

# Middle School Schedule Board Presentation

March 6, 2017

# Our Purpose

Guiding Question: *Does our current middle schedule still best meet the needs of our students?*

# 2017–2018 School Year:

The plan for the 2017–2018 school year contains two parts:

1. Adopt a predictable schedule for the 17–18 school year. The schedule will contain a fixed rotation of a 3 and/or 4 block structure.
2. Continue examination of time allotted to subject areas, use of X-Block and staffing allocations at the middle level.

# What work has been accomplished to address our guiding question?

**Fall 2015:** The middle school schedule needed adjusting to allow for the addition of a new course at each grade level and a new staff member to service all three grades. This led to the convening of a middle school schedule committee to explore possibilities for a new middle school schedule.

**Summer:** 4 meetings to develop options for staff to review

**Fall:** staff review/discuss options for refinement

**November:** staff continue dialogue around options

**December:** presentation to EDCO on work to this point

**January:** presentation to PTA on work to this point. Committee continues to look at options for implementation

**February:** Presentation to staff

**February:** Presentation to Cabinet

**March:** Presentation to Board of Education

# Current Flexible Block Schedule

“A” Blocks: Fine Arts, PE, Global Language

“B” Blocks: Reading, Writing, Math, SS, Science

“B” Block teachers have a set number of minutes each day to divide. This allows for

- longer and shorter classes depending on the needs of the curriculum.
- students to have classes at different times during the day.

		Minutes	Omni (6)	Journey (6)	Jigsaw (7)	Patriots (7)	Pathfinders (8)	Galaxy (8)
1	8:25- 9:12	47	B Block 146 Minutes 8:25 - 10:51	B Block 146 Minutes 8:25 - 10:51	B Block 92 Minutes 8:25 - 9:57	B Block 92 Minutes 8:25 - 9:57	3 FA, X block	4 PE, 3 GL (Team Plan)
2	9:15-9:57	42					3 PE, 3 GL (Team Plan)	3 FA, X block
3	10:00-10:42	42			5 PE, 5 GL, RS (Individual Plan)		B Block 132 minutes 10:00 - 12:12	B Block 132 minutes 10:00 - 12:12
4	10:45-11:27	42	Lunch 10:54-11:24		3 PE, 3 GL (Team Plan)	3 FA, X block		
5	11:30-12:00	30	B block 90 Minutes 11:27 - 12:57	B block 90 Minutes 11:27 - 12:57	Lunch 11:30-12:00		Lunch 12:15-12:45	
6	12:03-12:45	42			3 FA, X block	3 PE, 2 GL (Team Plan)		
7	12:48-1:30	42	X Block 1:00-1:30		B Block 132 minutes 12:48 - 3:00	B Block 132 minutes 12:48 - 3:00	5 PE, 5 GL, RS (Individual Plan)	
8	1:33-2:15	42	A1 - GL/FA/PE/RS (Individual Plan)	A1 - GL/FA/PE/RS (Individual Plan)			B Block 87 Minutes 1:33 - 3:00	B Block 87 Minutes 1:33 - 3:00
9	2:18-3:00	42	A2 - GL/FA/PE/RS (Team Plan)	A2 - GL/FA/PE/RS (Team Plan)				

# Master Schedule Considerations

- Student groups always have to transition in a way where there is a place for them to go.
- One Group of A Block teachers for all grades, so their schedules cannot overlap.
- Lunches cannot overlap.

Band/Choir/Orchestra 7:20-8:15

B Block  
142 Minutes  
8:25 - 10:47

Lunch 10:50-11:20

B block  
94 Minutes  
11:23 - 12:57

X Block 1:00-1:30

A1 - GL/FA/PE  
(Team Plan)  
1:33-2:15

A2 - GL/FA/PE/RS  
(Individual Plan)  
2:18-3:00

## Current 6th Grade Schedule

- ❑ PE 42 minutes everyday
- ❑ Fine Arts and Global Language (GL) 42 minutes every other day. FA rotates by trimester (drama/art/music)
- ❑ Lunch/Recess 30 minutes every day
- ❑ X Block 30 minutes every day
- ❑ B block for Math, SS, Sci, Reading, Writing
  - 4 block days=56 minute classes
  - 3 block days=76 minute classes

Band/Choir/Orchestra 7:20-8:15

B Block  
92 Minutes  
8:25 - 9:57

5 PE, 5 GL, RS, ELL (Individual Plan)  
10:00-10:42

3 PE, 3 GL (Team Plan)  
10:45-11:27

Lunch 11:30-12:00

3 FA, X block  
12:03-12:45

B Block  
132 minutes  
12:48 - 3:00

## Current 7th/8th Grade Schedule

- ❑ PE 42 minutes everyday
- ❑ GL 42 minutes everyday
- ❑ Fine Arts and X Block 42 minutes every other day. FA rotates by trimester (drama/art/music)
- ❑ Lunch/Recess 30 minutes every day
- ❑ B block for Math, SS, Sci, Reading, Writing
  - 4 block days=51 minute classes
  - 3 block days=70 minute classes



# X Block (excel, explore, extend, expand)

## History...

- Implemented in the 2008–09 school year to support students in a variety of ways through both remediation and enrichment

## How it is used...

- Formal Interventions
- Remediation
- Situational Academic Support
- Situational Executive Functioning Support
- Supporting Social-Emotional Needs of Middle Schoolers\*\* (Erin's Law, Erika's Lighthouse)
- Enrichment opportunities (coding, election unit, etc...)
- Team/Building Admin. Activities (celebrations, admin talks, guest speakers, etc.)

## Plan moving forward...

- The middle schools will engage in an evaluation of X Block to ensure that there are consistent program goals and implementation guidelines across both schools.

