



High School Schedule Redesign Update

School Committee

November 14th, 2017

Background

- Schedule redesign process initiated to facilitate possible shift to later start times
- Focus on redesigning the inner workings of the high school daily and weekly cycle
- Targets for schedule revision process
 - 6.5 hour school day
 - Consistent start and end times
 - Alignment between North and South schedules
- Revised schedule would not immediately require a later start time


Schedule History

- Current schedules at North & South adopted in 1990's after MA Ed. Reform
- Separate North & South faculty committees worked independently
- Contractual negotiations happened prior to committee work and narrowed possible options for incorporating longer blocks.
- Final schedule was a compromise

Current High School Schedules

Newton South High School					
Name:	Advisory/ HR:				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:40	A1	G1	A2	A3	A4
8:35			75 min		
8:40	B1	F2	8:55	B3	B4
9:35			B2		75 min
	Homeroom 5 min	Advisory 9:40-10:05		Homeroom 5 min	
9:50	C1	C2 10:10	9:55	F4	9:55 Homeroom 5 min
10:45			G2		G4 10:10
10:50	D1	11:05	10:55	G3	11:05
	75 min	E2 11:10			C4 11:10
12:35		75 min	75 min	75 min	75 min
12:40	E1	12:55	12:45	E4	12:55
1:35		D2 1:00			D4 1:00
1:40	F1		1:45	C3	
2:35		1:55			1:55
2:40	J1/activities	Faculty/Dept. Meetings	2:45	J3/activities	
3:20			J2/activities		


Newton South

- Start: 7:40
- End: 1:55-3:20
- 7 full courses
- 4 meetings per week
 - 3 x 55 min classes
 - 1 x 75 min class
- 3 activity blocks 

Current High School Schedules

Newton North High School				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A1 7:50- 8:45	B1 7:50- 8:45	A2 7:50- 9:05	A3 7:50- 8:45	A4 7:50 - 8:45
	HR 8:50 - 9:00		HR 8:50 - 9:00	
C1 8:50- 9:45	C2 9:05- 10:20	HR 9:10 - 9:20	B3 9:05- 10:20	B4 8:50 - 9:45
		B2 9:25- 10:20		C4 9:50 - 10:45
D1 9:50- 10:45	D2 10:25- 11:20	D3 10:25-11:20	C3 10:25- 11:20	E4 10:50- 12:20
G1 10:50-12:20	G2 11:25- 1:15	E2 11:25- 12:55	D4 11:25- 1:15	L1 10:50- 11:20 L2 11:25- 11:50 L3 11:50- 12:20
L1 10:50- 11:20 L2 11:25- 11:50 L3 11:50- 12:20	L1 11:25- 11:55 L2 12:05- 12:30 L3 12:45- 1:15	L1 11:25- 11:55 L2 12:00- 12:25 L3 12:25- 12:55	L1 11:25- 11:55 L2 12:05- 12:30 L3 12:45- 1:15	G4 12:25 - 1:20
F1 12:25- 1:20	F2 1:20- 2:35	F3 1:00- 1:55	E3 1:20- 2:35	F4 1:25 - 2:20
E1 1:25- 2:20		G3 2:00- 2:55		
X1 2:25- 3:20	2:40- 4:00 FACULTY MEETINGS		X2 2:40 - 3:20	

Newton North

- Start: 7:50
- End: 2:35-3:20
- 7 full courses
- 4 meetings per week
 - 3 x 55 min classes
 - 1 x 75 min class
- 2 activity blocks 

Comparisons to Nearby Districts

	Newton High Schools	Eastern MA High Schools
Average Day	7 hrs & 5 mins	6 hrs & 20 mins
Classes per day	5 or 6	Varies from 4 to 7
Total full courses possible	7	Varies from 6 to 10
Minutes per full course per week	240 mins	191-255 mins
Features	Includes 2-3 activity blocks and short advisory and/or homeroom periods	Varies – Other features include extended advisory, intervention/ activity blocks

Schedule Redesign Committee

- Includes teachers, counselors, schedulers, administrators, principals and NTA president
- Chairs
 - Steven Rattendi, Acting Vice Principal, Math Department Chair, Newton South
 - Jonathan Bassett, History Department Chair, Newton North
- Began meeting last May
- Scheduled through June 2018; Will add fall 2018 if necessary

Key Research and Learning

Schedule is a manifestation of priorities and goals –
Leveraging Time, Talent and Resources, Battelle for Kids, 2015

Schedule change implementation best practices –
Optimal Scheduling for Secondary School Students, Hanover Research, 2014

- Informing stakeholders
- Visiting Schools
- Scheduling faculty discussion meetings
- Building consensus
- Providing professional development
- Planning evaluation strategies for new schedule.
- No perfect schedule- match between community needs and schedule specifics is key
- Tradeoffs are inherent, priorities drive process



Committee Process

- Develop Shared Priorities/Values for Schedule
- Survey Faculties and Student Bodies
- Hold Combined Faculty Meetings/Workshops
- Visit other Schools and Share & Analyze Learning
- Create Multiple Draft Proposals
- Solicit Feedback
- Revise and Narrow Schedule Options
- Final Review
- Create Final Recommendation for Superintendent