

## Frequently Asked Questions – Next year’s Sophomores and Juniors

### Why did you add an additional class period?

For the past two years RHS has been providing enrichment and intervention for students through our 30 minute daily Flex period. While we have seen some success with this program, it is obvious that our students need a longer, more focused period for assistance. The addition of a 7<sup>th</sup> period allows us to offer specific courses for our incoming Freshmen, remediation courses for our current students who are struggling or have become credit deficient and study periods for our on-track/advanced/honors level students. It also provides more flexibility in the schedule for students who are taking off-campus classes such as AACT or UNR courses.

### Why are we starting earlier instead of ending later?

Bus transportation cannot be altered at the end of the day due to the fact that buses must make an elementary school run after dropping off high school students. Our current bus times have students arriving at 7:35am so adjusting the morning pick up time by approximately 10 minutes was the best solution. Current middle school students already begin the day at 7:30 am so this will be an easy transition for our incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Over 300 students currently take a zero period course which begins at 7am so they are used to an early start.

### Will there be zero period classes for the 2010-2011 school year?

No - all classes that are currently offered during zero period will be scheduled during 1<sup>st</sup> period next year.

### What are the options for the 7<sup>th</sup> class? Do I have to take another academic class?

The options for next year’s sophomores and juniors are as follows:

Frosh Mentor - please click the link to find out more about this option.

Peer Tutor - please click the link to find out more about this option.

PLATO - students who are credit deficient will be placed in a PLATO class (on-line credit recovery) to make up any missed credit. Students who are more than one credit deficient will need to take Summer School in addition to placement in PLATO.

Guided Study Hall - this study hall is designed for students who need assistance with their homework. It will be staffed by two teachers and at least 3 peer tutors. Computer access will be available in this study hall for students who need to work on research projects or type assignments. In addition - students can also be sent to other classes to make up exams and get assistance. This study hall is suggested for

students who feel that they consistently need help understanding subject matter and completing homework assignments.

Independent Study Hall - this study hall is designed for strong students who simply need time during their school day to complete homework assignments. It will be staffed by a teacher so assistance is available if necessary. Computer access will be available in this study hall for students to work on research projects or to type assignments. This study hall is suggested for students who have a difficult class schedule with a significant homework load and/or students who participate in after-school athletics or other extracurricular activities and do need the extra time to complete assignments.

Additional academic class - students may take an additional academic class if it is approved by their counselor and/or Mrs. Feroah, Curriculum Assistant Principal. For students who have already submitted course requests for 0-6 periods - the shift will automatically be made to the new 1<sup>st</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> period schedule.

If the additional academic course is a highly requested course such as Computer Lit, Health, Art or Yoga - placement will be made on a space available basis only after all original course requests have been processed.

**Will I get to choose what I want to take for my additional period?**

Students who are on track credit-wise may make the choice regarding their additional period. Students who are credit deficient will automatically be placed in a credit-recovery class. Struggling students will meet with counselors to determine the best placement (guided study hall or specific remediation classes).

**Does the addition of a 7<sup>th</sup> period impact extracurricular activities?**

No - the school day still ends at 2:30 so it will not impact any athletic practices, marching band or any other extracurricular activity. Bus transportation has been adjusted to accommodate the earlier start.

**Can I take off-campus for my additional period?**

No - all freshmen, sophomores and juniors are required to take a full schedule. Exceptions are currently made for juniors taking GT Internships, work experience, UNR/TMCC classes or whose AACT schedule requires an accommodation. Students taking a correspondence course, Supervised Curriculum PE, etc. must still take all 7 periods.