

Wellington High School

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WHS Newsletter - The Second Nine Weeks

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Issue 2, Volume 1

Overview:

In our efforts to support our mission for WHS to have the “Best Year Ever” we implemented a few changes. Our focus is for each student to have an excellent learning environment and high school experience by providing innovative, future-focused, and real world instruction. To support this effort, we implemented student-led parent conferences in place of teacher-led parent conferences and also implemented late start on Wednesdays. In this letter, we provide an update on these two items and share the schedule for next week’s finals.



CruCon update: Just a reminder that our Crusader Connections is our 3rd hour class for all students that allows for Character Education and career Interest / exploration lessons, tutoring, club meeting time and grade checks with students’ Mentor teacher.

- curriculum for our Social-Emotional Learning lessons based around a book study by Sean Covey titled “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens” as well as Digital Citizenship
- Career Interests and Work Readiness - Career Cruising website
- Individual Plans of Study for all students as KSDE outlines in their outcomes.
- Career Advisory time is focused on helping each student be what their dream by providing the structure to help students make clear, careful, and creative plans for life beyond high school including student-led Conferences.

Student-led Conferences were a success!

Student-led Conferences were a huge success, and it’s all due to the hard work and effort from the teachers preparing the students during Crusader Connections, students/teachers getting a hold of parents to schedule the meeting times and students’ preparation. Moving from an average attendance rate of 20-25% in the past to almost 91% in one year is an amazing growth

of almost 4x the average. It just goes to show, when we put our focus and energy together into changing the way we do things in order to do what is best for students, we can do great things!

Late-start Wednesdays:

Professional collaboration is at the heart of the District's Strategic Plan (Goals 1,3 and 4) and is truly an integral part of ensuring each student is engaged in innovative, real world learning. Collegial relationships that result from collaborative work within high-functioning learning communities support continuous adult learning, building of expertise, and the improvement of professional practice. Effective professional collaboration requires dedicated time available on a regular basis and educators sharing responsibility for the learning of all students. Wellington High School weekly Late Start collaboration time is successfully supporting staff by expanding professional collaboration opportunities for teams of educators (i.e. regular education teachers, special education teachers, administration, student services staff) to:

- Analyze student data
- Plan common assessments, curriculum and instruction
- Develop cross disciplinary activities
- Design interventions and enrichment
- Strategic Planning of WHS Redesign initiative

This in turn, fosters, facilitates, and supports an effective learning environment for all WHS students. Therefore, we will continue to have late-start Wednesdays for the remainder of the school year. **(Reminder - 1st hour bell rings at 8:45 AM on Wednesdays)**

Finals Exam Schedule

Monday December 18th

1st Hour 8:00 - 9:30

2nd Hour 9:35 - 11:05

Lunch 11:10 - 12:00

4th Hour 12:05 - 1:35

5th Hour 1:40 - 3:05

Tuesday December 19th

6th Hour 8:00 - 9:30

7th Hour 9:35 - 11:05

Lunch 11:10 - 12:00

8th Hour 12:05 - 1:35