Welcome!

District Optimization Task Force



Aug. 31, 2026 | **High School Schedule Task Force**



Welcome and Community Builder

Welcome: One Hope, One Worry

Take two sticky notes in two different colors — Green for a hope, Yellow for a worry about this work.

Share your name, role, and (30–45 sec) one hope and one worry for how we do this work.

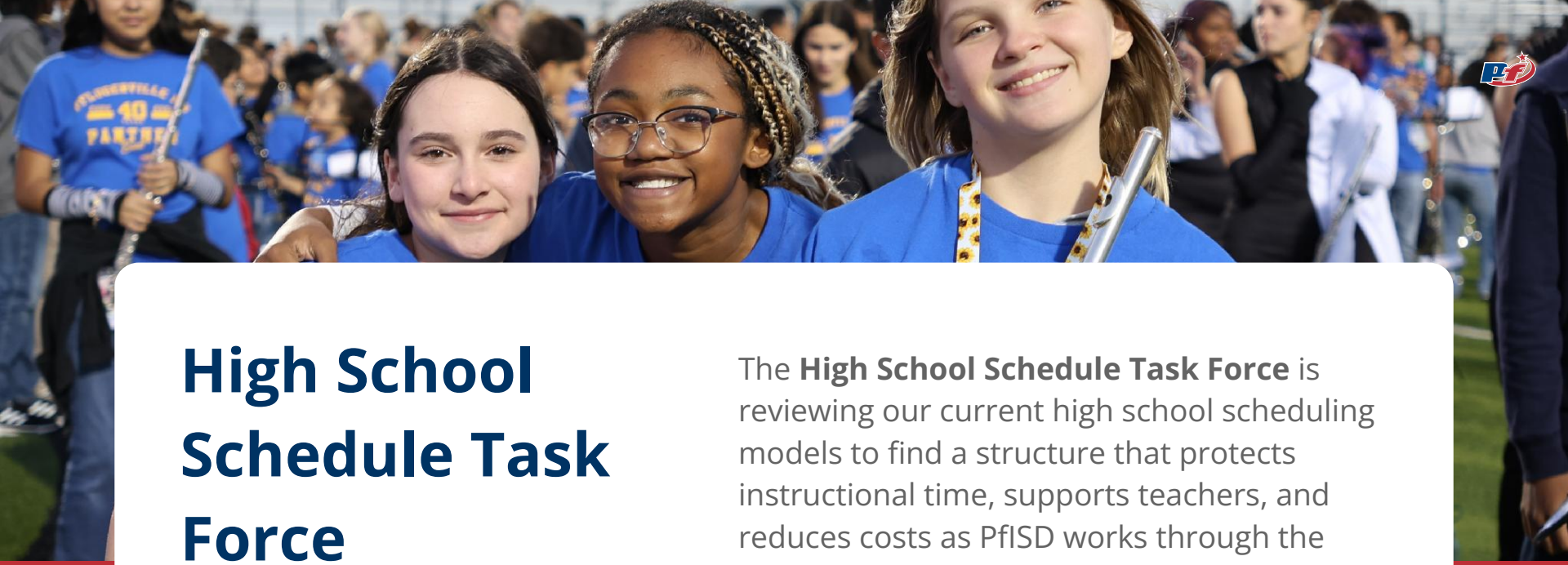
We'll return to these notes as the committee's work unfolds.

Orientation

Our Role, Process, and Responsibilities



Aug. 31, 2026 | High School Schedule Task Force



High School Schedule Task Force

The **High School Schedule Task Force** is reviewing our current high school scheduling models to find a structure that protects instructional time, supports teachers, and reduces costs as PfISD works through the statewide school funding shortfall.

The Task Force will study options, gather input from principals, teachers, students, and families, and bring a recommendation to the district for the 2027–28 school year.

Agenda

01 Task Force Orientation

02 Purpose & Decision Needed

03 Core Working Session

04 Decision & Consensus Reached

05 Action Items & Owners

06 Exit Ticket/Next Meeting Focus

Task Force Operating Norms



Aug. 31, 2026 | High School Schedule Task Force

Purpose of Norms

These norms we will review apply to all optimization task forces to ensure consistent, efficient use of time and a clear, credible path for bringing recommendations to the District's Executive Cabinet and Board of Trustees.

Every task force is a recommending body. Final decision authority rests with the District's Executive Cabinet.

If a recommendation is not reached by the task force, decision-making authority will be deferred to Cabinet.

Task Force Norms



Start and end on time regardless of attendance; default length 60–120 minutes.



Discussions, materials, & draft recommendations are confidential until agenda & minutes are posted publicly. Do not share, discuss outside the group, or photograph/screenshot materials.



Participants must not discuss, post about, or reference deliberations or materials on social media at any time; questions about public sharing should be directed to the Task Force facilitator.



