



# Ridge High School: Master Schedule

BT Schools Connect - November 18, 2019



# Why a New Master Schedule?

Improve wellness for students and staff consistent with district goals and the strategic plan.

- Strengthen the ability of the staff to promote social, emotional, health and well-being outcomes through staff development.
- 1.3.B: Investigate policies and logistics that impact student and staff wellness and social emotional competencies.
  - Continue to explore feasibility of alternative bell schedules to support health/wellness.

# Why a New Master Schedule?

- Improving Climate and Culture
  - Unit lunch
  - Fewer classes daily
  - Rotation of periods
  - Stress management
- Respond to Survey Data
- Improving Instruction
  - Professional Learning Communities - PLCs (Staff Collaboration)
  - Longer Instructional Periods
  - Better Use of Time

# The Master Schedule Needs To

- Be the How for the Why (the why's in the previous slide)
- Represent the philosophies and values of the school
  - Academic rigor.
  - More robust use of instructional time.
  - Positive climate and culture.
  - Professional and collaborative.
  - Meeting the needs of all students to help them achieve their maximum potential.

# What Has Already Occurred to This Point

Research began under the former Ridge Principal.

[Presentation](#) to the BOE by former Ridge Principal on **May 4, 2015**.

Mr. Krause [presents](#) to the BOE on **December 18, 2017**.

Consultant Elliot Merenbloom [presents](#) to the BOE on **December 13, 2018**.

Mr. Krause, faculty members, and students visit 4 schools in **January/February 2019**.

Mr. Krause [presents](#) the results of the 4 site visits to the BOE on **April 1, 2019**.

Mr. Krause, Mr. Fackelman, and Mr. Misiak [present](#) to the BOE in **July 2019**.

Mr. Krause and Mr. Fackelman [present](#) to the BOE in **October 2019**.

# The Current Master Schedule at Ridge

1	7:35 – 8:18
2	8:22 – 9:07
3	9:11 – 9:53
4 (Lunch)	9:57– 10:39
5 (Lunch)	10:43 – 11:24
6 (Lunch)	11:28 – 12:09
7 (Lunch)	12:13– 12:54
8 (Lunch)	12:58 – 1:39
9	1:43 – 2:25

# Types of Schedules

- Traditional Schedules ~ 40 minute classes (RHS now)
- Full Block Schedules ~ 80 minute classes  
(We have contemplated the alternating A- day/B- day block)
- Rotating Drop Schedules ~ 60 minute classes (Our Current Focus for Ridge)

# Rotating Drop Schedule

Time	A (4, 8)	B (3, 7)	C (2, 6)	D (1, 5)
7:35-8:31	1	4	3	2
8:35-9:31	2	1	4	3
9:35-10:31	3	2	1	4
Unit Lunch 10:31-11:29	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
11:29-12:25	5	8	7	6
12:29-1:25	6	5	8	7
1:29-2:25	7	6	5	8



# Mock Schedule Challenges

- Aside from focusing in on the rotating drop schedule framework of the previous slide, final decisions on exact constructs have yet to be determined.
- The scheduling team is running a variety of scenarios to try and determine what may work best for our school.
- The following slides highlight the challenges that we are working through and some of the current thinking on each. Our current thinking has been what we believe may work best as we run mock schedules. We are looking for your feedback as we continue to work a variety of models in mock schedules.



# Challenge #1

# Mock Schedule Challenge #1: Classrooms

## Goal:

- Provide educational opportunities for students that are materially equal to the current schedule even though classrooms are only scheduled through 8 periods in the new schedule instead of 9 periods currently
- Fit the necessary sections of classes into available rooms by increasing the number of rooms and/or decreasing the number of sections of classes

## Current thinking on classrooms

- Using the current year class sections and enrollments the scheduling success rate for the mock schedule was in the 60-70% range, adding 4 rooms (planned addition) increases the success rate to approximately 90+%.
- Currently analyzing most recent enrollment projections to determine if success can only be obtained through new classrooms.



# Challenge #2

# Mock Schedule Challenge #2: Unit Lunch

## Goals:

- Obtain maximum flexibility for the unit lunch period.
- Create Professional Learning Community (PLC) meeting times.
- Feed students simultaneously with increased food production capacity.
- Meet needs such as meeting times for students, music lessons, lab times, and tutorial times.

# Current Thinking on Unit Lunch

For eating spaces, Ridge can use the current Cafeteria space, the Old Main Gym and bleachers, the New Gym and bleachers. This is consistent with what other schools do.

	A	B	C	D
Unit Lunch	Extra Science Labs Music Lessons Professional Time Tutorial	Extra Science Labs Music Lessons Professional Time Tutorial	Extra Science Labs Music Lessons Professional Time Tutorial	Extra Science Labs Music Lessons Professional Time Tutorial

# Unit Lunch Schedule - Current Thinking

- Unit Lunch provides a unique opportunity for staff to meet professionally and/or work with students educationally.
- Lunch time duties need to be balanced with individual teacher schedules.
- Faculty members may be divided to either supervise in a duty capacity, meet professionally in PLCs, and/or assist students in tutorial time.



