



MEMO

TO: Weber School District Board Members: Paul Widdison, Jon Ritchie, Kelly Larson, Douglas Hurst, Janis Christensen, Bruce Jardine, and Jan Burell
Superintendent Gina Butters

FROM: Brock Mitchell/Matt Williams
Secondary Education Director

DATE: November 21, 2024

SUBJECT: 2025/26 Junior High Block Schedule

After implementing a pilot block schedule for the 2024/25 school year at Rocky Mountain Junior High and Mountain View Junior High, a study was completed to review the viability of transitioning all junior high schools to an 8-period block schedule. Throughout the process, information has been gathered from parents, students, and staff to measure support for the overall junior high transition to a block schedule.

The results of the study include the following feedback:

- Increased planning and collaborative time for educators
- Ability to increase instructional depth of topics and hands-on activities
- More in-class individualized attention and remediation
- Needing more resources and instruction for improved engagement of students
- Requested assistance for adaptation of lessons to fit longer periods
- Concern around student absences and how this impacts learning

With the classes' increased length, the staff will receive additional training and support to help them modify lessons, teaching styles, and classroom management. Beginning this spring, the Secondary Education and Curriculum Departments will combine their efforts to design and implement the appropriate training.

A recommendation is being presented to the board to:

- Adopt the A/B Block Schedule format in all junior high schools in Weber School District, beginning in the 2025/26 school year.
- Increase the required graduation credits from 27 to 28, becoming the standard for the graduating Class of 2029.
- Requiring all 7th-grade students to have an A/B blocked math class.