

ROTATING CLASSES BELL SCHEDULE OR BELL SCHEDULE WITH CLASS ROTATIONS

Includes resources from the following schools/districts:

- *Sanborn Regional High School, Sanborn Regional School District, Kingston, New Hampshire*
- *North Brunswick Township High School, North Brunswick Township Public Schools, North Brunswick, New Jersey*
- *Wachusett Regional High School, Wachusett Regional School District, Massachusetts, Horton, Massachusetts*
- *Hopewell Valley Central High School, Hopewell Valley Regional School District, Pennington, New Jersey*
- *O’Dea High School, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Seattle, Seattle, Washington*
- *Malden High School, Malden Public Schools, Malden, Massachusetts*
- *Poudre High School, Poudre School District, Fort Collins, Colorado*
- *Terra Linda High School, San Rafael City Schools, San Rafael, California*
- *Madison High School, Madison Public Schools, Madison, New Jersey*
- *West Morris Mendham High School, West Morris Regional High School District, Mendham, New Jersey*
- *Franklin High School, Franklin Township Public Schools, Somerset, New Jersey*
- *Wissahickon High School, Wissahickon School District, Amber, Pennsylvania*

Sanborn Regional High School

Sanborn Regional High School District

Kingston, New Hampshire

For a good explanation of one form version of a rotating bell schedule, see the short video presentation by the principal from Sanborn Regional High School, Kingston, New Hampshire regarding Sanborn’s 2014-2015 bell schedule change proposal.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Br_zzgl26sc

North Brunswick Township High School

North Brunswick Township Public Schools

North Brunswick, New Jersey

8-period Rotating Schedule/Cascade Drop Two

Homeroom – 5 minutes

Class period – 55 minutes

Student load – 6 classes a day, 8 classes per week/term/year

Passing time – 5 minutes

Lunch – 30 minutes

Minimal impact on students who have co-op program (last 4 periods do not rotate in regular pattern – 2 rotations – one morning, one afternoon)

At NBTHS, a rotating schedule is defined as a type of scheduling in which “students meet for six of their eight classes on any one day. Each day, one class of the eight is “dropped” in the first rotation (between 7:45 a.m. and 10:40 a.m.) and another is “dropped” in the second rotation (between 10:45 a.m. and 2:15 p.m.” The rotation at NBTHS takes four days to complete and the process repeats beginning on the 5th day.”

The previous schedule at NBTHS had been an 8-period day with 40-minute periods. Changing to a rotating block format allowed NBTHS to add an additional 15 minutes to each class period. By using two rotations – one morning, one afternoon -- to determine and dropping one class from each of the rotations each day, NBTHS hoped to have minimal impact on students who participate in the co-op program.

Time/Day	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
7:35 – 7:40	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom
7:45 – 8:40	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4
8:45 – 9:40	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 1
9:45 – 10:40	Period 3	Period 4	Period 1	Period 2
Follow A or B: A- First Lunch Lunch 10:45 – 11:15 Class 11:20 – 12:15 B- Second Lunch Class 10:45 – 11:40 Lunch 11:45 – 12:15	Period 5	Period 6	Period 5	Period 5
12:20 – 1:15	Period 6	Period 7	Period 7	Period 6
1:20 – 2:15	Period 7	Period 8	Period 8	Period 8
Dropped Periods	Periods 4 & 8	Periods 1 & 5	Periods 2 & 6	Periods 3 & 7

Possible Student Schedule on Rotating Schedule (8-period Cascade Drop Two)

Time/Day	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
7:35 – 7:40	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom
7:45 – 8:40	English (1)	Elective (2)	Science (3)	Study Hall (4)
8:45 – 9:40	Elective (2)	Science (3)	Study Hall (4)	English (1)
9:45 – 10:40	Science (3)	Science Lab (4)	English (1)	Elective (2)
Follow A or B: C- First Lunch Lunch	Math (5) Lunch B	Lunch A Spanish (6)	Math (5) Lunch B	Math (5) Lunch B

