

Changes to LISD Middle School Schedule

As a result of the state-wide educational finance crisis, LISD started the process of identifying possible areas of reduction to the District's operating budget. In early March, after many months of research and many stakeholder-input sessions held around the district, LISD released the list of proposed budget cuts. The complete list of budget reductions can be found on the [LISD Legislative and Finance](#) webpage. The elimination of double blocking at the middle school level was one of the proposed budget cuts. Over the past 15 years, LISD has been fortunate to offer double-blocked language arts and math classes to our students. This schedule, while effective, is expensive to maintain, and we are no longer able to support this model. After reviewing other options, LISD has determined that moving to a 7-period, single-block schedule would provide a cost savings to the district while still allowing the district to maintain quality instructional delivery for all students.

In order to assist you with understanding this change, we have provided a Question & Answer section below.

1. How many classes will my child take each day?
 - Each student will take 7 classes.
 - 5 required courses (Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and APS/QUEST Studies/or AVID) and 2 elective courses
2. How will the change in schedule impact the amount of time for all classes?
 - LA/Math will change from 90 minutes to 50 minutes
 - Sci/Social Studies will change from 45 minutes to 50 minutes
 - Electives/PE will change from 45 minutes to 50 minutes
3. Will class sizes increase?
 - Yes, there will be an increase in class size. Middle schools will be staffed to accommodate approximately 28-30 students in most classes.
4. What will take place during the 5th required course?
 - Students will be placed into one of the following courses: QUEST Studies, AVID or APS.
5. What is QUEST Studies?
 - All QUEST identified students will be scheduled into a QUEST Studies class. QUEST Studies is an interdisciplinary curriculum that addresses themes from the core areas of reading, writing, math, science, and social sciences as well as critical thinking, creative thinking, research skills, communication skills and independent study. Also, QUEST students will be clustered together in groups of no less than 5 in the Language Arts class in order to receive differentiated instruction.
6. What is [AVID](#) (Advancement Via Individual Determination)?
 - All AVID-identified students will be scheduled into an AVID class. The AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) class is a 7th and 8th grade structured college-preparatory class that requires enrolled students to take at least one pre-AP or high school level course. AVID provides specific strategies to support students in rigorous coursework and helps students develop long-range plans for four-year college enrollment.
7. What is APS?
 - APS=Academic and Personal Success
 - This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to build academic behaviors, key cognitive strategies and key content knowledge in the core subjects of Math and Language Arts.

If you have additional questions, please contact your campus principal or grade-level counselor.