

APW Jr./Sr. High School
High School Schedule Change
November 2020



✓ **Challenge**

- High School students are currently required to stay in one assigned classroom. Our teachers rotate to students during the day to provide instruction and support. Due to the diverse course offerings at the high school level, our hybrid schedule limitations, teachers teaching multiple grade levels, and social distancing requirements, it has been challenging to schedule teachers to be in front of all of their students.

✓ **Input from students, staff, and families**

- Since September, we have been gathering feedback and input from all stakeholders to determine how effective our instructional model has been. Students, staff, and families have reported that they prefer us to find a way to get all students in front of all of their teachers when they report to school in-person.

✓ **Solution**

- We are building a master schedule that will allow students to move to different classrooms throughout the school day. This will allow them to be in front of all of their core teachers (English, Math, Science, Social Studies). We believe this will increase student engagement and achievement. Elective and special classes will remain virtual.

✓ **How will this effect 7th and 8th Grade?**

- The high school schedule change will have a limited effect on these grade levels. There may be some minor staffing modifications to accommodate the new high school schedule. The in-person instructional model at these grade levels has been successful so far. The typical 7th and 8th grade day will remain unchanged.

✓ **How we will accomplish this?**

- After conducting research on how other area schools are successfully moving kids within their building, we have determined we can accomplish this in a safe manner.
- Students will receive new schedules that will allow them to move to different classes within the current 4 block schedule that we started in September.
- Students will continue to wear a mask and will be socially distanced six feet apart in each classroom.
- When students transition classes, the expectation is that they will stay on the right side of the hallway, stay socially distanced from others, and continue to wear a mask.
- A video message from the school principal will be sent to all students through their APW Gmail that will explain expectations for the new schedule.
- Staff will be trained on how to safely disinfect chairs/desks that were occupied by students to prepare for the next group of students arriving to their classroom.

✓ **When we will accomplish this?**

- The first day of the new schedule will be Thursday, November 19th. We originally planned for the 16th, but we had to delay the start due to the complexity of building the scheduling and making sure all stakeholders are educated on the expectations for this new model.

- ✓ **Student breakfast/lunch, transportation, and entering/exiting the building**
 - Students will eat breakfast/lunch in their classroom as they did with our previous schedule.
 - The transportation schedule will remain the same.
 - Students will enter and exit the building as they have since the beginning of the year.

- ✓ **Chromebooks and laptops**
 - Students will still have access to electronic devices when they arrive at school. The procedure for signing out a device will remain the same. The only difference is, high school students will leave their device on the cart outside of their 4th block class.

- ✓ **Instruction**
 - The main purpose of the schedule change is for students and teachers to have more access to each other. This will allow teachers to support students more effectively. We will continue to prioritize using electronic devices as a main source of instruction. Most high school teachers will continue using Edgenuity as an instructional resource. They will also blend other forms of instruction in parallel with this program. We still want to limit the amount of materials and paper that is being shared between students and staff.

- ✓ **Elimination of Brain Break**
 - We will be eliminating the daily brain break at the high school level to accommodate the transition of classes. Lunch at the high school level will be slightly longer in this new model. The increased lunch time will help make up for the elimination of the brain break.

- ✓ **Increased expectations of wearing masks**
 - All students and staff will be required to wear their masks at all times to keep everyone safe. Teachers will build in time during class for a brief “mask break” so students can take their masks off for a short period of time. Once the mask break is over, all students will be required to put their masks back on. Students are permitted to take off their masks during breakfast/lunch.

- ✓ **Students that want to return to in-person learning**
 - If your student is a 100% virtual learner and you would like to send them back to school two days a week, please contact your student’s guidance counselor. Once you communicate your request to the guidance department, we will inform you of a date in which your student can return to school in-person.

- ✓ **In Summary**
 - Based on the feedback we have received from multiple stakeholders, the research we have conducted on how other schools are successfully (and safely) accomplishing a similar schedule, and the desire to provide the best education and opportunities for our kids, we believe this change is extremely positive. We will monitor and adjust the new schedule as we move forward to ensure we are best serving our kids. Thank you for your support of this exciting new schedule!