One conversation at a time — side conversation topics go to the “Parking Lot” to be addressed by the task force facilitator.



Rely on data/evidence over anecdotes when evaluating options.



Discourse on substance is expected and welcomed — it should remain civil; critique ideas, not people.

Our Purpose & Role



Aug. 31, 2026 | High School Schedule Task Force

Our Purpose & Role



We Recommend

We provide data, options, and recommendations to inform Cabinet decisions. Final authority rests with Cabinet — not the Task Force.

We Operate Within Scope

Each Task Force has a specific written charge. We stay within it — and route out-of-scope issues to the right owner.

We Debate Ideas

Discourse on substance is expected. Critique ideas, not people. Rely on data and evidence over anecdotes.

Understanding Your Charge

Your Assignment

Each Task Force operates under a specific written charge defining scope, target decision dates, and the precise questions we are answering.

Managing Scope

When issues arise outside our charge, we log and route them to the appropriate owner — we do not absorb them.

High School Schedule Task Force Charge

Roles & Responsibilties



01

Facilitator

Enforces norms, manages time-boxing, and runs the "Parking Lot." Non-voting role.



02

Recorder

Captures decisions, options, and action items. Ensures Swivl recording is uploaded.



03

Time Keeper

Tracks time per agenda item and signals transitions to the Facilitator.



04

Members

Come prepared having reviewed pre-reads. Represent stakeholder perspectives.

Decision Making & Meeting Cadence

High School Schedule Task Force

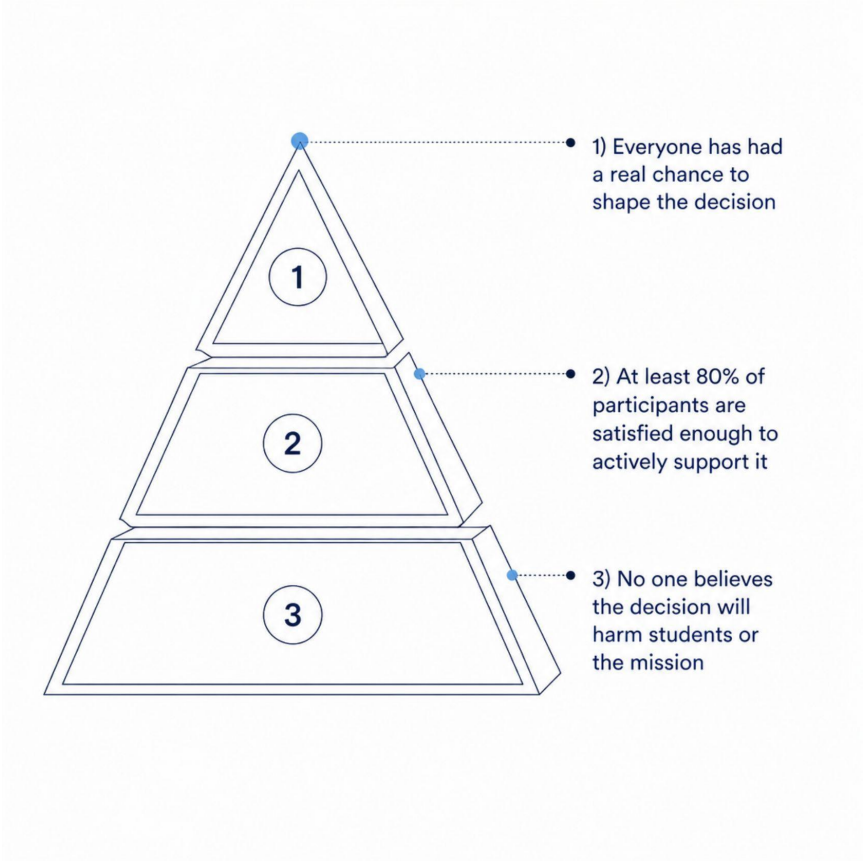


Decision Making Protocol

The Standard

- Everyone had a genuine chance to shape the decision
- At least 80% of participants actively support it
- No one believes it will harm students or the mission

We Seek Consensus
We work until everyone's voice is heard, concerns are addressed, and all members can support the outcome — even if it's not their first choice.



Handling Dissent

Dissent Is Not Failure

Documented dissent strengthens recommendations by surfacing risks Cabinet should weigh.

What We Record

The minority position, its rationale, and any conditions under which dissenters could support the decision.

If 80% consensus cannot be reached, we **document the dissenting view**. Cabinet must see where disagreement exists — not just the majority position.

Documentation & Transparency

Please refrain from sharing out task force meeting information for 48 hours.

