

Middle School Restructuring

Ann Arbor Public Schools



The Goals of Middle School Restructuring

🍏 Maintain High Student Academic Achievement

🍏 Maintain a Variety of Educational & Activity Options

🍏 Maintain or Lower Class Size

Through...

🍏 Rigorous Curriculum

🍏 Rich Exploratories

🍏 Relationships Between Students & Teachers

Parent Meetings
Please see reverse side for schedule

Why Restructure Our Middle Schools?

As we have communicated in the beginning of this process, the Ann Arbor Public Schools is faced with the on-going task of addressing the budget deficit of approximately \$11 million dollars over the next two years. In order to address the projected deficit, we are examining how we can reduce costs in all areas of the district while ensuring that we maintain outstanding programs for our students in AAPS.

We diligently assessed the middle school programs and we are pleased to report these recommendations.

The goal is to reduce the middle school costs by \$2–2.3 million. We are optimistic that we can accomplish our goals and we will continue to report out our progress.

Status Report #3- Restructuring Recommendations

Middle School Recommendations

The Middle School Restructuring team has completed their review and has brought forward the following recommendations for the middle school schedule. These recommendations have been presented to the Superintendent and staff.

- **4 Core Academics**
 - Language Arts Science
 - Social Studies Mathematics
- **2 common elective periods per grade**
- **Periods are likely to be 53-56 minutes each depending on other factors such as morning announcements.**
- **Lengthening student lunch is a high priority but dependent on final bell schedule.**
- **A student activity period will be adjacent to lunch hour at each grade level.**
- **Expanded extra curricular club programs to augment loss of one elective. Programs may include art, computer, chess clubs, and other academic enrichment choices.**
- **Restructured after school sports program but no elimination of offerings.**
- **Provide some level of support classes for students who need academic assistance.**
- **State mandated health requirement to be fulfilled through a 9 week class.**

Electives

The recommended student schedule will have four core subject classes and two elective periods per day. Classes will be approximately 53-56 minutes in length. Each school will continue to have flexibility in their elective offerings.

6th Grade - Students who select music/performing arts elective will alternate with physical education for the entire year. The other elective hour will be rotated between 6 different exploratory classes that will rotate every 6 weeks allowing students 6 different elective experiences. There will be alternative schedules for students with two music electives.

7th Grade - Students will take a 9 week required health class and then select either music, which is offered every day for the full year, foreign language for a semester or from a variety of 9 week elective courses including art, physical education, computer skills, technology, and performing arts.

8th Grade - Students are able to choose between year-long music and foreign language electives. Those who do not choose one or both of these year-long electives will have the opportunity to choose 9 week electives from a variety of choices including art, computer, technology, physical education.

Ann Arbor Public Schools

MIDDLE SCHOOL RESTRUCTURING PARENT MEETINGS

Clague

Monday, Feb 5
7:00 p.m.

Tappan

Tuesday, Feb 6
7:00 p.m.

Forsythe

Tuesday, Feb 6
7:00 p.m.

Scarlett

Tuesday, Feb 6
6:30 p.m.

Slauson

Tuesday, Feb 6
6:00 p.m.

Middle School
Restructuring Updates

Can be found at:

www.a2schools.org

We welcome your
comments. Connect to
the committee via the
AAPS website.

Anticipated Savings

The restructuring recommendations result in anticipated savings of \$2,178,000. These savings come from the reductions of 24.2 full-time equivalent staff (FTE). This amount does not include FTE savings that may occur after the student course selection sheet process is complete this spring.

Additional Tasks

Below are the task areas that will be further defined before the start of the 07/08 school year.

Committees will make further recommendations based on the Middle School Restructuring plan.

It is acknowledged that some of these tasks will require negotiations with AAEA. This is not an all-inclusive list.

Teaching Teams

Sports

Extra Curricular Clubs/Activities

Athletics

Staffing

ESL

Scheduling

Activity Period

9-Week Health Requirement

Support Class – numbers/curriculum

Special Ed

About the Middle School Restructuring Committee...

The committee combines the talents of district teachers, administrators and parents. The committee follows an agreed set of norms as they worked through the process of developing the recommendations for the Middle School Restructuring. The teachers on the committee represent a variety of disciplines including counseling, physical education, core academic subjects, foreign language, music, art, technology.

Teachers

Pat Bantle – Ann Arbor Open

Greta Barfield – Scarlett

Eula Eaddy – Clague

Tracy Grant – Slauson

Joan Grissing – Scarlett

Soon Hotaling – Clague

Cary Kocher – Forsythe

Angela Newing - Forsythe

Tom Pachera – Forsythe

Mary Pedley – Tappan

Claudia Siewert – Tappan

Greg Sipp – Tappan

Jon Strite – Slauson

Alex Vinter – Scarlett

Cherry Westerman – Slauson

Mary Pedley – Tappan

Bill Johnson - Clague

Alan Loeb – AAEA

Linda Carter – Ex officio

Paul Morrison – Ex officio

Administration

Benjamin P. Edmondson – Scarlett

Michael Hecker – Clague

Pat Rose – Slauson

Janet Schwamb – Forsythe

Bob Galardi - AAPS

Joyce Hunter – AAPS

Parents

Cindy Masini – Tappan

Bill Shea – Clague

Amy Shepherd – PAC

Violetta Viviano – Scarlett

Terry Collins – Slauson

Joyce Hansel – Forsythe

Barb Byers - PAC

Greta Barfield – Scarlett

Michelle Machiele - PTOC

Co-Chairs

Rick Weiler – Tappan

Gary Court - Tappan