



Jefferson Middle School 2025/26

Jefferson Instructional Council Thursday (11/13) / @ 7:00 - 7:50 in the Library			
Norms: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assume positive intentions 2. Take an inquiry stance 3. Ground statements in evidence 4. Stick to protocol 5. Start and end on time 6. Be here now 	Attendees: Moses /Shelton (Electives) Monika Unwin (ELA) Greg Hyzy (Math) Suzy Dunnum (Science) Monica Vigil (Social Studies) Christine Ibarra (Head Spec Ed) Ashley Griego (EA Rep) Meghan Armstrong (parent) Casey Mason (parent) Tania Hopkins (parent)	Trini Gallegos (Principal) Patricia Goke (Assistant Principal) Vacancy (Support Staff) J. Ploss (6th grade) Ryan Dukart (7th grade) Elizabeth Jansen (8th grade) Heather Reeves (Union)	
Facilitator: Mark Hedman (IC Chair)			
Notetaker: J. Ploss (Secretary)			
Timekeeper: Kate Siders (IC Vice-Chair & fill-in Secretary)			
Quorum requires the following attendees: 7 members, 4 teachers, 1 admin, and 1 parent			
Meeting Objective: Receive feedback from departments on 6 period versus 7 period day.			
To prepare for this meeting, please: Read the agenda and minutes from the previous IC meeting.			
Consensus: Consensus on approving the last meeting's minutes.			
Take Back to Departments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Phone Use - SSS is overwhelmed by phone infractions. What can we commit to to reduce the number of phones being used inappropriately. ● Interventions - The systems we have in place (Jet Card, Tardy Tracker, Attendance Support Referrals, Counseling Referrals) are informative; please use them! 			
Time:	Minutes:	Who:	Content
7:00 - 7:02	2 Minutes	Hedman	Approve minutes from the last meeting. Consensus on approving the last meeting's minutes.
7:02 - 7:05	3 Minutes	Gallegos	Update on position vacancies.

			<p>Bilingual SS: starts Monday, Claudia Benavidez, has been an EA at Washington, supported students with behavior needs</p> <p>Clerk: Interviewing during SLCs</p> <p>Gifted Science & Gifted Math: A few applicants we will look into</p> <p>Counseling: No applicants</p> <p>This is difficult on the understaffed positions. Support from the other 2 counselors during the week is really helpful. Celena is doing really well.</p> <p>What could APS do differently to attract counselors?</p> <p>Now they have to choose their program (UNM): school-based counseling or mental health. Vicky Price is traveling out of state to recruit.</p> <p>Can the Union advocate at UNM? The issue happens in the music program, too.</p> <p>Are there waivers? Not sure PED allows that. Some schools are currently without counselors entirely.</p> <p>Some schools have Crossroads counselors. They were trying to hire 15, but only 2 people were hired.</p> <p>APS was trying to work with PED to recruit Social Workers, too.</p> <p>Parent emails to PED would be helpful.</p> <p>An email will be sent to the Union on this topic.</p>
7:05 - 7:10	5 Minutes	Gallegos	<p>Union member feedback on next year's advisory schedule</p> <p>48 responses (3 did it twice) 79.2% yes, 20.8% no.</p> <p>This meets the 75% threshold to have Advisory once a week.</p>
7:10 - 7:15	5 Minutes	Gallegos	<p>Any further information on Next Education Workforce Initiative and the Middle School Redesign Cohort 2</p> <p>Jefferson was selected. Mrs. Gallegos and Ms Goke will be traveling to ASU next week. They leave Monday afternoon and are out all day Tuesday.</p>

			<p>Ms Goke was also approved to attend this conference. She may be the only AP from APS attending, but she needs to be there due to scheduling.</p> <p>Second Step emails have been sent, but some teachers weren't able to get in. Some teachers may need support. Focus Team meeting next week is 90 minutes so that staff can be trained on the platform. Second Step has been used at other schools with positive feedback.</p>
7:15 - 7:45	30 Minutes	Hedman	<p>Departmental and grade level feedback on the 6- vs 7-period day.</p> <p>Electives: 7 periods are too much for students nowadays. Concern about how that would affect elective staffing & how that is going to affect the electives offered.</p> <p>Social Studies: Consensus for a 6-period day (with some concern about class sizes)</p> <p>ELA: Consensus for 6-period day (with some concern about class sizes)</p> <p>Math: No consensus, but concern for either option, questions about making math a block/longer, PED guidance is 70 minutes a day, concern about prep time, moving forward the Middle School Redesign will help structure our schedule.</p> <p>Is it possible to mimic the block schedule from HS? (Block is a no because it increases FTE, and at the middle school level it is required to have ELA and math every day). Half of the Math Department is flexible and we will go with whatever, the other half is very concerned about changing the current schedule.</p> <p>Science: Consensus for 6-period day (with some concern about class sizes)</p> <p>Would it be beneficial to offer more semester electives? Not for music - they need more time to actually learn.</p> <p>We will know more about our options for scheduling after visiting ASU.</p>

		<p>Are we bringing back Strats classes? Strats classes did not yield improvements in scores. Electives staffing - if there are fewer electives, how will that affect elective staffing?</p> <p>We used to have more after-school clubs (MESA, Makerspace, etc.).</p> <p>We need to talk about who Jefferson is, though. Eliminating some classes would change who we are because our identity is tied to those classes.</p> <p>Fine Arts funds band, orchestra, choir, and drama.</p> <p>It's probably an individual conversation to have with those teachers.</p> <p>Don't worry about class sizes because we have to follow the negotiated agreement for maximum students per teacher.</p> <p>Re: Cross-cat concerns about the redesign. How does that work for our 2x students? Do we know what our percentage of gifted/cross cat students is?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Cross Cat, Gifted, VI = 305● CC = 125● Gifted = 144● 2X = 30● VI = 7● Total Enrollment = 679 <p>A lot of families come to Jefferson for the gifted services.</p> <p>We are still underrepresented with certain populations in our gifted population. It's important to discuss.</p> <p>The deadline for the gifted referral (Fall) is November 21.</p> <p>If you want support in recognizing potentially gifted students, reach out to Suzy Dunnum.</p> <p>There is also concern about MLSS recommendations. Are those happening? MLSS meetings are happening monthly with the math and ELA departments.</p> <p>There is concern that people don't know how to initiate interventions. Could a mid-year reminder happen? Reminders about legal responsibilities, etc.</p>
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7:45 - 7:50	5 Minutes		<p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Interventions as informative tools ● Cell Phone Policy Enforcement