

Dear FLHS Parents,

Next Monday and Tuesday, April 27 and 28, we are planning to run two full days as a simulation of our new schedule designed for next year. We believe this exercise will be very informative for students, teachers, and administration as we continue our preparations for full implementation starting in the 2015-16 school year.

Since our current schedule was not originally designed to be run in a block format, there are aspects of current schedule that pose some challenges in applying the new structure. This will mean that there may be some compromises for the two days, but these situations will also be very informative. Many of these issues will not exist next year as courses will be adapted to fit the new schedule. We appreciate the understanding of parents and students as we strive hard to transition as smoothly as possible to the new schedule.

Here is what the simulated schedule will look like for the two days, followed by some general information:

			MONDAY 4/27	TUESDAY 4/28	
			7:30-8:55	Per 1	Per 2
			9:00 - 10:25	Per 5	Per 4
			10:30-10:37	HR	HR
1st Lunch 10:39-11:09	10:42-11:25	10:42-12:08	10:42-12:40	Per 7	Per 6
	2nd Lunch 11:25-11:55				
11:14-12:40	11:58-12:40	3rd Lunch 12:10-12:40			
			12:45-2:10	Per 9	Per 8

- As you can see, we will run four periods on both days. Each period will run for eighty-five minutes.

- Periods 7 and 6 will include a thirty-minute lunch for all students in three different lunch waves.

- We will be using the MONDAY schedule of classes for the periods on both days. Classes that meet on Tuesday will not be running this week. For most students, this may equate to losing a physical education, health, or science lab course. Classes that meet five days a week will not lose instructional time.

- Junior and Senior privileges will remain in effect for the first and last periods (Per 1 and 9 on Monday, Per 2 and 8 on Tuesday). Students will not be allowed to leave campus and return.

- Students will be assigned to a lunch wave based on what appears on their schedule for the periods that meet during the lunch (Per 7 and 6). These assignments will be announced in school. For example, all students in science will have 1st Lunch, all students in social studies will have 2nd Lunch, etc.

-Students who attend Aquaculture will miss a portion of their Period 5 class on Monday. They will not be penalized for this absence. The other periods affected are the same ones affected on a daily basis.

-Students who partake in the Regional Center of the Arts program will be dismissed at their usual time.

-Attendance will be taken as usual for the two days. Students who miss classes will be expected to make up the work just as if we were running a regular schedule.

- Physical education and health will run for the full eighty-five minutes during these simulation days, which will not be the case next year. Next year they will run for forty-one minutes and students will have an assigned location for the other half of the period based on their requests. Teachers will make adjustments to make sure students receive enough rest in PE classes.

- During the lunch periods, the Library Media Center will conduct a “silent study” for students who need a quiet place to study, since the cafeteria will serve that purpose for periods outside the lunch waves.

- Since our construction project is not complete, the cafeteria will be problematic during the lunch waves since many more students will be eating lunch than in our current schedule. We will be bringing in some temporary tables and chairs and we will be encouraging teachers to invite their students to eat in their classrooms just for these two days. If the weather is nice, we will also open up the courtyard. This aspect of our practice days will be the least like the real thing, but without the expanded cafeteria space, we have few options. Once again, we will learn a lot from the experience even if students find the conditions less than ideal for a few days.

-In the case that a student has more than one period without an assigned class in a single day, we will be offering some options for those students, including study areas, activities, and a gathering space.

Once again, all these efforts are an attempt to minimize the inevitable challenges that will come with making this large scale, but ultimately beneficial change to our daily schedule. As a reminder, we will have another early release day for students on May 12 for teachers to continue their planning for next year. Thank you for your support of our efforts. The students will be the beneficiaries.

-The FLHS Administrative Team