10:45 – 11:15 Class 11:20 – 12:15 D- Second Lunch Class 10:45 – 11:40 Lunch 11:45 – 12:15				
12:20 – 1:15	Spanish (6)	P.E. (7)	P.E. (7)	Spanish (6)
1:20 – 2:15	P.E. (7)	Social Studies (8)	Social Studies (8)	Social Studies (8)
Dropped Periods	Periods 4 & 8	Periods 1 & 5	Periods 2 & 6	Periods 3 & 7

In the Frequently Asked Questions document prepared by NBTHS, the school included the following response to the question: What are the educational benefits to this rotating schedule? :

“The rotating schedule will help address our school goal of increased active learning and differentiation of instruction. The extended time in class will provide opportunity for an increased use of various student-centered instructional strategies (e.g., activating prior knowledge, hands-on projects, in-depth discussions, project-based learning, using the nine instructional strategy categories and multiple intelligences, cooperative and small group learning, and simulations.) These learning experiences are highly effective but they are also time-consuming. With the extra time provided in this schedule, there will be a greater opportunity to provide more active learning and in depth development of critical thinking skills, which will lead to greater understanding and better retention.”

To view the full document regarding Rotating Schedule Frequently Asked Questions, see <http://www.nbtschools.org/nbts/Schools/North%20Brunswick%20Township%20High%20School/Guidance/Rotational%20Schedule%20Toolkit/NBTHS%20New%20Rotating%20Schedule%20FAQ.pdf>

Useful tools: On the school website, there is a *Rotating Schedule Toolkit*. Included is a PowerPoint presentation, New Rotating Schedule FAX in English and Spanish, Weekly Rotating Schedule, 2013-2014 school year calendar, all rotating schedules, and two-lunch rotating sessions.

The PowerPoint presentation described the following other districts as using rotating schedule in their high school: Chatham, Kinneton, Warren Hills, Watchung Hills, River Deli, Mahwah, Highland Park, West Morris, Morristown, Paramus, Lawrence Township, Randolph, Montville, and Ridgewood.

Wachusett Regional High School

Wachusett Regional School District
Horton, Massachusetts

Wachusett Regional High School serves the communities of Holden, Paxton, Princeton, Rutland, and Sterling, Massachusetts.

WRHS uses a rotating schedule throughout the school year. Classes that meet every day follow a seven-day rotation. Classes that meet every other day follow a 14-day rotation. Every Friday, students have a 25-minute homeroom.

On early release or delayed-entry days, the third and fourth blocks of the day are eliminated so students follow a four-block schedule.

The school regularly publishes and updates a calendar with course rotation information.

Daily Bell Schedule

					Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	
					8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Period	Warning Bell 7:27				BLOCK							
1	7:35 – 8:23 (48 min)				A	G	F	E	D	C	B	
2	8:28 – 9:16 (48 min)				B	A	G	F	E	D	C	
3	9:21 – 10:14 (53 min)				C	B	A	G	F	E	D	
4	10:19 – 11:07 (48 min)				D	C	B	A	G	F	E	
5	Lunch 1	11:12	11:12	11:12 –	E	D	C	B	A	G	F	
	11:12 –	-	-	12:42								
	11:42	11:42	12:12									
		Lunch 2										
		11:42	-									
		12:12										
			Lunch 3									
			12:12-									
			12:42									
	11:47 –	12:17	12:47	Lunch 4								
	1:17	-	-	12:47 –								
		1:17	1:17	1:17								
6	1:22 – 2:10 (48 min.)				F	E	D	C	B	A	G	
					Omit	(G)	(F)	(E)	(D)	(C)	(B)	(A)

Hopewell Valley Central High School

Hopewell Valley Regional School District
 Pennington, New Jersey
Rotating Period Bell Schedule
8 Periods with 6 periods offered each day

Regular Bell Schedule

		A-Day	B-Day	C-Day	D-Day
Session 1	7:45 – 8:46 (61)	1	2	3	4
Session 2	8:50 – 9:48 (58)	2	3	4	1
Session 3	9:52 – 10:50 (58)	3	4	1	2
Lunch	10:54 – 11:39 (45)				
Session 4	11:43 – 12:41 (58)	5	6	7	8
Session 5	12:45 – 1:43 (58)	6	7	8	5
Session 6	1:47 – 2:45 (58)	7	8	5	6

HVCHS also has a half day schedule, a science labs schedule, and a delayed opening schedule.

O’Dea High School

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Seattle
 Seattle, Washington
 6 period rotating schedule

Zero Period and Period 1 (which includes homeroom) remain the same each day. Periods 2 – 6 rotate

Classes rotate in the following order:

Regular Schedule

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
7:30 – 8:10	0 period	0 period	0 period	0 period	0 period
8:20 – 9:13	1	1	1	1	1
9:16 – 10:08	A	B	C	D	E
10:14 – 11:06	B	C	D	E	A
11:09 – 12:01	C	D	E	A	B
12:06 – 12:28	Lunch				
12:33 – 1:25	D	E	A	B	C
1:28 – 2:20	E	A	B	C	D

The O’Dea High School’s website also includes a Morning Assembly Schedule, an Afternoon Assembly/Meeting Schedule, a Minimum Day Schedule, and a Late Start Schedule.

Malden High School

Malden Public Schools

Malden, Massachusetts

7-period Cascade, Drop one period each day on a 7-day rotation

BLOCK ROTATION							
Rotation	Day 7	Day 6	Day 5	Day 4	Day 3	Day 2	Day 1
Block A	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Block B	1	7	6	5	4	3	2
Block C	2	1	7	6	5	4	3
Block D	3	2	1	7	6	5	4
Block E	4	3	2	1	7	6	5
Block F	5	4	3	2	1	7	6

WEEKLY BELL SCHEDULE			
Monday (not the late entry days)		Tuesday - Friday	
Homeroom:	7:45-7:55	Homeroom:	7:45 - 7:55
Block A	7:55 - 8:53	Block A	7:55 - 8:53
Block B	8:53- 9:49	Block B	8:53 - 9:49
Block C	9:49 - 10:45	Block C	9:49 - 10:45
Block D (Lunch)	<p>1st Lunch: 10:45- 11:15 (lunch) 11:15 - 12:45 (class)</p> <p>2nd Lunch: 10:45 - 11:15 (class) 11:15 - 11:45 (lunch) 11:45 - 12:45 (class)</p> <p>3rd Lunch: 10:45- 11:45 (class) 11:45 - 12:15 (lunch) 12:15- 12:45 (class)</p> <p>4th Lunch: 10:45- 12:15 (class) 12:15 - 12:45 (lunch)</p>	Block D (Lunch)	<p>1st Lunch: 10:45- 11:15 (lunch) 11:15 - 12:45 (class)</p> <p>2nd Lunch: 10:45 - 11:15 (class) 11:15 - 11:45 (lunch) 11:45 - 12:45 (class)</p> <p>3rd Lunch: 10:45- 11:45 (class) 11:45 - 12:15 (lunch) 12:15- 12:45 (class) 4th Lunch: 10:45- 12:15 (class)</p> <p>12:15 - 12:45 (lunch)</p>

Block E	12:45-1:45	Block E	12:45 - 1:30
		Block F	1: 30- 2:15

<http://www.malden.mec.edu/HighSchool.cfm?subpage=626250>

Poudre High School

Poudre High School District
Fort Collins, Colorado

8- period Rotating Schedule with one late start day a week for Professional Learning Communities (PLC); 2 lunches

8 courses run for the full year; each class rotate and each class meets three times a week for 80-minute class periods or a total of 240 minutes per week.