# Unit Lunch Schedule Cont'd

Example of possible schedule for staff during unit lunch.

	A	B	C	D
Unit Lunch	Math/Bus. - Duty	Math/Bus. - PLC	Math/Bus. - Tutorial	Math/Bus. - Tutorial
	ELA/WL - Tutorial	ELA/WL - Duty	ELA/WL - PLC	ELA/WL - Tutorial
	SS/Arts - Tutorial	SS/Arts - Tutorial	SS/Arts - Duty	SS/Arts - PLC
	SE/PE - PLC	SE/PE - Tutorial	SE/PE - Tutorial	SE/PE -Duty



# Challenge #3

## Mock Schedule Challenge #3: Extra Science Periods for Additional Labs

Ensure adequate:

- Staffing
- Instructional Time
- Classroom Space

# Current thinking on extra science periods for labs

- CP Conceptual Science curricula can be appropriately delivered without extra meeting time.
  - “Lab Science” can still be inquiry-based without extra meeting periods
- CP Mathematical, Honors, and AP Science classes require additional time.
  - CP Mathematical & Honors Science- 1 extra period from a portion of lunch once every 4 days
  - AP- still researching between:
    - 1 extra period from a portion of lunch once every 4 days
    - 1 extra period from a mandatory study hall once every 4 days

# Current thinking on extra time for science labs

	Current 42min Periods; Traditional Schedule	Proposed 56 min Periods; RDS
CP Conceptual Science	<p>Currently 6 credit course as described for CP Mathematical &amp; Honors</p> <p>Anticipated 5 credit course without additional time starting in 20-21 SY</p>	<p>5 credit course with no extra time taken from lunch</p>
CP Mathematical & Honors Science	<p>6 credit course; currently one of two things occurs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students pair science with PE and have 4 days of PE/ 1 day of additional science time for labs</li><li>• Students pair science with study hall and have 4 days of study hall/ 1 day of extra science time for labs</li></ul>	<p>6 credit course; no need to pair science with any courses</p> <p>Once per 4 day cycle students will extend their science class into a portion of the unit lunch to provide extra time for labs</p>
AP Science	<p>7 credit course</p> <p>Students must take a mandatory study hall such that the student has 3 days of study hall/ 2 days of extra science</p>	<p>Investigating two options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 7 credit course pairing with mandatory study hall</li><li>• Reducing to 6 credit class; pairing with unit lunch (same as CP Mathematical &amp; Honors Science)</li></ul>

## Current thinking on extra periods for science labs: 5 credit courses

	A Day	B Day	C Day	D Day
Period 1	<b>Science</b>	Social Studies	World Lang	Math
Period 2	Social Studies	World Lang	Math	<b>Science</b>
Period 3	World Lang	Math	<b>Science</b>	Social Studies
LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
Period 4	Health/PE	Elective 1	Elective 2	English
Period 5	Elective 1	Elective 2	English	Health/PE
Period 6	Elective 2	English	Health/PE	Elective 1

CP Conceptual Science will not have extra meetings. All labs will be conducted within the three meetings in the 4 day cycle

# Current thinking on extra periods for science labs: 6 credit courses

	A Day	B Day	C Day	D Day
Period 1	<b>Science</b>	Social Studies	World Lang	Math
Period 2	Social Studies	World Lang	Math	<b>Science</b>
Period 3	World Lang	Math	<b>Science</b>	Social Studies
LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	<b>Extra Lab Time ~25min</b>	LUNCH
			LUNCH	
Period 4	Health/PE	Elective 1	Elective 2	English
Period 5	Elective 1	Elective 2	English	Health/PE

Once per week- when a student's science class abuts lunch- the student has an extended lab/shortened lunch period

For CP Mathematical and Honors Science

Possible option for AP Science

# Possible option for extra science time in 7 credit AP courses

	A Day	B Day	C Day	D Day
Period 1	<b>Science</b>	<b>Study Hall</b>	World Lang	Math
Period 2	<b>Study Hall</b>	World Lang	Math	<b>Science</b>
Period 3	World Lang	Math	<b>Science</b>	<b>Extra Science</b>
LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
Period 4	Health/PE	Elective 1	Social Studies	English
Period 5	Elective 1	Social Studies	English	Health/PE
Period 6	Social Studies	English	Health/PE	Elective 1

Once per week- a student's study hall is replaced with an extra science period.

As a result, AP science would meet 4 times in 4 days whereas any other class would meet 3 times in 4 days



# Comparison of Annual Instructional Minutes

	Current 42min Period Schedule	56min Period Rotating Drop with no additional periods in lunch or study hall	56 min Period Rotating Drop with 25 min Extra Science from portion of Unit Lunch once per cycle	56 min Rotating Drop with Extra Time for AP Science from mandatory 56 min study hall once per cycle
CP Conceptual Science & all other full year courses outside of science	7,560 min	7,560 min		
CP Mathematical & Honors Science ( <i>possible for AP Science</i> )	9,072 min		8,685 min	
<i>Possible AP Science</i>	10,584 min			10,080 min



# Challenge #4

# Mock Schedule Challenge #4: Music Lessons and Ensembles

Ensure adequate:

- Staffing
- Time
- Space

# Current thinking on music lesson and ensembles

Consistent with what occurs now:

- Ensembles will be regularly scheduled classes in the Master Schedule.
- Music Lessons will take place during a portion of the Unit Lunch time, not to conflict with any student's science lab.



# Challenge #5

# Mock Schedule Challenge #5: Meeting the Needs of our Special Education Program

- ICS Programs
- Resource Room Programs
- Self-Contained Programs

# Current thinking on In Class Support Programs

- Continue to provide the supports and structures needed to meet the needs of these types of programs.
- Ensure the presence of trained and certified staff members to address the needs of the students.
- Extra time to meet with teachers if needed
- Extra time to complete projects / assignments
- Ability to teach long term planning
- Gives the students the opportunity to be flexible with a different schedule
- Planning time for Co-teachers

# Current thinking on Resource Room Programs

- Continue to provide the supports and structures needed to meet the needs of these types of programs.
- Ensure the presence of trained and certified staff members to address the needs of the students.
- Continue to provide the necessary classroom space for these programs to flourish.
- Students/ Teachers at Chatham - loved the extra time
- Additional time to complete projects during class
- Time between classes to get work completed



# Current thinking on Self-Contained Programs

- Continue to provide the supports and structures needed to meet the needs of these types of programs.
- Ensure the presence of trained and certified staff members to address the needs of the students.
- Continue to provide the necessary classroom space for these programs to flourish.
- Work with therapists and special areas teachers to ensure appropriate schedules across buildings
- Work with the schedules for students going out to work / electives
- Lunch - to be be with peers



# Challenge #6

# Mock Schedule Challenge #6: All Other Electives and Core Content

## Goals:

- Maintain or increase instructional time.
- Maintain robust offering of elective courses.
- Leverage longer periods and the rotating schedule.

## Current thinking on all other Electives and Core Content

- Design a schedule that permits the greatest number of students to get the requested elective(s).
- Ensure that elective courses are sustainable and have the appropriate meeting rooms.

# Other Considerations for our Mock Schedule

- Study halls
- Vo-Tech
- Internship programs
- Tutorial time
- Maximizing professional time for staff

## Might There Be Other Challenges?

- Traveling Teachers
- Staff Development
- Crafting a master schedule that meets all the requirements for students and staff

# Sample Student Schedule

Time	A (4, 8)	B (3, 7)	C (2, 6)	D (1, 5)
7:35-8:31	1 English	4 PE/Health	3 <b>Biology</b>	2 Geometry
8:35-9:31	2 Geometry	1 English	4 PE/Health	3 <b>Biology</b>
9:35-10:31	3 <b>Biology</b>	2 Geometry	1 English	4 PE/Health
Unit	<b>Biology Lab</b>	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	<b>Sectional/Music Lesson</b>	Lunch
11:29-12:25	5 History	8 Art	7 Spanish 2	6 <b>Orchestra</b>
12:29-1:25	6 <b>Orchestra</b>	5 History	8 Art	7 Spanish 2
1:29-2:25	7 Spanish 2	6 <b>Orchestra</b>	5 History	8 Art

# Sample Teacher Schedule

Time	A (4, 8)	B (3, 7)	C (2, 6)	D (1, 5)
7:35-8:31	1 Honors PreCalc	4 Duty	3 AP Calc	2 Prep
8:35-9:31	2 Prep	1 Honors Calc	4 Duty	3 AP Calc
9:35-10:31	3 AP Calc	2 Prep	1 Honors Calc	4 Duty
Unit	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
11:29-12:25	5 PreCalc	8 AP Calc	7 AP Calc	6 Tutorial
12:29-1:25	6 Tutorial	5 PreCalc	8 AP Calc	7 AP Calc
1:29-2:25	7 AP Calc	6 Tutorial	5 PreCalc	8 AP Calc



# High Schools Using Rotating Drop

- Livingston
- Chatham
- Watchung Hills Regional
- West Windsor-Plainsboro
- North Hunterdon/Voorhees
- West Morris/Mendham
- Hightstown
- Mainland
- Paramus
- Mount Olive
- Cranford
- Pascack Valley
- Franklin
- North Brunswick
- Hopewell Valley
- Randolph
- Montville
- Ridgewood

# Why a New Master Schedule?

Ability to reallocate time

Fewer transitions between classes

Opportunities for use of unit lunch time, students have lunch with peers

Greater opportunity for teaching and learning in longer periods

Rotation of periods avoids the same periods from being missed

Rotation of periods helps students be at their best in more periods

Reinvigorate the building with a new culture

Fewer daily preps for students

Similar to college schedules

## Our New Schedule is Still a Work in Progress...

As noted at the outset we are still working through many scenarios. We are interested in your feedback and questions. No final decisions have been made.

Thanks for Your Thoughts and Input!

Our next BT Connect Meeting on the Ridge High School Master Schedule is March 31, 2020 - 2:30PM, RHS Cafeteria.