



Alternative Schedules

February 27, 2019



Additional Considerations

Year round school

- 45-15 plan, in which students attend school for 45 days then have 15 days off or the 60-20 and 90-30 calendars, where students are in class for 60 or 90 days with vacations of 20 or 30 days respectively.

Staggered shift or 8 period day

- School start begins in staggered pattern, where students begin and end at different times of the day to reduce total number in the school at one time.

Double shifting

- School operates in two shifts, with one group of students in the building early in the day and a second group of students later in the day.



Minimum Basic Ed. Requirements

- Minimum Basic Education Compliance (MBEC): RCW 28A.150.220
- Increased the number of instructional minutes required per student beginning in 2015-16 school year
- Scheduling options used “in the past” at JHS (block scheduling and three lunches to reduce congestion) no longer comply with the MBEC
- The challenge with alternative schedules today is to meet compliance with MBEC in addition to factors of available space and overcrowding



Jackson High School

For example, under the new BEMC rules, the old JHS schedule with three lunches would not meet the number of required hours, falling well below 1000.

JHS	2019		2018
Grade 9	981.1		1034.6
Grade 10	992.6		1047.4
Grade 11	983.8		1037.7
Grade 12	981.1		1034.6



Year-round school

- Community feedback: least liked scheduling option presented at forums and online
- Concerns about equity- would JHS be the only high school to have this schedule?
- Missed opportunities if students and staff are on an “off-time” when events are happening in the region and state
- Family routines and financial impacts with younger siblings



6-Period Schedule

- Our current scheduling system
- Teach 5 of 6 periods a day; one period to plan
- Classes meet daily
- Most total time per course than all other scheduling options
- Percentage of core-67%; more than all other schedule options
- Cost is less than 8 period schedule

Period 1
Period 2
Period 3
Period 4
Period 5
Period 6

Source: Rettig, 2017



8-Period Schedule (staggered)

- Classes meet daily
- Lunch built around periods
- Teach 5 of 8 periods a day; one period to plan
- Local example: used by Mountlake Terrace in the 1990's when new building was under construction
- All students on campus during the middle periods of the school day does not address population reduction or space concerns

Period 1
Period 2
Period 3
Period 4
Period 5
Period 6
Period 7
Period 8



8-Period schedule

- “In 1996, Clover Park School District had one school switch from a traditional six-period schedule to an A/B Block Schedule with eight courses. After piloting in one school, the district moved all schools to that schedule. District personnel estimated that the schedule change cost approximately \$800,000 to 1 million a year because of the need for more teachers” (Peterson & Gratama, 2015).
- In 2014, Federal Way School District moved all high schools to an A/B block schedule with eight courses; the district estimated cost was \$250,000 more per high school for teachers (Peterson & Gratama, 2015).



Double Shift Scheduling

- Community feedback: least opposed scheduling option presented at forums and online
- Only scheduling option that address population reduction and mitigates limited space concerns
- Requires a “draw off” of 350+ to run an cost efficient master schedule
- Additional staff needed (classified, certificated & administrative)
- Who, what, when
- Participation optional or selected by necessity
- Potential negative impacts to families and students



Double Shift Scheduling

- Can this shift be done equitably?
- Participation optional or selected by necessity?
- How would this scheduling shift impact student access to afterschool activities, athletics, volunteering and jobs?
- Would some students be unable to participate due to programmatic or special needs?
- How will these schedule shifts impact family morning and evening routines, childcare options, and transportation to and from school?
- Will there be a unintended or unseen financial impact on families by making such schedule shifts?



References

Peterson, K., Gratama, C. (2015). Master Schedule Analysis Study; Highline Public Schools

Rettig, M. (2017). High School Scheduling Presentation; Everett Public Schools

