

FAQs about Flex Mod Scheduling

Q: What is a mod?

A: A “mod” is short for module. “Mods” are 20 minute blocks of time. Our school day is made up of 21 “mods”.

Q: Are classes only 20 minutes long?

A: All core classes will meet for periods of 40 minutes and 60 minutes each week. Learning Labs may be only 20 minutes long.

Q: What is a learning lab (LL)?

A: A learning lab is a short period of time where a teacher meets with a very small group of students (6 or less) to review or re-teach a concept, answer questions about an assignment, revise a paper, or provide enrichment opportunities for students who are ready to move on.

Q: What is large group (LG)?

A: Large group class time simply means that all students (30 or less) enrolled in the course will be in the class together. These class periods are designed for direct instruction from the teacher and giving a test.

Q: What is small group (SG)?

A: Small group class time simply means that a small portion of students (15 or less) enrolled in the course will be in the class together. These class periods are designed for group discussion, collaborative work, review, class activities, labs, etc.

Q: Will my student have a study hall in their schedule?

A: Students will not have study halls in their schedule, but they will have personalized learning time (PLT).

Q: What is personalized learning time (PLT)?

A: Personalized learning time (PLT) are mods where students are not scheduled into an class. Students will have these throughout the day which will provide time to complete homework assignments, make up tests that they may have missed, or ask questions about assignments with their teacher.

Q: Where is PLT held and how are students accounted for during that time?

A: Students will report to the Commons and check-in with the teacher(s) who are supervising during that mod.

Q: The claim has been made that this system/schedule will make it easier to hold kids accountable, help them be more successful, reduce failure, etc. How exactly does this work?

A: There are several “safety nets” built in to the flex mod structure that create opportunity for student accountability:

1: Advisory period - advisory teacher will run a report of each of their students missing assignments for their classes and schedule them into learning labs to make up that work accordingly.

2: Back scheduling - back scheduling refers to teacher’s scheduling students to attend learning lab mods (that are usually optional) for classes in which a student’s grade drops below a C- or in which a student accumulates missing work.

3: Teacher : Student Ratio - because flex mod is designed for students to attend large group classes as well as small group classes, students receive instruction in the small group classes at a lower student:teacher ratio, which provides more opportunity for teachers to interact one-on-one with students.

Q: What is advisory?

A: Advisory is a “homeroom” period, during Mod 1, where each student will be assigned a homeroom teacher. They will be one of about 10 students in their homeroom. Advisory will include God time, announcements, and missing assignment accountability. Advisory teachers are responsible for back scheduling students into learning lab mods if their grades are slipping.

Q: How will KCTC, Grace Bible, and ReCharge fit into this model?

A: This model allows us to create a “class” on Thursdays that everyone attends for ReCharge. This model also allows us to create options for small group meeting times on various time throughout the day that accommodate students who are at KCTC or Grace Bible to be in different small groups than those who do not. Core classes will not have large group class times scheduled that conflict with KCTC and Grace Bible.

Q: How will schedule changes be handled?

A: If a student needs a schedule change they will submit a schedule change request just like they would do in our current model. The request will be reviewed by Mrs. Petrick.

Q: Does my student have to attend all of the class times for courses they are enrolled in?

A: Students are required to attend all large group and small group classes as outlined by their teacher, but they may opt in or out for learning labs. However, if a student’s grade drops below a C- or they accumulate missing assignments in a given class they will be required to attend learning labs until their grade returns to a C- or above.

Q: What about lunch?

A: Lunch will be a fixed time for all students during mods 12 and 13.

Q: What new opportunities are available to my student with this model?

A: This model provides several new opportunities for students.

1. Increased opportunity for 1:1 teacher support during regular school hours
2. Opportunity to teacher aide in the elementary

3. Provide tutoring to elementary students
4. Participate in more elective courses (career exploration, SAT Prep, PE, Culinary, Self-defense, etc.)