

High School Schedule Committee
October 5, 2011
Official Notes

In attendance: Elisabeth Bacon (SHS), Bill Bistriz (IHS), Jodi Carter (IHS), Amy Byus (IHS), 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 Bargaen (SHS)

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

The meeting began at 6:00pm. The Committee accepted the minutes from the September 21, 2011 meeting with no additions or corrections.

Patrick Murphy, facilitator of the committee presented

- Committee work done at last meeting
- Reviewed the norms and decision-making model
- Reviewed public input from emails
- Questions sent by committee members

Discussion began regarding

- Possible costs for teacher training as a result of the high school schedule decision
- The history of the LHS A/B schedule
- SHS considerations when determining that school's schedule
- Question as to why have a common schedule for the high schools
- Bringing in Jake Kuper to answer questions regarding possible training costs

Introduction of the group activity for the night

- Four groups (one for each school/principal)
- Reviewed data as a group and determined they considered relevant in regards to a high school schedule
- Each group consolidated their answers on the matrix provided
- Groups shared out their results with the entire committee

The various group members shared out the following

- Flexible use of time – gives options to students, teachers have more time with students, longer instructional time
- Math time matters

- Teacher/student ratio – allows for more creative and flexible instruction, happier teachers, more instruction and less management
- Trimester vs. semester – trimesters open up possibility for more electives
- Will students take advantage of the opportunity for more electives? How do waivers impact students' decisions regarding taking electives?
- There are indications that taking more electives increases student enjoyment with school.
- Importance of teacher planning/collaboration time.
- Data shows that motivated teachers are critical.
- Effectiveness of teachers is dependent on training, so cost neutral is not possible because teachers will have to be trained.
- Might be a choice between longer/better prep time for teacher with shorter instructional time or longer instructional time but less teacher prep time.
- Some people might consider a senior waiver for an elective as a missed opportunity but that time can be used for valuable work experience out in the community.

The questions to consider before the next meeting

- What exiting data or information is most relevant to me as I consider the idea of a common high school schedule?
- What more do I want to know?

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm