

LEGACY HIGH SCHOOL

WHAT DOES HIGH SCHOOL LOOK LIKE IN A PERSONALIZED LEARNING SCHEDULE?

WHY A FLEX MOD SCHEDULE?

- Students at LHS will engage in comprehensive offerings of rigorous courses within a Flex Mod structure that both support students individually and build community.
- Educators will collaborate in the Flex Mod environment, creating research-based programs to facilitate students' academic and personal growth.
- Students and teachers will collaborate one-on-one and in small groups during "Saber Time," time built in to the Flex Mod schedule specifically to support the learner.
- Students will be more involved in making decisions regarding their learning with the support and guidance of educators and parents, giving them opportunities to become better organized, motivated, and self-directed.
- Students will have greater access to community resources because of the flexibility of the schedule and the variety of class structures.

UNDERSTANDING FLEX MOD BY LOOKING AT A STUDENT'S SCHEDULE

- Let's examine FLEX MOD through the schedule of a hypothetical student at LHS. In our scenario, you should know two things about the student:
 - 1) The student was absent for two days last week because he/she was sick.
 - 2) This is a conscientious student, that is making strong choices about how to use his/hers independent learning time most of the time. He/she is struggling in math, though, and has not been going to get the help he/she needs. The math teacher and the student's mother solicit help, and they give the student a "call back" from one mod of her Saber Time. During this call back the student is required to go to math during Saber Time to work with a math teacher, which acts as a safety net for the student until he/she improves in math.

"HONOR THE CODE"

- Sacrifice - for causes we believe in
Attitude - have a good attitude in all we do
Belief - in things that are good, right, and true
Effort - in the tasks we undertake
Respect - show respect in all you do

WHAT IS A FLEXIBLE MOD SCHEDULE?

- When we picture school schedules, we think of a traditional schedule of eight periods lasting 50 minutes or four "blocks" lasting 90 minutes. Now, reimagine how time is used in school. In our schedule, we will shift that concept to periods of instructional time divided into 40, 60, or 80 minute modules or MODS. Teachers will collaboratively design their courses by using various blocks of time, class sizes and instructional strategies to meet the unique needs of students and the subject taught in those classes. Students will also have "Saber Time" built into their schedule, which allows them to make choices about how to use instructional time individually either by meeting with a teacher one on one, researching in the learning commons or working collaboratively with a small group of classmates on a project. Teacher-designed instructional time and student independent learning time are the flexible, or FLEX, part of creating a "FLEXIBLE" schedule.
- Flexible modular scheduling allows for Saber Time during the day as well as the possibility for more classes, especially elective classes. These "open mods" can be used for lunch, study hall, collaborative projects, on-line course work or research, or even socializing.

DAILY STRUCTURE OF FLEX MOD

Most people are familiar with one predominant learning structure: 1 teacher + 30 students = a class. In a Flex Mod environment, students will experience a variety of learning structures.

- Large group: 50-200 students team-taught by a group of teachers; can be used for lecture, guest speakers and assessment.
- Small group: approximately 15-27 students taught by one teacher; can be used for direct instruction, Socratic seminar, inquiry/research, collaborative work and assessment.
- Saber Time allows students to make choices about how to meet their own instructional needs by meeting with a teacher one-on-one or in a small group, researching in the learning commons, working collaboratively with a small group of classmates on a project, meeting with a school counselor, making up work, etc.

THREE MODES OF INSTRUCTION IN FLEX MOD

- **Large Group** - The primary purposes of large group are to gain student and teacher time and to use resources (human and material) that are not normally available for long periods of time. Also, it is here that teachers often present introductory ideas and pose questions which motivates students to prepare for small group discussion. Sometimes large groups are used for testing.
- **Small Group** - The small group is made up of 12-18 students. The purpose of the small group is to provide an opportunity for students to develop communication skills, analytical powers and judgment. Small group discussions are an important aspect of most courses.
- **Saber Time** - All students have a certain amount of time each day when they are not scheduled into classes. This time is called "Saber Time." During independent study time, students make decisions about how to best use the time to meet their responsibilities. They may work in Saber Time on class assignments or on materials of personal interest. Most students meet regularly with teachers during independent study time for help in a subject or for clarification of assignments. This time may also be used for conferences with counselors and advisors. At a time in our society when the age of majority is eighteen years of age, we must help students to develop self-reliance. To enhance this development we are committed to aid each student to learn to effectively use his/her Saber Time.

SABER TIME - WHAT IS PERSONALIZED LEARNING TIME?

- Access open Physical Education Facilities
- Music Facility
- Access Core Area Tutor in Saber Centers
- Access to School Store & Marketplace
- Intervention Time
- Enrichment Time
- Travel Time to Career Academy
- Access to Counseling/Career Center

MEALS

- Open cafeteria style breakfast served 7:30-9:10 and lunch served 10:50-1:30
- 2 lunch mods per day
- Open campus for grades 10-12
- Clean up after yourself & your area

ATTENDANCE IN FLEX MOD

- Passing Time is the last 4 minutes of your attended mod
- No bells! T. V. Monitors with a countdown
- Respect learning of those in classes and the rest of the school
- Tardies and attendances apply for Test Incentive and Credit Loss Policy

ENRICHMENT & INTERVENTIONS IN FLEX MOD

- The classroom Instructor is the first line of defense for enrichment & intervention through "Call Back" time parent communication will take place also.
- Second line of defense is mandatory Saber Time/ Personalized learning time assigned by administration
- Third line is consult with administration on other protocol for struggling or enriched learning.

RESEARCH BASED FLEX MOD SCHEDULING

Educational research shows us time and time again that "one size fits all" does not apply to teaching and learning. We are **PERSONALIZING LEARNING** for every student in the building. We researched this schedule and have seen it in action at

- Westside High School - Omaha, NE

This video link provides basic background information regarding the flexible modular schedule at Merrill High School. This video explains the philosophy behind the schedule and the components of the model. Merrill High School's flex mod template uses 14 half hour phases and the video shows how a sample student's schedule might be built. Each day of the week is different; however, each Monday is the same as other Mondays, each Tuesday is the same as other Tuesdays, etc. Each student also has a half hour lunch and several resource center times. (Each department has a resource center plus students have other options). The video presentation also describes strategies such as "back scheduling," or focuses support for particular learning needs. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YV4HWXVVJ08>