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
Period 1 7:40 – 9:00		Period 2 7:40 – 9:00		PLC 7:15 – 8:45		Period 2 7:40 – 9:00		Period 1 7:40 – 9:00	
Period 3 9:05 – 10:25		Period 4 9:05 – 10:25		Period 1 8:55 – 10:25		Period 4 9:05 – 10:25		Period 2 9:05 – 10:25	
Lunch A 10:25- 11:00	Period 5 10:30 – 11:50	Lunch A 10:25 – 11:00	Per 6 10:30- 11:50	Lunch A 10:25 – 11:00	Per 3 10:30 – 11:50	Lunch A 10:25 – 11:00	Per 3 10:30- 11:50	Lunch 10:25 – 11:00	Per. 4 10:30 – 11:50
Per 5 11:00 – 12:20	Lunch B 11:50 – 12:25	Per 6 11:00 – 12:20	Lunch B 11:50 – 12:25	Per 3 11:00 – 12:20	Lunch B 11:50 – 12:25	Per 3 11:00 – 12:20	Lunch B 11:50 – 12:25	Per 4 11:00 – 12:20	Lunch B 11:50 – 12:25
Period 7 12:25 – 1:45		Period 5 12:25 – 1:45		Period 6 12:25 – 1:45		Period 5 12:25 – 1:45		Period 6 12:25 – 1:45	
Period 8 1:50 – 3:10		Period 7 1:50 – 3:10		Period 8 1:50 – 3:10		Per 7 1:50 – 3:10		Per 8 1:50 – 3:10	

Terra Linda High School

San Rafael City Schools
San Rafael, California

Rotating 7-period schedule with one early release day for teacher collaboration and two embedded 40-minute tutorials

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
0 7:05 – 7:55	0 6:55 – 7:55	0 No class	0 6:55– 7:55	0 6:55 – 7:55
1 8:00 – 8:50	1 8:00 – 9:05	2 8:00 – 9:05	1 8:00 – 9:05	1 8:00 – 8:55
2 8:55 – 9:45	Brunch 9:05 – 9:20	Brunch 9:05 – 9:20	Brunch 9:05 – 9:20	2 9:00 – 9:55
Brunch 9:45 –		3 9:25 – 10:30		Brunch 9:55–

10:00	2 9:25 – 10:30	5 10:35 – 11:40	3 9:25 – 10:30	10:10
3 10:05 – 10:55	Tutorial 10:35-11:15	Lunch 11:40 – 12:20	Tutorial 10:35-11:15	3 10:15 – 11:10
4 11:00 - 11:50	4 11:20 – 12:25	6 12:25 – 1:30	4 11:20 – 12:25	4 11:15– 12:10
Lunch 11:50 – 12:30	Lunch 12:25-1:05	7 1:35 – 2:40	Lunch 12:25-1:05	Lunch 12:10-12:50
5 12:35 – 1:25	5 1:10 – 2:15	Teacher Collaboration 2:45-3:15	6 1:10 – 2:15	5 12:55– 1:50
6 1:30-2:20	7 2:20 – 3:25		7 2:20 – 3:15	6 1:55– 2:50
7 2:25-3:15				

Madison High School

Madison Public Schools
Madison, New Jersey

Modified Rotating Block Schedule (with a drop)

Madison Public Schools recently moved from a traditional 8-period day schedule to an 8-period, modified rotating block schedule with a drop. As part of the bell schedule decision-making process, Madison-researched, visited, or spoke with the following schools that were currently using the modified rotating block model: Chatham, Governor Livingston, Kinnelon, Lenape Valley, Livingston, Mendham, Northern Valley Regional, (Demarest & Old Tappan), Montville, Mt. Olive, Randolph, Ridgewood, River Dell, Sparta, Warren Hills, Watchung Hills, West Morris.

