

# Rotate and Drop Bell Schedule

October 30, 2019



**BERNARDS**



# Timeline

- 2015-2016 School Year: Volunteer Committee of teachers surveyed staff and proposed possible new bell schedule possibilities.
- 2016-2017 School Year: Full Committee of Teachers, Parents, Students and Administrators researched new bell schedules and visited Madison High School
- 2017-2018 School Year: Proposed preferred version of Rotate and Drop to Curriculum Committee. Time of school day was an issue for Physical Education minutes.
- 2018-2019 School Year: Went back to members of bell schedule committee to discuss new proposal of science labs coming out of common lunch. Committee supported proposal.
- Spring-Summer 2019: Discussions with faculty and administration about science labs and the amount of time needed. Several schedules were considered and the best iteration put forward.



**BERNARDS**



# Bell Schedule Committee

- Dianne Berger – *Special Education*
- Jeannette Bracero – *Spanish*
- Coleen Butler – *Director of Guidance*
- Michael Catelli – *Supervisor of WL, SS, and ESL*
- Mike Corbett – *Assistant Principal*
- Eleanor Taylor – *Student*
- McKinney Tropea – *Student*
- Megan Dooley – *Guidance Counselor*
- Joe Foglia – *Science*
- Sarah Glazar – *Parent*
- Susan Gouldin – *Parent*
- Nick Hemans – *Design and Technology*
- Jay Hogge – *Social Studies*
- Matt LaPine – *Music*
- Janice O’Brien – *English*
- Jonathan Cherng – *Mathematics*



**BERNARDS**



# Scheduling Committee Work

- Multiple meetings as a group
- Analyzed current bell schedule to determine need for change
- Discussed AB block schedule, 4x4, and variations of the Rotate and Drop
- Conducted research among staff, students, and parents
- Analyzed all data and agreed to pursue “Madison Model” - Rotate and Drop with science pulling lab out of PE



**BERNARDS**



# Current Bell Schedule

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Period 1	7:45-8:27	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math
Period 2	8:31-9:16	English	English	English	English	English
Period 3	9:20-10:02	PE	PE	Lab	PE	PE
Period 4	10:06-10:48	Science	Science	Science	Science	Science
Period 5	10:52-11:34	Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective
Period 6	11:38-12:20	World Language	World Language	World Language	World Language	World Language
Period 7	12:24-1:06	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Period 8	1:10-1:52	Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective
Period 9	1:56-2:41	History	History	History	History	History



# BERNARDS



# Weaknesses of Current Schedule

- Periods are too short for instruction
- Many stressful transitions from class to class
- Period 1 – Students tired in the morning
- Period 9 – Disrupted by early dismissals for sports
- Students are saturated with information - 7 or 8 classes a day
- Excessive number of passing times
- Homework in every class every day
- Lack of common time with friends and teachers



**BERNARDS**



# What are other schools doing?

*Local high schools that implement a rotate and drop schedule:*

Chatham	Glen Rock	Governor Livingston
Livingston	Mendham	Madison
New Providence	Northern Valley	Princeton
Ramapo	Summit	West Windsor Plainsboro

*NJ Monthly Top 20:*

Rotate and Drop: 13 schools

4x4: 1 school

A/B: 1 school

Straight 8 w/ comm. lunch: 1 school

Straight 8/9 period: 4 schools

(BHS, Ridge, Mountain Lakes)



# BERNARDS



# Why the Rotate and Drop?

- Longer instructional periods of higher quality
  - 42 minutes → 58 minutes
  - Greater opportunities for formative assessment, cooperative group activities, class discussions, etc.
- Less classes in a day
  - Reduces stress created by 9 period day
  - Do not have homework in all classes every day
  - Less tests in a day
  - Good transition to college schedule



**BERNARDS**





# Why the Rotate and Drop?

- Less passing time = increased instructional time
- Common lunch is positive for students and staff
  - Time for students to interact with peers and staff
  - Extra help and makeups
  - Clubs and activities
- Mitigate first and last period impact due to rotation
- Rotation eases monotony



**BERNARDS**



# What would it look like?

	Period	Minutes	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
7:45am - 8:43am	1	58	Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D
8:47am - 9:45am	2	58	Block B	Block C	Block D	Block A
9:49am - 10:47am	3	58	Block C	Block D	Block A	Block B
10:47am - 11:39am		52	(Lunch)	(Lunch)	(Lunch)	(Lunch)
11:39am - 12:37pm	4	58	Block E	Block F	Block G	Block H
12:41pm - 1:39pm	5	58	Block F	Block G	Block H	Block E
1:43pm - 2:41pm	6	58	Block G	Block H	Block E	Block F
		Period 3 Lab		9:49 - 11:09		
		Period 4 Lab		11:17-12:37		



# BERNARDS



# What could a student schedule look like?

	Period	Minutes	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
7:45am - 8:43am	1	58	Math	English	PE	Science
8:47am - 9:45am	2	58	English	PE	Science	Math
9:49am - 10:47am	3	58	PE	Science	Math	English
10:47am - 11:39am		52	(Lunch)	LAB/Lunch	(Lunch)	(Lunch)
11:39am - 12:37pm	4	58	Elective	World Language	History	Elective
12:41pm - 1:39pm	5	58	World Language	History	Elective	Elective
1:43pm - 2:41pm	6	58	History	Elective	Elective	World Language
		Period 3 Lab		9:49 - 11:09		
		Period 4 Lab		11:17-12:37		



# BERNARDS



# Where would 800+ students eat?

- Cafeteria - Maximize seating
- Upper Gym - Set up tables
- Open areas
  - PAC lobby, Community Room, Outside cafeteria, by Choral and Music Rooms
  - Outside when weather is nice
- Senior Privilege could be expanded to juniors



**BERNARDS**



# How do science labs work?

- (A) and (H) labs - 20 minutes out of lunch 1x a rotation
  - When class backs up to lunch, students will have 80 minute lab period
- AP labs - Double class period 1x a rotation
  - Important to maintain existing amount of AP instructional time
- Labs will no longer be taken out of PE/Health



**BERNARDS**



# What do we need for this to happen?

- Additional custodians for lunch setup, breakdown, and cleanup
- Additional Lunch Tables
- Additional serving stations from Maschio's
- Professional Development for Teachers



**BERNARDS**



# Are we sure we have the space?

## Consultant - Elliott Merenbloom

- Reviewed facilities - ample classroom space
- Sufficient facilities for common lunch

### *Other Concerns:*

- Schedules adhere to the current contract language
- Review of shared students and staff



**BERNARDS**



# Next Steps

- Ongoing Professional Development
- Approve items in the 2020-2021 budget
- Continue discussions with Maschio's
- Work on master schedule
- Continued communication with students, staff, parents, and community



**BERNARDS**





# Future Considerations

- School Start Time
- Marking Periods



**BERNARDS**



**Thank You**



**BERNARDS**

