), or credit recovery without overloading students' schedules.

What Stays the Same?

Our academic standards, core content, support services, focus on future-readiness, and commitment to whole-student development remain unchanged. Your student will continue to receive a high-quality, personalized education in a supportive environment with certificated Advisors. We will also make sure students are ready for Running Start, NewTech, and high school graduation.

We believe this new model will foster greater student success by promoting skill-area focus, balance, and mastery of core skills.

We'll be hosting a virtual information meeting on **Thursday, June 12th at 4 pm** (we will record it and have it available on our website for any unable to attend at that time) to answer questions and share more about what this will look like for your student. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Thank you for being a vital part of our school community.

Warmly,

Nick Edwards, Mead Learning Options Principal

Marcella Lybbert, Mead Learning Options High School Director

STUDENT MESSAGING FOR GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Starting September 3, 2025, we're switching to a **quarterly schedule** with **longer (2-hour) block periods** for on-site core subjects. That means:

- ✓ Fewer on-site classes at a time (2–3 instead 5–6)
- ✓ More focus and less daily juggling between content
- ✓ Courses move faster—students have the opportunity to finish in a quarter instead of a semester
- ✓ Block periods = deeper learning, comprehensive projects, and fewer distractions

We're excited about this new format and think it's going to help you stay focused, less stressed, and more successful.

Got questions? Come to the virtual info session on **Thursday, June 12th at 4 pm** or talk to your Advisor!