

# VRHS Schedule Modification FAQ - 2

## **Schedule Modification Update**

We continue to move forward with the schedule modification. Another series of question and answers are provided below for your information.

An information night is planned for Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. It will begin at 6:30 pm in the auditorium.

## **Will the new schedule allow for AP classes and other advanced offerings?**

*Yes. We don't anticipate any changes to our number of AP offerings. In fact, by modifying the schedule, students will have greater access to advanced level courses. Prerequisites and curriculum will be adjusted to allow students access to AP courses in all content areas.*

## **Will students be able to double up?**

*Yes, students will be able to double up where appropriate. The new schedule will foster students to explore elective areas of interest. If a student is interested in math and science, they will be able to take electives on top of required courses. The same will be true for the arts and humanities.*

## **Will there continue to be a variety of class courses?**

*Yes. We don't anticipate major changes to our electives and core content offerings. Most of the courses that currently run for one quarter will run for a semester. We anticipate more flexibility in student schedules because we are alleviating current time restrictions related to testing.*

## **What was the schedule study process?**

*We developed a committee including a board member, parents, faculty, administration, and consultants. The committee met three times to study the schedule including surveying staff, students, and parents, reviewing research on scheduling, observing schedules at other high schools, and discussing aspects to include in a possible schedule modification.*

## **What will the schedule modification look like?**

*We have not developed a specific schedule at this point. Aspects we would like to see in a modification include full year courses, a mix of long and shorter blocks, flex time for students to provide additional support and enrichment, and longer lunch periods.*

**What are some reasons to modify our current schedule?**

*A major consideration is continuity of instruction and providing student engagement with subject matter in major subjects for a full year. This will allow students to have more time for content and skill acquisition as well as better preparation for AP, IB, SAT, and CTE testing. The current gaps in learning can result in regression in associated skills. Additional reasons include minimizing the negative impact of student absences, providing a mixture of class lengths to accommodate all learners, providing flexible use time to promote effective academic interventions and personalized learning, and increasing time available for teacher collaboration.*

**How will this schedule modification benefit my student?**

*The schedule modification will:*

- *Provide a full year to actively engage and master content and skills*
- *Minimize gaps in learning by shortening time that students are not enrolled in specific content courses like math and world language*
- *Ensure that students are enrolled in courses at the same time as assessment*
- *Allow for time during the school day to obtain extra help or participate in enrichment and activities*
- *Extend lunch*
- *Strengthen student-teacher relationships by extending the time that students are enrolled in a certain teacher's course*

We will keep you informed as this important modification moves forward.