

High School Schedule Committee

October 19, 2011

Official Notes

In attendance: Elisabeth Bacon (SHS), Bill Bistriz (IHS), Jodi Carter (IHS), Amy Byus (SHS), Mark Buchli (LHS), Kathy Creveling (LHS), Mike DeLetis (LHS), Phil Donley (LHS), Kate Emerson (IHS), Brandon Fortier (IHS), Lisa Hechtman (SHS), Issaquah High School student, Lane Helgeson (TMCHS), Tania Issa (LHS), Liberty High School student, Ed Marcoe (TMCHS), Kelly Munn (SHS), Paula Phelps (IHS), Skyline High School student, Gretel von Barga (SHS)

Facilitation Staff: Josh Almy, Ursula Baba, Jake Kuper, Jan Leonard, Patrick Murphy, Dennis Wright

The meeting began at 6:05pm. The Committee accepted the minutes from the October 5, 2011 meeting with the correction that Amy Byus is at Skyline High School, not Issaquah High School. There were no other additions or corrections.

Patrick Murphy, facilitator of the committee, presented a brief overview of the agenda for the meeting and members reviewed the e-mails received from community members.

Jake Kuper, Chief of Finance and Operations for the Issaquah School District was introduced. He answered questions from the group concerning:

- Transportation and budget concerns
- Potential costs involved in adopting a common high school schedule including start-up costs, ongoing costs, staff development and training.
- State mandated hours of instruction per week
- Considerations in regards to the teachers' contract
- Potential impacts on class sizes; use of partial schedules and waivers
- Neighboring school district's schedules

Discussion began regarding the following with the intent of creating themes :

- Questions emailed from the committee and e-mails from community members
- Does a common schedule increase student achievement
- High school schedules at the school districts for Northshore, Lake Washington, and Bellevue
- Data/testing results from Issaquah School District and OSPI
- Guided study and waivers - impact on budget
- Developing criteria for the committee ; using the themes we are developing
- EOC tests/results
- Student choices regarding electives; access to electives
- Optimal amount of class time; differs depending on subject (social studies differs from science, etc.)
- Impact of breaks (e.g., first/second winter break, spring break)
- Consideration of a January term

- Percentages of students taking AP and IB courses
- Percentage of students taking remedial (pre-college) courses in math and English during their first year of college (both 2 and 4 year).
- The relationship between allocated time and student achievement
- Need for adequate teacher prep time
- The importance of student connectivity and flexibility for students
- School “culture”, such as involvement in extra and co-curricular events
- Consideration of socio/economic differences between the high schools

Themes were generated based on discussions and input. The next meeting will consist of creating criteria under each theme to filter schedule options. Patrick told committee members that at this time, it appears the full schedule of meetings through December may be necessary.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.