

New Approach to Performing Arts Class Schedules

2013-2014 Schedule:

1. Classes met for 30 minutes daily during an advisory period, either at the beginning of the day or following lunch.
2. Entire grade level ensemble rehearsed at the same time (often 60-80 students).
3. Students not in Band or Orchestra were in advisory (which operated like a study hall).
4. Students in Band or Orchestra sometimes were required to attend advisory instead, for academic support, thus missing their performing arts class.
5. Small group pull-out lessons: met once a week for 50 minutes.
6. Students in Band and Chorus, or Orchestra and Chorus had to split time between the two.
7. Select Choir met once a week during advisory, lunch or after school.

2014-2015 Schedule:

1. Ensemble classes meet during the Related Arts periods for 40 minutes every other day.
2. Grade level ensembles are divided into two groups so conductors are leading rehearsals of 30-40 rather than 60-80.
3. Students are able to take Band and Orchestra; Band and Chorus; or Orchestra and Chorus without having to split time.
4. Ensemble rehearsal time no longer competes with the advisory period or academic support.
5. Small group pull-out lessons: meet for 50 minutes at least once every two weeks.
6. Addition of Bandology and Spotlight on Strings as additional performance opportunities.
7. Select Choir now meets every other day throughout the year as full-fledged classes in 7th and grade, for students who audition and qualify.

Benefits for students:

1. Each day students have the opportunity to take additional Related Arts courses.
2. Band, Orchestra, and Chorus now meet for 40 minutes which allows for more sustained rehearsal.
3. Since grade level ensembles are divided into two groups, the number of students the conductor is managing in each rehearsal is cut in half.
4. Band, Orchestra, and Chorus rehearsals now have their own time during the day; do not compete with advisory and do not follow lunch.
5. Students can take Band and Orchestra; Band and Chorus; or Orchestra and Chorus without losing time in one or the other.
6. Students who elect to do so now have the opportunity to take additional performance classes (Select Choir, Bandology, Spotlight on Strings).

New Approach to Fine Arts Class Schedules

2013-2014 Schedule:

1. Every student in grades 6-8 took Art 2D and Art 3D every other day for one marking period (22 classes).
2. Classes met for 50 minutes (1100 minutes total).

2014-2015 6th Grade Art Schedule:

1. Students can elect to take Art 2D and/or Art 3D.
2. Art classes meet for one semester every other day (45 classes).
3. Classes meet for 40 minutes (1800 minutes total)

Benefits for students:

1. Increase of 700 minutes in each Art class a student takes in comparison to past years.
2. More sustained and deeper learning as a result of semester classes.

2014-2015 7th Grade Art Schedule:

1. All students take Art 2D for one trimester (33 classes)
2. Students can elect to take Art 3D for one semester (45 classes).
3. Classes meet for 40 minutes.
4. 1320 total minutes for required trimester Art 2D class.
5. 1800 total minutes for elective semester Art 3D class.

Benefits for students:

1. More sustained and deeper learning as a result of trimester and semester classes.
2. Students interested in art can have more minutes in art than ever before over the course of the year.

2014-2015 8th Grade Art Schedule:

1. All students take Art 3D for one trimester (33 classes)
2. Students can elect to take Art 2D for one semester (45 classes).
3. Classes meet for 40 minutes.
4. 1320 total minutes for required trimester Art 3D class.
5. 1800 total minutes for elective semester Art 2D class.

Benefits for students:

1. More sustained and deeper learning as a result of trimester and semester classes.
2. Students interested in art can have more minutes in art than ever before over the course of the year.