

## **BCPS Leadership Team Packet**

**To:** Principals

**Date Prepared:** May 16, 2022

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**Subject:** Secondary Bell Schedule Communication

On January 27, secondary principals met with several instruction and executive team members to develop a common bell schedule for all secondary schools in the division. The group acknowledged several positive outcomes if all secondary schools were on a common schedule:

- A common schedule for Susie G. Gibson Science and Technology so that arrival and departure times are consistent between all three high schools.
- A consistent schedule for Early College, Central Virginia Governor's School, Roanoke Governor's School, and the STEM Academy.
- Better use of shared resources, such as staff and common course offerings.
- The advantage of teachers seeing students daily.
- The ability to offer more electives and schedule remediation during the school day.

The team also acknowledged that any change might take adjustment for teachers, but that the benefit to students is important. Now that teachers are aware of the change, it is time to communicate with families and community members.

All schools are asked to send the following communication to families (Secondary Principals- Grades 6th through 11th / Elementary Principals 5th Grade Only) through email and callout and post the schedule (Titled 2022-2023 Bell Schedule) on school webpage/social media accounts on Friday, May 20, 2022, at 5 p.m.

"All middle and high schools in Bedford County Public Schools will move to a seven period day starting in the 2022-23 school year. The start of the school day will be 8:45 a.m., with dismissal at 3:45pm. This will allow for 50-minute instruction periods throughout the day with appropriate transition and lunch times. The new schedule can be viewed at this LINK.

A common schedule will ensure students will work with their teachers every day, ability to offer more electives, and provide a consistent schedule for students who attend Early College, Central Virginia Governor's School, Roanoke Valley Governor's School, the STEM Academy, and Susie G. Gibson. Elementary start and end times will not change."

## **Contact for Further Information:**

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