

Dear Students (and Parents),

Monday February 27, 2017

I understand that the proposed block schedule for the 2017-2018 school year is a subject of high interest. The intent of the letter is to make clear the course selection process for next year's courses - which actually has nothing to do with the type of schedule we will be using.

First - The school counselors will be meeting with all current 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students on Wednesday March 1st (we'll be using the PLP block) to discuss the course selection process. Note: current 8th graders will have a chance to meet counselors in a few weeks to schedule courses for next year.

Second - **no matter what schedule is in place next year** students need to enter your selections for required and elective courses into the PowerSchool system. This information is critical for the school because these enrollments will tell us how many sections of each course are needed. Again, **this enrollment process must be done regardless of the type of schedule that will be in place.**

Third - The counselors will explain how to do this at Wednesday's meeting. You will also have a chance to hear from some of the elective area teachers to learn more about their course offerings.

Fourth - The course sign up "portal" will be open from Wednesday, March 1st through Friday, March 10th. The expectation is that **ALL** 9th, 10th, and 11th graders will sign up for courses on or before March 10th. If you miss that deadline, you run the risk of not getting your first choice electives.

It should be known that from time to time some courses reach a maximum number of students. If demand for a course is high, the possibility may exist to create an additional section of that course. This, however, is not always the case, so we generally give preference to students in the higher grades. If you do not sign up for courses by the March 10th deadline, the system used to select who gets the selected course becomes first come first in.

Lastly, the purpose of Wednesday's meetings are to explain how the course signup procedures work.

Plans are being made to further explain a modified block schedule to students and parents. A parent meeting (students are also welcome) is set for the evening of March 21st. A student meeting (date not yet determined) is also being planned.

Sincerely

J. Martinez

Dr. Martinez