

Office of WRHS Principal

October 18, 2010

To: Dr. Tammy Davis, Superintendent

From: Dr. Ronna Cadarette, Principal

RE: **Block Schedule Update**

History:

The vote has been cast for AB Block. Block was voted as a solution to areas of identification in the NEASC report as well as the highlighted recommendations from February 2009.

- Faculty members visited several schools with a variety of models.
- SIT work has included research of a variety of models with input from numerous stakeholders with experience in a variety of blocks.
- The NEASC two-year update included a timeline for Block implementation in conjunction with UbD training for Phase 3, lesson planning.
- Block was included in the Strategic Plan, which parents, students, faculty, Board, and community members all had input on over a period of several months last year. This included a preliminary, voluntary survey of all stakeholders. The Plan was adopted last year for implementation of year one in 2010-2011.
- Models were presented to faculty with a week's time to ask further clarifying questions on the models in general. It was shared that specific details would be worked out based on many factors after we selected a model.
- Leadership has referred to the "DOTs" informal survey done by faculty all as to how to plan for the future.

Moving Forward:

- **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT –**
 - **Block Update/SIT work** – October 8
 - **UbD Stages 1 & 2 independent work** – October 8
 - **UbD Stage 3 Individual/Departments w/Courtney Harter** - January 21 + two more days
 - **Summer** - offerings of PD time for block planning like the past two years
 - **Opening PD (August)** – more block training TBD as needed
 - **Mock Block Week** – in conjunction with Winter Carnival

- **PEER PARTNERSHIP –**
 - Adoption by a similar neighboring high school that uses block and has proven results
 - PD days with department teams from partner school at rotating sites
 - Share pros and cons of their experiences while we refine our schedule for 2011-2012
 - Collaborate with peer partners on lesson planning with block
 - SIT Updates
- **STUDENT INPUT –**
 - Pizza roundtables with students on draft schedule for pros and cons
- **COMMUNITY PREPARATION –**
 - Monthly Board updates
 - Community-based information nights in Northfield, Sanbornton, Tilton at sponsor/host family's home
 - School-hosted information nights
 - PTSO presentation and monthly updates

Outcome:

All stakeholders have a voice in formulating the Block Schedule for implementation in 2011-2012 to positively impact student achievement.