

Tredyffrin/Easttown School District
Middle School Advisory Committee Meeting
November 18, 2024

The Middle School Advisory Committee met on November 18, 2024. The meeting began with a recap of the prior meetings regarding the middle school schedule review with the following drivers:

- New State standards in Science, Technology & Engineering, and Environmental Literacy and Sustainability (STEELS) go into effect in the 2025-2026 school year
- Science instruction will cover most of the standards; additional instructional time is needed to cover all the standards, particularly in Technology & Engineering
- Student intervention supports
- Student mental health and wellness

PTO meetings at both TEMS and VFMS were held to share information and seek parent input about the draft schedule and its components. In summary, the feedback received included positive responses to the enrichment/extension opportunities in Art, Music, and Physical Education. In addition, the need for future parent communication with the approved schedule was expressed to include the following:

- Criteria for the school recommended structured intervention supports in Reading, Writing, Math, Executive Functioning, and Well-being
- Descriptions of the enrichment/extension opportunities
- Sectional schedule for the music programs
- Humanities program
- Schedule for gifted seminars
- Redesigned course selection process

The committee was presented with an option to the working copy of Advisory schedule, as well as an alternative Special Areas rotation. The committee provided input to move forward with the existing draft Advisory schedule and Special Areas rotation, and not with the alternates.

Variations of Advisory examples were provided to illustrate family choice of World Language in grades 5 and 6 and the aforementioned enrichment/extension opportunities, as well as the school recommended support mechanisms. Teachers shared initial thoughts of enrichment/extension topics and activities. It was acknowledged that additional time is needed to revamp the impacted curricular areas.

The meeting concluded by reviewing action items and next steps as follows:

- Continue to engage with Middle School teachers – ongoing
- Develop criteria for school recommended structured intervention supports – ongoing
- Develop details about the enrichment/extension choices in Advisory Period for Grades 5-8 – ongoing
- Develop humanities progression for Grades 5-8 – ongoing
- Redesign course selection information
- Present to the Education Committee – January 9, 2025
- Schedule follow up meeting(s) for Middle School Advisory – TBD