



Fairfield Public Schools

Elementary Scheduling

Board of Education - March 10, 2026

Rationale

To support all elementary students and teachers in learning and teaching the approved curriculum in a realistic and reasonable schedule that supports the academic goals of the District.

Core Commitments

- Appropriate and consistent time for core academic instruction
- Realistic expectations of an elementary school day

Student Achievement - District

Year	Language Arts	Math	Science
2016-17	74.5%	67.9%	
2017-18	77.9%	70.5%	
2018-19	78.0%	72.5%	74.7%
2020-21*	72.5%	72.4%	67.5%
2021-22	72.4%	66.3%	66.4%
2022-23	72.6%	67.1%	66.8%
2023-24	70.7%	69.1%	68.2%
2024-25	72.5%	72.4%	69.4%

Student Growth - District

Year	Language Arts	Math
2018-19	65.4%	72.1%
2020-21	-	-
2021-22	67.0%	72.7%
2022-23	62.7%	65.7%
2023-24	60.4%	67.9%
2024-25	65.7%	72.1%

Student Achievement - ELA

Year	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
3	73.9%	70.9%	71.5%	68.6%	70.3%
4	69.8%	77.9%	73.6%	71.2%	75.5%
5	80.7%	77.7%	76.7%	77.4%	76.1%
6	64.0%	74.1%	68.9%	69.6%	71.9%
7	67.5%	67.7%	74.3%	66.4%	70.0
8	75.8%	67.6%	71.0%	71.2%	71.6%

Student Achievement - Math

Year	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
3	75.1%	73.5%	74.9%	72.2%	75.8%
4	65.3%	74.5%	74.4%	70.9%	73.5%
5	70.1%	70.0%	72.1%	69.7%	69.6%
6	51.0%	68.9%	63.7%	70.8%	75.6%
7	52.8%	57.8%	65.8%	69.5%	73.2%
8	58.4%	56.1%	53.4%	61.8%	66.4%



The Current Challenges

- 395 minutes in an instructional day (430 total minutes - teachers' contract)
- 2,370 minutes in the current 6-day cycle (2,580 minutes- teachers' contract)

Cycle Overages (6-day)

Kindergarten	40 minutes
First	50 minutes
Second	50 minutes
Third	110 minutes
Fourth	130 minutes
Fifth	145 minutes

Current Schedule - Example

Time	Discipline / Activity
8:55-9:15	Morning Meeting w/ transition
9:15-9:55	Writing
9:55-10:05	Snack
10:05-10:45	Special
10:45-11:50	Reading
11:50-12:50	Recess & Lunch
1:00-2:00	Math
2:00-2:30	WINN
2:35-3:15	Science / Social Studies
3:15-3:30	Dismissal

Current Schedule - Example

Time	Discipline / Activity
8:55-9:15	Morning Meeting (transition)
9:15-9:55	Writing (reduced to 10 minutes)
9:20-9:50 - A & E Day - Spanish	
9:55-10:05	Snack
10:05-10:45	Special
10:45-11:15 - C Day - Art	
10:45-11:55	Reading (reduced to 35 minutes)
11:55-12:55	Recess & Lunch
1:00-2:00	Math
2:00-2:30	WINN
2:35-3:15	Science / Social Studies <i>A decision to recuperate lost ELA time may be made here.</i>
3:15-3:30	Dismissal (Transition)

Review Process

- August 2025 - January 2026
 - 16 member team of administrators and curriculum leadership
 - Review of current schedule
 - Review of other Districts' elementary schedules
 - Build a schedule with no restrictions outside of time constraints
 - Staff feedback via Google (February 3) and school representative meeting (March 3)
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- January - Curriculum Committee presentation
 - February 3 - Presentation to elementary staff
 - February 10 - Presentation to the Board of Education
 - February 18 - Curriculum Committee review
 - February 26 - Curriculum Committee review
 - March 9 - Curriculum Committee presentation and review
 - March 10 - Presentation to the Board of Education for final feedback

Committee Review

- Expansion of the “special” block
- Rotating “special” block
- Variation of “specials”
- 5-day cycle v. 6-day cycle

Other Considerations

- Before school chorus or studio art
- Science as a longer block
- Music lessons

Common Administrative Proposal Recommendations

- Six day rotation
- Interventions will be incorporated within language arts and math.
- Language arts and math blocks are increased.
- Transitions are included and consistent.
- “Special” and academic classes are a consistent block of time.
- Elements of STEAM incorporated into science and library.
- Spanish becomes a “special.”
- Preservation of the grade-level meeting

Recommended Schedule - Example

Morning Meeting (20)
Math (80)
Snack (10)
English Language Arts (60)
Transition (5)
Special (45)
Lunch & Recess (55)
Science or Social Studies (45)
English Language Arts (60)
Transition (5)
Dismissal (10)

Day	Special (K-2)	Special (3-5)
A	Art	Spanish
B	Music	Art
C	Physical Education	Music
D	Art	Physical Education
E	Library	Library
F	Physical Education	Physical Education
7th	Music	Music

Proposed Schedule - Specials

- Spanish becomes a special for 3-5 (currently supplants another area)
 - 1x / week for 45 minutes per session
- Art remains a special for all grades with time variations
 - Grade K gains 50 minutes per cycle
 - Grades 1 & 2 gain 40 minutes per cycle
 - Grade 3 is reduced by 5 minutes per cycle
 - Grades 4 & 5 reduces by 25 minutes per cycle
- Music, Physical Education, and Library maintain their frequency within a six-day cycle at 45 minutes.
 - Chorus in grade 5 is 45 minutes per cycle.

Why make the change?

- ✓ Commit to what we say we are doing
- ✓ Programming consistently
- ✓ Consistent block of learning time by subject
- ✓ Recuperate instruction devoted to reading, writing, math, science, and social studies
- ✓ Build content and background knowledge
- ✓ Realistic expectations for teachers and students

Conclusion and Next Steps

- Board of Education Feedback
- Curriculum Impact
- Financial Impact



Questions / Comments