

Sandy Creek High School

Proposal 7 Period Pilot Program Calendar Year 2012-2013

November, 2011

Why?

- 7 Period day would afford students the opportunity to take more Career Tech and Fine Arts courses
- Career Tech and Fine Arts programs are most at risk
- Lowest high school enrollment in the county
- Fewer students to fill slots
- Elective courses are competing for students

Current Graduation Requirements

- 4 years of Mathematics
- 4 years of Science
- 4 years of English
- 3 years of Social Studies
- 1 unit of Health/Personal Fitness
- 7 units of electives over 4 years
 - Many of these are taken by Math Support, Read 180, Study Skills, etc.

(High School Day Committee, 2011)

Impact on Struggling Learners

- Students who need to take Math Support and/or READ 180 often do not get to take any electives of their choosing
- Students with the most academic struggles spend their entire day in academic classes
- When credit recovery is needed, these students must choose options outside of the school day in order to remain on track for graduation (online courses are not approved by NCAA)

(High School Day Committee, 2011)

Impact on Accelerated Learners

- Students often have to choose between fine arts and foreign language classes in order to meet Board of Regents Requirements
- An increased emphasis on Advanced Placement classes further affects student choices in electives
- Many accelerated students would also like to participate in a fine arts ensemble for 4 years
- Students wanting to major in a technical field in college often cannot schedule our technical CTAE courses because of Board of Regents and Advanced Placement needs

(High School Day Committee, 2011)

7 Period Day Framework

- Divides the school year into 2 semesters
- Students take 7 classes each semester
- Core teachers teach 5/7; elective teachers teach 6/7 with no duty
- Each class meets for 18 weeks earning .5 credit
- Classes are 51 minutes each (State Guidelines)
- Students can earn 28 credits in 4 years
- Most classes meet year long

Core Teacher vs. Elective Teacher Schedules

<i>5/7 Periods</i>	<i>6/7 Periods</i>
English	Career Tech
Math	Fine Arts
Science	Physical Education
Social Studies	JROTC
Foreign Language	

7 Period Schedule

9th Grade Student

Period	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
1	9 th Math A	9 th Math B
2	Band	Band
3	Spanish 1A	Spanish 1B
4	9 th English A	9 th English B
5	Biology A	Biology B
6	Personal Fitness	Health
7	ROTC 1A	ROTC 1B

7 Period Day Bell Schedule

1 st	8:38 - 9:30 (add 2 Minutes)
2 nd	9:36 - 10:27
3 rd	10:33 - 11:24
4 th	11:30 - 12:50 (would include 2 lunches)
5 th	12:56 - 1:47
6 th	1:53 - 2:44
7 th	2:48 - 3:41 (add 1 Minute)

Advantages

- Easiest model to transition to from a six period day
- Additional academic electives could be offered
- Does not require additional staff to transition to 7th period day
- Increases the total amount of instruction that a student receives in one day
- Would make additional offerings available to all (not just those who can provide their own transportation)
- Would support common planning time to allow for common unit and assessment planning
- Would allow time for collaboration built in school day
- Professional Learning Community Model (PLC)

(High School Day Committee, 2011)

Disadvantages

- Would require an additional extension to the school day (approximately 3 minutes)
- Could overwhelm some students who struggle with 6 classes
- Will remove Instructional Focus period

(High School Day Committee, 2011)

Instructional Focus Period

- Replaced by an additional READ 180 course
- Add a Study Skills course
- Add a SAT Prep course
- Parent conferences during collaborative time
- Response to Intervention (RTI) meetings

Comparison

	6 Period Day	7 Period Day
How many credits can students earn?	24	28
How many classes per day?	6	7
Length of classes in minutes?	50-55	51
Would the school day have to be increased?	No	Yes (~3 minutes)
How many classes would a teacher teach per day?	5	5 (Core) 6 (Elective)
How much planning time do teachers receive per day?	50-55	51 (Core) 51 (Collaborative Time) 51 (Elective)
Opportunities for collaborative planning?	No	Yes
Opportunities to take more electives?	No	Yes

A New Schedule Will...

- Allow students to take advanced electives while remaining in 4 years of fine arts, foreign language, or CTAE classes
- Allow students to meet Board of Regents Requirements while also giving them the opportunity to take more advanced and diversified electives

(High School Day Committee, 2011)

A New Schedule Will...

- Allow SCHS to offer in-house credit recovery opportunities that fulfill requirements
- Allow students who need math support and READ 180 the opportunity to take at least one class of their choosing during the school day
- Allow teachers to work with students needing remediation or acceleration during the collaborative time - Response To Intervention (RTI)