Here is a sample of what a student schedule might look like on the new schedule:

	Monday Sept 17 "C" Day	Tuesday Sept 18 "D" Day	Wednesday Sept 19 "A" Day	Thursday Sept 20 "B" Day	Friday Sept 21 "C" Day
7:45am - 8:44am (Block 1)	Period 3 Math C26	Period 4 History G51	Period 1 Science D22	Period 2 Study/Lab A Day Aud/D22	Period 3 Math C26
8:47am – 9:50am (Block 2)	Period 4 History G51	Period 1 Science D22	Period 2 Study/Lab A Day Aud/D22	Period 3 Math C26	Period 4 History G51
9:53am –	Period 1 Science	Period 2 Study/Lab A	Period 3 Math	Period 4 History	Period 1 Science

10:52am (Block 3)	D22	Day Aud/D22	C26	G51	D22
10:52am – 11:37am (Lunch)					
11:37am – 12:36am (Block 4)	Period 7 World Language F44	Period 8 Elective C17	Period 5 Phys. Ed Gym	Period 6 English E38	Period 7 World Language F44
12:39am – 1:38am (Block 5)	Period 8 Elective C17	Period 5 Phys. Ed Gym	Period 6 English E38	Period 7 World Language F44	Period 8 Elective C17
1:41am – 2:40pm (Block 6)	Period 5 Phys. Ed Gym	Period 6 English E38	Period 7 World Language F44	Period 8 Elective C17	Period 5 Phys. Ed Gym

As part of the communication process with faculty, students, and parents, Madison developed a PowerPoint presentation, a Frequently Asked Questions handout, and a section of the school’s web-site information on the proposed change. Madison also did due diligence in communicating regularly about the change to all involved.

From Frequently Asked Questions.

“Madison High School is an excellent school. Why make a change to the schedule and why now?”

Many of the schools in the state of NJ, which we consider to be most competitive and comparable to Madison High School, are using a modified, rotating block schedule (i.e., Chatham, Mendham, Livingston, Northern Valley Regional, Governor Livingston, and Ridgewood High Schools). Many have used this type of schedule for over ten years and have not returned to the traditional eight- period day. Students and teachers are overwhelmingly positive about their experiences with this schedule.

Administrators, teachers, students, and board members from the MHS community have been researching this change in earnest since September and have done a tremendous amount of due diligence to determine the feasibility of implementing a modified block schedule. The scheduling committee returned to our school enthused to make this change as soon as possible. We are confident that, with some professional development for teachers and thoughtful planning, this schedule change can be smoothly incorporated and benefiting our students from day one. “ See:

<http://www.madisonpublicschools.org/madisonhs/cwp/view.asp?A=3&Q=348134>

From a PowerPoint presentation used with students:

“Advantages of this Schedule

- Longer instructional periods will significantly enhance the teaching/learning process
- Fewer classes per day will result in greater student focus on academics and help to relieve stress
- Rotation provides variation to the school day
- Common lunch period facilitates a wide variety of school related activities

- Rotating blocks more closely simulates the “college experience”
- Schools that use this schedule absolutely love it!”
<http://www.madisonpublicschools.org/madisonhs/cwp/view.asp?A=3&Q=348134>

West Morris Mendham High School

West Morris Regional High School District
 Mendham, New Jersey

8-Period Modified Rotating Block Drop two

Classes rotate within either a morning band of classes OR an afternoon band of classes
 Two of the 8 classes are “dropped” each day;
 Every class is offered 3 times over a four-day period.
 Students take 6 classes a day, but earn up to 8 credits a year.

	Day 4	Day 3	Day 2	Day 1
7:40 – 8:39 a.m.	Period 4	Period 3	Period 2	Period 1
8:44 – 9:42 a.m.	Period 1	Period 4	Period 3	Period 6
9:47-10:45 a.m.	Period 2	Period 1	Period 4	Period 7
10:45 – 11:31 a.m.	Lunch			
11:31 – 12:29 p.m.	Period 8	Period 7	Period 6	Period 5
12:34- 1:32 p.m.	Period 5	Period 8	Period 7	Period 6
1:37- 2:35 p.m.	Period 6	Period 5	Period 8	Period 7

Franklin High School

Franklin Township Public Schools
 Somerset, New Jersey

2013-2014 was Franklin’s first school year on the modified 8-period rotating drop 2 bell schedule. Among other advantages to the new bell schedule, Franklin cited the following:

- Additional instructional time per class meeting
- Less detrimental if a student is absent due to illness
- Students will not miss the same class if they leave for athletics, field trips, or co-curricular initiatives