48

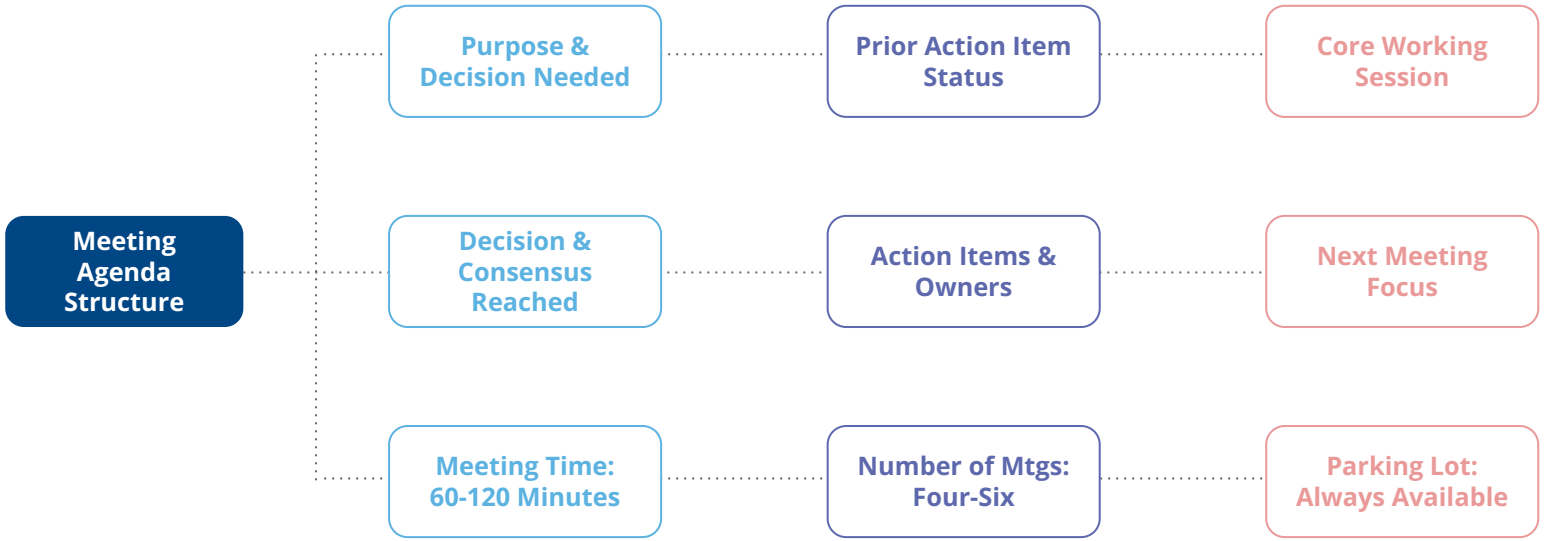
Confidentiality

All deliberations are confidential until minutes and agendas are posted publicly. Please, no social media discussion of Task Force work.

What We Produce

Minute meetings, deliberations, action items; video recording of meetings, written summary of outcomes.

Meeting Cadence





Fence & Field

Closing activity | 15 minutes

Fence and Field

Think, pair, and share



Fence or Field?

FENCE

Fixed by our charge. Not ours to change. We build inside it.

Example: a minimum of $3M in savings, verified by Timely.

FIELD

Genuinely ours to decide, shape, or recommend.

Example: what the schedule must protect while meeting savings for the District.

How the 15 minutes work

Your handout. Side one now, side two before you leave.

01

Sort alone · 4 min

Mark all ten F, O, or ?. No conferring.

02

Pair up · 5 min

Discuss only where you marked differently.

03

Write four · 4 min

One characteristic per success measure.

The ten statements

Pulled from our administrative charge. Mark each one.

01 – 05

01 A minimum of $3M in cost savings

02 A savings goal of $5M

03 Savings verified by Timely

04 Report due November 1, 2026

05 Recommendations for 2027–28

06 – 10

06 Modified block is in scope

07 Rigor and wellness stay central

08 Staffing, transport, facility impacts

09 Input from all stakeholder groups

10 Two-way communication throughout

“

Where the room splits, we do not resolve it tonight. It becomes a written question for administration.

Questions for Administration

Meeting Dates…

Core Working Session	Core Working Session	Public Hearing	Core Working Session, if needed
Sept. 15	Sept. 22	Oct. 27	Nov. 10 (if needed)

All Meetings begin at 5:30 PM at the LTC Building

4 Classes Or 8

What roughly 330 comments from the Spring 2026 Optimization survey say about moving all 4 high schools off the block schedule model, and what the trend data



Four characteristics

Before you leave, write one for each measure: “the schedule should _____ so that _____.”

01

Maximize learning time

What has to be protected so we don’t lose the learning experience?

02

Ensure equitable access

What can students not lose? What must we protect for them?

03

Support staff well-being

What is the limit we must not cross? What specific outcome would harm staff?

04

Reduce spending

Do not leave this one blank.

Thank you!

