Tredyffrin/Easttown School District

Middle School Advisory Committee Meeting

2/16/22

The Middle School Advisory Committee met on February 16, 2022. This year's goal of the committee is to review the middle school schedule. At the meeting, the following agenda items were discussed.

1. An overview of the middle school schedule
2. A review of the block scheduling model that was followed during the 2020-2021 school year
3. The lunch schedule
4. Structure of Grades 7 and 8 Advisory Periods.

The meeting began with introductions and a review of the current middle school schedule from Mr. Cataldi, the District's Director of Assessment and Accountability and former Principal at T/E Middle School. Mr. Cataldi reviewed the history of the development of the current schedule.   Specific focus was given to how special areas classes are scheduled.

Dr. Phillips, Principal at T/E Middle School, continued the meeting with discussions about the block schedule that was used during the 2020-2021 school year.   In general, there was not support for a return to block scheduling, however there were specific aspects of last year's schedule that various group members appreciated. The committee agreed to review revisit some aspects of the schedule at the next Middle School Advisory meeting. Dr. Phillips concluded his presentation with a review of the current lunch schedule. The lunch schedule was changed during the 2019-2020 school year to accommodate students and the later start time the District enacted that year.

Mr. Gibson, Principal at Valley Forge Middle School, concluded the meeting by sharing the structure of the Advisory Program the students participate in at both middle schools. Most of the discussion was focused on the seventh and eighth grade Advisory Initiative classes. In both grades, Advisory Initiative is currently scheduled three days during the six-day cycle while taking Advisory Support the other three days. The committee will discuss scheduling alternatives to Advisory Initiative at the next meeting.