2013-2014 Bell Schedule

	A Day (drop 4 & 8)	B Day (Drop 1 & 5)	C Day (Drop 2 & 6)	D Day (Drop 3 & 7)
7:27 – 8:31 64 minutes (includes announcements)	1	2	3	4
8:35 – 9:34	2	3	4	1

59 minutes				
9:38-10:37 59 minutes	3	4	1	2
10:41 – 12:19 Class/Lunch Class 1 – 10:41-11:40; Class 2: 10:41-11:11 & 11:50-12:19; Class 3: 11:20-12:19) 98 minutes	5	6	7	8
12:23 – 1:22 59 minutes	6	7	8	5
1:26 – 2:28 62 minutes (includes announcements)	7	8	5	6
	Lunch 1: 10:41 – 11:11 Lunch 2: 11:15 – 11:45 Lunch 3: 11:49 – 12:19	Lunch 1: 10:41 – 11:11 Lunch 2: 11:15 – 11:45 Lunch 3: 11:49 – 12:19	Lunch 1: 10:41 – 11:11 Lunch 2: 11:15 – 11:45 Lunch 3: 11:49 – 12:19	Lunch 1: 10:41 – 11:11 Lunch 2: 11:15 – 11:45 Lunch 3: 11:49 – 12:19

Wissahickon High School

Wissahickon School District

Amber, Pennsylvania

8 periods with a 6-Day Modified block rotation with 2 48-minute I&E periods (Intervention & Enrichment) periods every 6-day cycle AND 3 lunch periods daily.

Students take eight classes in a six-day rotation. Each course is offered four times in the six-day cycle – three 58-minute periods and one 80-minute period.

Two 48-minute I&E periods (intervention and enrichment periods) allow students to “explore new areas of interest and get help they need.”

Days 1 – 4

Session 1 (58 min) 7:37 – 8:35		
Homeroom (12 min) 8:39 – 8:51		
Session 2 (58 min) 8:55 – 9:53		
Session 3 (58 min) 9:57 – 10:55		
A – Early Lunch (30) 10:59 – 11:29	Session 5 (58) 10:59-11:57	Session 5 (58) 10:59 – 11:57
Session 5 (58)	B – Mid –Lunch (30)	Session 6 (58)

	12:01 – 12:31	12:01 – 12:59
Session 6 (58) 12:36 – 1:33	Session 6 (58) 12:35 – 1:33	C-Late-Lunch (30) 1:03 – 1:33
Session 7 (58 min) 1:37 – 2:35		

Note – There is no Session #4

Days 5 - 6

Session 1/Homeroom (80 min) 7:37 – 8:57		
Session 2 (80 min) 9:01 – 10:21		
Session 3 – IE Period (48 min) 10:25 – 11:13		
A – Early Lunch (30) 11:17 – 11:47	Session 5/6 (38) 11:17-11:55	Session 5/6 (80) 11:17 – 12:37
Session 5/6 (80) 11:51 – 1:11	B – Mid –Lunch (30) 11:59-12:29	
	Session 5/6 (38) 12:33 – 1:11	C-Late-Lunch (30) 12:41 – 1:11
Session 7 (80 min) 1:15 – 2:35		

Other bell schedules include: Schedule A (half-day); Schedule B – Odd courses meet - modified Day 5, no IE session 3; Schedule C – Even Courses meet – modified Day 6, no IE session 3, One Hour Delay, Two-hour Delay.

In addition, some juniors and seniors are bussed to the Technical Career Center for either a.m. or p.m. sessions.

We will continue to update the bell schedule resources in the CCASN Master Schedule Guide. If you are aware of a bell schedule that supports student learning and achievement and includes innovations in the use of time or know someone we should talk with about a particular District or school bell schedule, please share your bell schedule examples and resources with Patricia Clark (patricia510@gmail.com) and/or Phil Saroyan (jp9@jps.net) from the College and Career Academy Support Network at the University of California Berkeley, Graduate School of Education. Thank you.