# Current Minutes (average per day)

Subject	Minutes per day	Minutes per week
ELA	84	420
Math	42	210
Social Studies	42	210
Science	42	210
PE	42	210
FA	21	105
GL 6th Grade	21	105
GL 7th/8th Grade	42	210

# Comparison of area schools' minutes

Minutes per day (week)	District 34	Field	Northbrook JH	Maple
<b>School Day Minutes</b>	395 (1975)	417 (2085)	420 (2100)	420 (2100)
<b>Lunch Minutes</b>	30 (150)	40 (200)	40 (200)	37 (185)
<b>ELA Minutes</b>	87 (435)	80 (400)	80 (400)	77 (385)
<b>Math Minutes</b>	42 (210)	60 (300)	40 (200)	77 (385)
<b>Science Minutes</b>	42 (210)	40 (200)	40 (200)	37 (185)
<b>Social Studies Minutes</b>	42 (210)	40 (200)	40 (200)	37 (185)
<b>Advisory Minutes</b>	N/A	20	N/A	12 (60)
<b>X Block Minutes</b>	6th = 30 (150) 7th/8th = 21 (105)	N/A	30 (150)	N/A
<b>Fine Art, PE, GL &amp; Elective Minutes</b>	6th= 84 (420) 7th/8th= 105 (525)	120 (600)	120 (600)	111(555)
<b>Average Class Size</b>	S=27, A=26	19	21	22

# Fixed 3 Block Rotation

## 6th Grade - 3 Block Week

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:25 – 9:42	Block 1	Block 4	Block 2	Block 5	Block 3
9:47 – 10:51 (split)	Block 2	Block 5	Block 3	Block 1	Block 4
10:54 – 11:24	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
11:30-11:40 (split)	Block 2	Block 5	Block 3	Block 1	Block 4
11:45-12:55	Block 3	Block 1	Block 4	Block 2	Block 5
1:00 – 1:29	X Block	X Block	X Block	X Block	X Block
1:33 – 2:15	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1
2:18 – 3:00	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2

## 7th Grade - 3 Block Week

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:25 – 9:39	Block 1	Block 4	Block 2	Block 5	Block 3
9:43 – 9:57 (split)	Block 2	Block 5	Block 3	Block 1	Block 4
10:00 – 10:42	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1
10:45 – 11:27	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2
11:30 - 12:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:03-12:45 (split)	A3	A3	A3	A3	A3
12:48-1:45	Block 2	Block 5	Block 3	Block 1	Block 4
1:49 – 3:00	Block 3	Block 1	Block 4	Block 2	Block 5

# Fixed 4 Block Rotation

## 6th Grade - 4 Block Week

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:25 – 9:22	Block 1	Block 5	Block 4	Block 3	Block 2
9:27 – 10:20	Block 2	Block 1	Block 5	Block 4	Block 3
10:25 – 10:51 (split)	Block 3	Block 2	Block 1	Block 5	Block 4
10:54 – 11:24	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
11:30 – 11:57 (split)	Block 3	Block 2	Block 1	Block 5	Block 4
12:02 – 12:55	Block 4	Block 3	Block 2	Block 1	Block 5
1:00 – 1:29	X Block	X Block	X Block	X Block	X Block
1:33 – 2:15	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1
2:18 – 3:00	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2

## 7th Grade - 4 Block Week

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:25 – 9:22	Block 1	Block 5	Block 4	Block 3	Block 2
9:26 – 9:57	Block 2	Block 1	Block 5	Block 4	Block 3
10:00 – 10:42	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1
10:45 – 11:27	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2
11:30 – 12:00	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
12:03 – 12:45	A3	A3	A3	A3	A3
12:48 – 1:09	Block 2	Block 1	Block 5	Block 4	Block 3
1:13 – 2:04	Block 3	Block 2	Block 1	Block 5	Block 4
2:08 – 3:00	Block 4	Block 3	Block 2	Block 1	Block 5

# Variations looked at through our committee work

## No X-Block

### Plus:

- Additional minutes can be dedicated to other classes

### Delta:

- Need to find a time for student interventions (during FA, GL, SS)
- Need to find a time to teach Fine Arts
- Need to reinforce SEL across all grades and subjects
- No remediation offered during the school day
- What to do opposite global language in 6th grade
- 5 or 6 PE classes at a time

# Variations looked at through our committee work

## A/B Day Model

### Plus:

- Predictable schedule
- Increase in math minutes
- No increase in FTE
- Long blocks of class time
- Daily math

### Delta:

- Reduction in ELA, Science, SS minutes
- There could be potential changes in teaching assignments

# Variations looked at through our committee work

## Humanities/STEM

### Plus:

- Predictable schedule
- Increase in math minutes
- Increase in science minutes

### Delta:

- Shorter SS classes (36 minutes)
- Students travel as groups from class to class
- There could potentially be a change in teaching assignments



# Variations looked at through our committee work

## Math Off-Team

### Plus:

- Predictable schedule
- Increase in math minutes (53 minutes every day)
- Daily Math
- PE teachers teach 5 classes
- Math teachers teach 4 classes

### Delta:

- Increase in FTE
- Reduction in GL minutes (53 minutes every other day)
- Math teachers not at team meetings
- PE four days a week (same amount of minutes)
- Math teachers teach multiple grades

# Where are we going?:

- ❑ The principals will meet with the new superintendent to determine the long term outcomes and establish the clearly defined charge and timeline for the middle school scheduling committee.
- ❑ The principals will collaborate with staff to determine the steps necessary to implement the recommended schedule changes.
- ❑ A committee comprised of staff from both middle schools will be created to provide the principals with information about how X block is currently used and how it might be best used to support all students.
- ❑ Identify data sources and sets to inform future work