

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of the Superintendent
Ms. Susan Ciccotelli, Superintendent

Hello Fairfield Families! I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. It truly is amazing how quickly time flies

Some of you may have heard that we are moving to a 6-day schedule. Although the specific details in which Fairfield will operate will be forthcoming, I felt the need to give a brief description of what this will look like and why.

To avoid confusion, I would like to begin by explaining that students will not be attending school on Saturdays (sorry parents). Instead of having a traditional Monday-Friday schedule, we will now be operating on a Day 1- Day 6 schedule.

There were many factors that went into this decision, but one of the most relevant was maintaining small class size. Additionally, the new schedule permits the district to offer more without spending any additional money. Six grade will now mirror the other grades with a double block for mathematics. This was a major factor in looking at a new schedule because the curriculum is created to be taught in a 60 minute period, minimally. We were only providing 40. This positive change will better prepare our students for West Essex.

Furthermore, this new schedule allows for the district to address the individual needs of students, provide common planning periods every day for every grade level, and to optimize our staff to improve student outcomes. The new schedule allows for students to have specials (art, music, steam, media, and world language) in 6 week cycles. What does this mean? Your child will have the same special for 6 weeks rather than having a different one each day. The continuous days provide consistency, which optimizes instruction and learning. With the Monday-Friday schedule, days off from school resulted in students missing time in specials, as many as 6-8 sessions during the school year. Now, they will have the same amount of class time in all five areas listed above.

In order to meet the new state mandate for recess and physical education/health, the students will have an additional 70 minutes built into the schedule without impacting academic time. The physical education teachers will now be providing the health instruction.

We are quite excited for the endless educational opportunities this 6-day schedule will provide for our students. As stated, the specific details to the schedule for each grade level will be provided prior to the opening of school. However, in an effort to further provide information on how this will look, please click on the first link below to watch a video on a similar situation. Also, click the second link to see a sample of how we will communicate the number day indication. The day calendar will posted on our website when finalized.

Click below to watch a short video to better understand the process. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ee7GiUatWqs>

Click below to view a sample calendar of the days' identification. https://filecabinet5.eschoolview.com/939E6D19-AEDD-42A9-8E47-EDA0A703D54E/SixDayRotationCalendar2018_19_V3.pdf

I look forward to providing further information shortly.

Have a wonderful remainder of the summer.

Sincerely,

Susan Ciccotelli
Superintendent