



**NCSD**  
**7 Period Day FAQs**  
**Hilliard Middle Senior High School**



What is the rationale for moving from a block schedule to a 7-period day in all our middle and high schools?

- *There are multiple justifications for moving to a 7-period schedule, but the primary reason is that currently, we are unable to provide all our high school teachers with a planning period within the school day.*

How long would each class period be?

- *Class periods will be between 45-50 minutes. We are still finalizing the bell schedule for all schools.*

Will the start/end times of school be changed?

- *Start time will be 9:00AM for all schools. The end of school might be different than current end times. Teacher arrival time will be adjusted to ensure the contracted 7.5-hour workday.*

How will middle school schedules be affected?

- *Middle school schedules will continue to include blocked periods of Language Arts/Reading and Math, a yearlong science course, a yearlong social studies course, and an elective.*

Will moving to a 7-period day limit my child's schedule or ability to accelerate since they are losing the opportunity to earn an additional credit?

- *Students need 24 credits to graduate with a standard diploma in the state of Florida. Students wishing to accelerate currently can earn at least one high school credit while in middle school, and we are looking to add additional opportunities. Additionally, students can accelerate by taking additional high school courses through the MNVS and FLVS. A 7-period day will offer 28 opportunities to earn credits as well. Additional credits can be used to accelerate through Dual Enrollment, CTE (Career and Technical Education) early graduation, credit recovery, or remediation.*

How will student credits work?

- *If a student fails a class, they have more wiggle room now with block scheduling to complete the course with an in-person instructor. Students who fail a course for the year will have to retake the course the following year with a teacher or can retake the course via FLVS.*

Will students still have an early grad option on a 7-period day?

- *Yes, per the student progression plan, there will still be an early grad option; however, students will be held to a tight timeline to declare their intent to graduate early.*

How many preps will teachers have?

- *This is dependent on the school Principal and how he/she chooses to schedule classes. The best practice is to minimize preps for teachers and to try to ensure common planning for collaboration.*

How will students with disabilities handle extra classes and work on a 7-period day?

- *By law, a student's IEP (Individual Education Plan) must be followed by all teachers. While students will be taking more classes at one time, all classes will not be core or state tested. Support will continue to be in place for students.*

Will this schedule have a negative impact on Dual Enrollment offerings?

- *The district works closely with FSCJ (Florida State College at Jacksonville) and has been assured that the Dual Enrollment program can be accommodated easily on a 7-period day. School counselors will work directly with students to determine which periods they wish to use for Dual Enrollment classes.*

How will OJT and Red Bean Center work?

- *OJT has been around long before the block came to Nassau and is still implemented at FBHS which has always been on a traditional schedule. Students will be scheduled in their required courses either at the beginning or the end of the day to accommodate the work schedule. Most juniors and seniors have met most of their credits and will not be impacted.*
- *We will still run the Bean Center bus for students and are currently working with the CTE Director to ensure students can take the courses. Some courses might be moved onto the school campus.*

How will AP (Advanced Placement) courses be impacted on a traditional schedule?

- *There is no major impact on AP courses. Students will be assigned to the same teacher in AP all year, which is no different than the majority of districts in the state of Florida.*

Will teachers get a planning period?

- *EVERY teacher will have a class period of planning within the school day in addition to the one-hour planning on Wednesday.*

What will the impact be on elective programs such as Band, CNA, etc?

- *It is not our intention to cut or negatively impact ANY elective program. We are hoping to continue to add programs to our schools, not eliminate any. We will work with the teacher of specialized programs at each school to preserve and maintain the success of their programs.*

How will teachers cover the standards and curriculum in a shortened period?

- *Students will gain seat time on a 7-period day and overall, instructional minutes increase by meeting daily.*

How will this impact state mandated testing?

- *Moving to a 7-period day will REDUCE the amount of state testing within a school year, since blocked courses are tested each semester. Most state assessments will now take place in May allowing for increased instruction to take place throughout the rest of the year.*

What do Principals need to do NOW to make sure we have enough textbooks for everyone as they will all be taking the class at the same time instead of half and half (each semester)?

- *The textbook coordinator at each school needs to create a master list of TOTAL number of textbooks currently on hand and submit it to the Office of Curriculum and Instruction as soon as possible so that additional materials can be ordered if needed.*

If needed, will schools be able to block (more than one period) classes?

- *That is up to school-based administration; however, this is NOT a widespread practice in surrounding districts and schools who are on a traditional schedule. Those schools have the same if not higher percentages of student success as Nassau County.*

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Hilliard Middle Senior High School at 904-845-2171.

#### Administration

Principal – Tammy Johnson

Assistant Principal – John Crawford

Dean – Michael Franzese

#### Guidance

6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade – Angie Jarrett

10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade – Blair Harris