



Prepared for: North Bend School Board
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Meeting Date: February 6, 2025

ACTION REQUIRED

BACKGROUND OR SUMMARY

The District would like to propose the transition of North Bend High School and North Bend Middle School to a semester system, aligning the academic calendar with the current schedule at Hillcrest and North Bay Elementary Schools. This transition will offer a variety of benefits to our students, faculty, and families, which is addressed below.

1. Alignment Across Schools:

Currently, there is a mismatch between the schedules at our elementary schools (Hillcrest and North Bay) and the secondary schools (High School and Middle School). By switching to a semester-based system, we will create consistency across grade levels, which will make it easier for families with children in different schools to plan and manage their academic calendars.

2. Improved Academic Focus:

Semester systems generally provide longer instructional periods, giving students more time to delve deeper into subject matter. This system offers the opportunity for a more comprehensive and focused learning experience.

3. Teacher Planning and Professional Development:

A semester system allows teachers to plan curriculum more effectively. Professional development opportunities can also be scheduled more easily.

4. Consistency for Students Transitioning Across Schools/Districts:

Students who transition from elementary school to middle school or from middle school to high school will experience a more seamless academic progression. By starting with similar structures at all levels of education within the district, we can ease the transition process and ensure that students are better prepared for each subsequent academic stage.

5. Administrative and Operational Efficiencies:

A unified academic calendar allows for better coordination between schools. District-wide scheduling, coordination of events, and shared resources will be streamlined, leading to increased efficiency in school operations.

The District encourages the school board to consider the benefits of aligning our district’s secondary schools with the semester system currently in place at Hillcrest and North Bay Elementary Schools and throughout the majority of the state. This change will not only help to streamline administrative operations but will also promote a more consistent and effective educational experience for our students.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Superintendent Swagerty requests that the Board take action on transitioning the North Bend Middle School and the North Bend High School from a trimester system to a semester system.

MOTION REQUESTED:

“I move to approve the North Bend Middle School and North Bend High School transition from a trimester system to a semester system beginning in the 2025-26 school year.”