

La Mesa Junior High School

Memorandum

Date: March 5, 2020

To: Michael Vierra, Assistant Superintendent – Human Resources
John Minkus, President of the Hart District Teachers Association

From: Michele Krantz

Re: LA MESA JR. HIGH SCHOOL SITE-BASED VOTE

Please accept this memorandum in accordance with Article XXXVII of the Hart District Certificated Contract.

On Wednesday, February 26, 2017 the certificated faculty of La Mesa Jr. High School participated in a site-based vote to modify our current bell schedule to include a 29-minute tutorial period, remove SSR, and change the function of the Wednesday collaboration time.

Here are the details and results for your review:

- All certificated faculty was given information regarding the modification of La Mesa's bell schedule and tutorial to institute RTI practice through email and face-to-face discussions in faculty, department, and leadership team meetings.
- School leadership worked in partnership with HDTA site rep, Kathy Gettman, on all aspects of the vote. The schedule was checked to ensure ADA compliance.
- The complete ballot and proposal used on February 26, 2020 is attached to this memorandum.
- 67 certificated staff members were eligible to vote (56 teachers, 4 counselors, 3 administrators, 1 school psychologist, 1 social worker, and 2 speech therapists).
- Proper procedures as outlined by HDTA leadership were followed.
- 51 votes (75% of 67) were necessary for the proposal to pass.
- For the request to modify the current bell schedule 51 yes votes were cast and 16 no votes were cast. The proposal passed with an 75% vote, which meets the required standard of 75% as outlined in Article XXXVIII.

This memo serves as our submission for consideration of La Mesa's site-based vote for the HDTA Executive Council Meeting on Monday, March 16, 2020.

La Mesa Junior High School

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In order to enrich La Mesa Junior High School with a more cohesive curriculum that meets the ever-changing needs of both our student body and the California Common Core State Standards, the teaching staff would like to propose changing the bell schedule, removing SSR, and changing the function of the early release time on Wednesdays, beginning in the **2020-21** school year.

The rationale for the change in schedule is as follows:

- 1) La Mesa has decided to maximize collaboration time within the school day by moving to common preps for content areas. This interferes with time that has been used for interdisciplinary teams. Interdisciplinary collaboration time will now happen during the early release time on Wednesdays, approximately twice a month (21 days).
- 2) A twice-a-week 29-minute Tutorial period will allow for tier two intervention during the school day to support student learning of essential standards in all subject areas. Access to this support will be available to all students and not dependent on their ability to get to school before or after the school day. The tutorial schedule will begin in September and end before the last week of school.
- 3) This new schedule will allow teachers sufficient time to implement the Common Core State Standards, NGSS, ELD standards, and new curriculum associated with new text books and pacing. The tutorial time will allow for La Mesa to implement tier two and tier three interventions to meet the learning needs of our diverse student population. Early release time will allow interdisciplinary teams the time to collaborate to meet the social, emotional, and academic needs of their shared students.

The Wednesday bell schedule for 2020-21 would remain the same as the 2019-20 school year.

Period	Start Time	End Time	Duration	
1	8:45	9:30	45 min	(5 min announcements)
2	9:35	10:15	40 min	
	10:15	10:30	15 min	Brunch
3	10:35	11:15	40 min	
4	11:20	12:00	40 min	
	12:00	12:35	35 min	Lunch
5	12:40	1:20	40 min	
6	1:25	2:05	40 min	
	2:05	2:10	5 min	
	2:10	3:10	60 min	Collaboration/Staff Development

The RTI Tier 2 intervention Tutorial time will follow the schedule below on Tuesday and Thursdays. Mondays and Fridays will be a regular schedule with 51 minutes each period. Period 1 on Mondays and Fridays will have 4 extra minutes for announcements.

Tuesday & Thursday w/Tutorial			
1	8:45	9:31	46
pass	9:31	9:36	5
2	9:36	10:22	46
Brunch	10:22	10:37	15
pass	10:37	10:42	5
3	10:42	11:28	46
pass	11:28	11:33	5
4	11:33	12:19	46
pass	12:19	12:24	5
Tutorial	12:24	12:53	29
Lunch	12:53	1:28	35
pass	1:28	1:33	5
5	1:33	2:19	46
pass	2:19	2:24	5
6	2:24	3:10	46

Mondays and Fridays			
Period	Start	End	Duration in Minutes
1	8:45	9:40	55
pass	9:40	9:45	5
2	9:45	10:36	51
Brunch	10:36	10:51	15
pass	10:51	10:56	5
3	10:56	11:47	51
pass	11:47	11:52	5
4	11:52	12:43	51
Lunch	12:43	1:18	35
pass	1:18	1:23	5
5	1:23	2:14	51
pass	2:14	2:19	5
6	2:19	3:10	51

Total Instructional Minutes on Wednesdays = 245

Total Instructional Minutes on Tuesdays and Thursdays = 276 each day

Total Instructional Minutes on Mondays and Fridays = 310 each day

The difference in the instructional minutes, by year, is as follows...

Schedule with no early release and no tutorial

55,800 Instructional Minutes

2020-2021 Schedule with 36 Early Release Days (21 Interdisciplinary Collab/6 Staff Development/ 10 Faculty Meetings) and 64 Tutorial days

55,554 Instructional Minutes

Difference= 246 minutes (less than one day)

Professional development activities will take place on the second Wednesday of each month during the early release time. Faculty Meetings will take place on the last Wednesday of each month during the early release time and “generally last no longer than 75 minutes” as per the agreement between the Hart District and HDTA (7.3). Interdisciplinary team meetings will use all remaining Wednesdays to meet during the collaboration time. Administration will communicate with the team leaders on a regular basis to ensure the prompt and productive participation of all staff members involved. No additional lesson plans will be required for RTI Tier 2 Intervention Tutorial Time.

Note: Early release will not take the place of leadership, team leader meetings, etc. These will occur on Wednesdays after the activities listed above as per the agreement between the Hart District and HDTA. If departments choose to meet during the common prep once per month, this will take the place of the after-school department meeting. All department members must be in agreement as meeting during the prep is not required.