Common Schedule Work Group

Main points from meeting held Mon., Feb. 6, 2012

- On February 1 a recommendation was made to the school board to implement a common schedule in high schools by 2013-2014. The board will take action on this recommendation at its February 15 meeting.
- At the February 1 board meeting high school principals individually explained their reasons for wishing to have a common schedule. A synthesis of information presented is attached and can be shared.
- The Work Group will meet four more times in February. At the end of the month, it
 will make a recommendation to the superintendent as to which schedule will provide
 the optimal learning environment for our students.
- During early March the public will be invited to provide input to the board and superintendent.
- Following public input, the superintendent will make a recommendation to the board.
- The board will take action in late March or early April with the hope that the decision can be made prior to spring break.
- The superintendent shared his criteria for a schedule, which he believes should be viewed as an instructional tool. Overall, he asked the Work Group to consider the question: what schedule will move schools to more in depth, rigorous learning with a high degree of student engagement?
- The superintendent also noted that this is an opportunity for us to work as a system
 and to create a positive movement within our community that is ground breaking and
 powerful.
- The Work Group discussed the criteria that it would use to evaluate the proposed schedules.
- The Work Group began building an understanding of four possible schedules: a 3x5 trimester, a 4x4 semester with one possible A/B period, a 2x4 semester schedule, and 2x7 semester schedule.
- A communication plan was discussed, including the need to develop a Frequently Asked Questions document and to translate communications into Spanish.