

SAMPLE- MS Semester Long, 6-Period Block Schedule

Rationale for Semester Long, 6-Period Block Schedule

The rationale for scheduling middle school students on a semester long, 6-period block schedule are:

- Longer blocks of learning time for students across the year. There is more time and flexibility for both live/recorded and pre-recorded lessons for the virtual classroom community of learners to engage in lively and rigorous learning activities
- Most of our middle schools are on a semester schedule and our Virtual Learning Academy students would be in sync with their school of enrollment and grading terms, 4 times a year
- Our Career Technical Education courses, such as Gateway to Technology, are set up to support the learning schedule
- A common calendar will be developed for minimum days, professional growth days, including holidays and conference days

Key Schedule Features:

Teaching and Learning

- More learning time for students by organizing into longer, 90-minute block periods. Wednesdays are an early out for students to allow for teachers and staff to collaborate for Response to Intervention (RtI), Partnering with Families, Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), Professional Development, and to attend IEPs, 504, and S3 meetings
- Daily Social Emotional Learning for students, online classroom community, and Homeroom
- Live in-person instruction and recorded/posted for students to review mini-lessons
- Pre-recorded lessons for students to view before classroom discussions (flipped classroom model)
- Small group, differentiated instruction based on academic needs and programs such as 504, SpEd, English Learner and additional help or acceleration to occur during the class periods
- Teachers will have time to collaborate and communicate with their team of teachers, counselors, Education Specialists, and para educators
- Teachers will have time for PLCs and professional learning by utilizing student early out Wednesdays

Feedback and Assessment

- Regular feedback to students via rubrics, coaching, and support student's goal setting
- Students earn letter grades, citizenship, and work habit marks
- Progress notices will be given half way through the grading period
- Report Cards will be given at the end of the grading period
- Proactively invite students to Office Hours/RtI/Tutorials
- Partner with families to support students during Office Hours-possibly through phone calls, emails, and telecommuting

Other Features:

- Teachers will continue to have one prep period within the 6-class schedule and a 35-minute duty free lunch
- Transition time is built in for students/staff to transition between classes

Sample 1: MS Class Period (90-minute class period)

8:30 - 8:40: Digital review of prior knowledge (online activity assigned through digital tool)
8:40 - 9:10: Live Mini-Lesson (In-Person via Zoom)
9:10 - 9:50: Collaborative Group Work OR Students complete digital independent practice of concepts
9:50 - 10:00: Digital post-assessment (online activity assigned through digital tool)
Homework: Students complete self-paced work OR pre-recorded lesson for flipped classroom/discussion

Sample 2: MS Sample Class Period (90-minute class period)

8:30 - 8:50: Live (In-Person via Zoom) student connecting activity
8:50 - 9:40: Live (In-Person via Zoom) small-group lesson(s) based on assessment data OR
8:50 - 9:40: Collaborative group work OR digital independent practice (when not in small group with teacher)
9:40 - 10:00: Live (In-Person via Zoom) or pre-recorded digital closure activity
Homework: Students complete self-paced work OR pre-recorded lesson

Sample Student Schedule:

SEL: Social Emotional Learning
PLC: Professional Learning Community
PD: Professional Development
ELA: English Language Arts
SS: Social Studies
Science
Math
CTE: Career Technical Education
VAPA: Visual and Performing Arts
PE: Physical Education

	Day 1 Rotation	Day 2 Rotation	Weds. Students' Early Out
(8:00 - 8:25)	Homeroom Check-in/SEL/Community Building	Homeroom Check-in/SEL/Community Building	Homeroom Check-in/SEL/Community Building
(8:30 - 10:00)	Period 1 (Science) Live (See Samples)	Period 4 (Math) Live (See Samples)	Day 1 or Day 2
(10:00 - 10:10)	Break	Break	Break

(10:10 - 11:40)	Period 2 (ELA) Live (See Samples)	Period 5 (SS) Live (See Samples)	Day 1 or Day 2
(11:45 - 12:20)	Lunch-Duty free	Lunch-Duty free	Lunch-Duty free
(12:25 - 1:55)	Period 3 (Elective CTE/VAPA Elective) Live (See Samples)	Period 6 (PE) Live (See Samples)	Day 1 or Day 2
(2:00 - 2:45)	Tutorial/Office Hours Assigned	Tutorial/Office Hours	Students' Early Out Collaboration, PD, Attend PLCs, IEPs/504 meetings