

Mt. Harrison High School

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Kelly Arritt Principal

Dr. Cox and Minidoka County School Board

May 3, 2018

Mt. Harrison High School (MHHS) is excited to announce we will be changing the class schedule. Beginning the 2018-19 school year, we will offer four classes each day for our students instead of three. We are continually looking for ways to increase opportunities for our students. The leadership team thinks by making this change we can help more students be successful and graduate. In discussing and planning for this change we have identified positives and negatives created by the change. We feel the positives far outweigh the negatives. Below is a list of thoughts explaining our rationale for the change:

Shanna Lindsay Vice Principal, Counselor

- 1. Students will be able to earn four more credits each year than they can under the current format. It is often said when students come to MHHS they can "catch up". Realistically, they cannot catch up. Many students coming to MHHS year or more behind. By offering students four classes per day, they can earn 4 credits more in a school year. We think this could help more students graduate "on time". This will help create better post-secondary opportunities for our students.
- 2. Classes offered will be approximately 20 minutes shorter. Now, classes are 1 hour and 50 minutes long. Under the new format classes will be 1 hour and 30 minutes. We believe this will improve student engagement in the class room.
- 3. Under the new format we can offer two classes per day in a credit recovery lab. By doing so, we will be able to reduce the amount independent study classes we offer. We have a para-educator who can monitor the lab during that time. The Edgenuity software used in the credit recovery lab is much more rigorous, thus improving the quality of student learning.
- 4. The new format will provide a prep period during the school day for teachers. During this prep time, teachers are encouraged to collaborate, participate in teams, observe other classrooms for best practices and prepare for classes.
- 5. Having four classes per day will hopefully help us provide additional classes in a Family and Consumer Sciences CTE program the following year. A program of this nature would be a tremendous benefit to our student population.

We are excited about this opportunity. This will be a great benefit for the students at Mt. Harrison. We ask for your support in this change.

Thank you,

Kelly Arritt

Virgina Plocher Secretary