

The Flagler County School Board has approved a school schedule for the 2011-2012 school year. It reflects a change in the middle and high school student day.

In the past, the District has supported a day for middle and high school students that includes more instructional time than is funded by the state. Next year, the amount of time middle and high school students will attend school will decrease by 45 minutes per day.

This reduction now aligns the student day with the state funding that the District receives. Projected budget shortfalls causing this change are largely due to the loss of federal stimulus dollars.

Next year, middle and high school students will attend school six hours per day. The elementary student day will remain the usual 6.5 hours.

Middle school students will continue to be able to take 6 classes per year (4 core and 2 wheel) and high school students will continue to have the opportunity to earn 7 credits a year.

The high schools will have a hybrid schedule, which is a combination of semester-long block classes and yearlong traditional classes. The middle schools will maintain the traditional 6 period day.

Teachers will work 7.25 hours a day, which is the same as in past years. Teacher planning will occur outside of the student day. This will result in a schedule that saves the District approximately \$2.1 million, which is part of the total \$3.5 million budget reduction.

Below you will find a side-by-side comparison of schedules and next year's high school schedule.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Two years ago, the high schools dropped the block schedule to save money. Now they are going back to a hybrid block to save money. How can both be true?

A: Dropping the block schedule saved the District money because on the 4x4 block, teachers taught classes during 3 of the 4 blocks. That meant 1/4th of the teachers had their planning period during each block. Students needed to be in a class each of the 4 blocks, so more teachers were needed. On the current 7-period day, only 1/7th of the faculty has a planning period at any given time, so fewer teachers were needed. The District saved money because of this reduction in the number of teachers.

Next year, the high schools will be changing to a hybrid schedule, which is a combination of block classes and traditional classes. The teacher planning period will be before the student day starts. Teachers, therefore, will be teaching the entire time that students are present. This causes a decrease in the number of teachers that are needed.

Q: Why do the elementary schools have different start times?

A: To reduce the number of shuttles, we have increased instructional time for shuttle riders and to allow an overflow school to save money on co-teachers.

Q: My child rides a shuttle bus from one school to another this year and has to arrive late and then leave early. Will this continue next year?

A: By staggering school start times, buses are able to stop at more than one school. This will eliminate the need for most shuttles and allow for more flexibility.

Q: Why is teacher planning for the middle and high school teachers now outside the student day?

A: As part of the \$3.5 District budget reduction, by moving the planning period outside of the student day, the District is able to save approximately \$2.1 million. This is because fewer teachers are needed.

Q: What effect does changing the starting time have on childcare for elementary students?

A: Extended day will still be available at all the elementary schools beginning at 7:00 a.m.

HIGH SCHOOL	2010-11	2011-12
Credits per year / 4 yrs.	7 per year / 28 total	7 per year/ 28 total
Student classes/day	7	4 or 5 (Hybrid schedule* - see example below)
Classes teachers teach/day	6	4 or 5 (Hybrid schedule* - see example below)
Length of course	1 year	Block**=1 semester / Skinny***=1 year
Lunch length	30 minutes	30 minutes
Instructional time week	1,680 mins. (state funds 1,500)	1500 mins.
Instructional time day	336 mins.	300 minutes (5 hrs.)
Teacher contact hrs/week (6 classes/day)	24	25
# classes teachers teach/yr.	6	7
Teacher planning	During student day	Before student day
Student time	7:30 - 2:15 (6.75 hrs.)	8:00 - 2:00 (6 hours)
Teacher time	7:15 - 2:30 (7.25 hrs.)	7:00 - 2:15 (7.25 hrs.)
		*Hybrid schedule = combination of block and traditional length classes
		**Block = class that meets for double the amount of time in one semester so that 1 credit is earned in a semester rather than a full-year
		***Skinny = yearlong course that meets for 45 minutes each day and for which 1 credit is given at the end of the year
MIDDLE SCHOOL	2010-11	2011-12
Courses per year / 3 yrs.	4 core + 2 wheel	4 core + 2 wheel
Student classes/day	6	6
Classes teachers teach/day	5	6
Length of course	1 year or half-year	1 year or half-year
Lunch length	30 mins. ITMS / 33mins. BTMS	45 mins. BTMS / 30 mins. ITMS
Instructional time week	1,685 mins. average (state funds 1,500)	1500 mins.
Instructional time day	337 mins.	300 minutes (5 hrs.)
Teacher contact hrs/week	24 average	25 hrs.
# classes teachers teach/yr.	5	6
Teacher planning	During student day	After student day
Student time	7:30 - 2:15 (6.75 hrs.)	7:40 - 1:40 (6 hrs.)
Teacher time	7:05 - 2:20 BTMS / 7:15-2:30 ITMS (7.25 hrs.)	7:20 - 2:35 (7.25 hrs.)
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2010-2011 / 2011-2012		
Courses per year / 3 yrs.	5 core, PE daily and alternating special area monthly	

Student classes/day	6
Classes teachers teach/day	5
Length of course	1 year
Lunch length	30 minutes
Instructional time week	1500 minutes
Teacher contact hrs/week	25
# classes teachers teach/yr.	5
Teacher planning	During student day
Student time	9:00 - 3:30*
Teacher time	8:30 - 3:45
	*start times are staggered by 5 min.
	8:50-9:05
	Belle Terre Elementary 9:00 AM
	Bunnell Elementary 8:50 AM
	Old Kings Elementary 9:05 AM
	Phoenix Academy TBA
	Rymfire Elementary 9:00 AM
	Wadsworth Elementary 9:05 AM

Hybrid Schedule

3 Blocks and 1 Skinny

Total student time = 360 min/ day

Total Teacher contact time = 300 min/day

Block 1 82 min ½ year	7 min	Block 2 82 min ½ year	6 min	Lunch 30 min	6 min	Block 3 96 min ½ year <small>(6 min. break in middle of period)</small>	6 min	Skinny 46 min
Block 1 82 min ½ year		Block 2 82 min ½ year				Block 3 96 min ½ year <small>(6 min. break in middle of period)</small>		

Hybrid Schedule

2 Blocks and 3 Skinnies

Total student time = 360 min/ day

Total Teacher contact time = 300 min/day

Block 1 82 min ½ year	7 min	Block 2 82 min ½ year	6 min	Lunch 30 min	6 min	Skinny 45 min	6 min	Skinny 45 min	6 min	Skinny 46 min
Block 1 82 min ½ year		Block 2 82 min ½ year				Skinny 45 min		Skinny 45 min		Skinny 46 min