

February 9, 2021

Dear SMS Parents,

In an ever-evolving year, the Middle School schedule will undergo another change to increase the amount of in-person instructional time. As has been shared in Friday's District communication, Wednesdays will become an in-person instructional day for students. Beginning on March 10th, Cohort A and Cohort B will attend school in-person on alternating weeks. For example, Cohort A will attend school on March 10th and Cohort B will attend school on March 17th. They will alternate this pattern in the weeks that follow. On weeks where we have a vacation day, we will make an adjustment to the schedule so that each cohort attends school in-person for two days. Teachers will maintain their current in-person instructional model on the new Wednesdays.

For our special education students, this means they will attend school 5 days a week. On Wednesdays where Cohort A is in the building, they will follow their full schedule. On Cohort B Wednesdays, they will follow their current half day or full day special schedule. We are already in communication with the transportation department to arrange for the half-day busing. If there are any questions related to special education students, please contact assistant principal, Rochelle Hauge (rhauge@scarsdaleschools.org).

We have prepared for this potential change and we are now putting our preparation into action. This change requires that we make adjustments to the schedules of our students who receive additional services as these services were often provided on Wednesdays. Our goal is to minimize the amount of time a student needs to be pulled from an in-person class. In addition, we are altering some of our CSE meetings to minimize the time a teacher needs to be pulled from his/her class. Teacher aide schedules need to be altered as most of our aides did not work on Wednesdays. With the addition of lunch on Wednesdays, our food service department is working on staffing the building. These are all changes that we are currently making as we prepare for our March 10th return.

For planning purposes, I have included the Wednesday rotation through the end of the school year.

March 10th	Cohort A
March 17th	Cohort B
March 24th	Cohort A
April 14th	Cohort B
April 21st	Cohort A
April 28th	Cohort B
May 5th	Cohort A
May 12th	Cohort B
May 19th	Cohort A
May 26th	Cohort B
June 9th	Cohort A
June 16th	Cohort B

Our faculty and staff look forward to this change and welcoming our students into the building on Wednesdays.

Warm Regards,

Meghan Troy
SMS Principal