Boulder Prep Calendar

BACKGROUND

Boulder Prep has always been a year-round program, knowing that students need to be actively learning throughout the year. Our class schedule began as 90-minute block classes that lasted 8-weeks. This is more like a traditional college model where classes meet two-days per week for slightly longer periods of time.

In January 2012, we decided to try offering 4-day intensive classes during our extended breaks. The concept of intensive-style learning is based on research and instructional practices at Colorado College and Cornell College. These two schools have successfully used a “one class at a time” intensive approach at the collegiate level, so we decided to try it with our students. The extended time is particularly useful for project-based learning, science labs, Socratic seminars, creating art, and group activities. Students and teachers responded so well to this mode of instruction that we decided to pilot a full block of intensives in the summer of 2016, and then we extended intensives into the fall over the last two years.

While credit completion rates showed that students performed better in intensive classes, the student feedback was that 5 months of intensives was too much. Our staff spent much of the year researching best practices and getting feedback from students on schedule options that would be a blend of intensives and block classes. We finally landed on a schedule where classes would meet for 2.5 hours daily (M-Th) for three weeks. Students would have two classes at a time – one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Advisory time would also be built in to support students with study habits, homework, accountability, and follow through. This became our Triad Schedule since courses last three weeks.

DETAILS/LOGISTICS

- Intensive Schedule (Monday through Thursday) *Summer Only

  Stories: 8:30am – 8:50am (Required for Graduation)
  Intensive: 9:00am – 10:30am
  Break: 10 Minutes
  Intensive: 10:40am – 12:10pm
  Lunch: 12:10pm – 1:00pm
  Intensive: 1:00pm – 3:25pm (10 min break)
  **No School on Fridays
• Triad Schedule (Monday through Thursday) *Fall Only – Term 1 & 2

Stories: 8:30am – 8:50am (Required for Graduation)
AM Class: 9:00am – 11:40am (10 min break)
Lunch: 11:40pm – 12:30pm
PM Class: 12:30pm – 3:10pm (10 min break)
**Fridays: 8:30am – 1:00pm Life Skills Class (Required for Graduation)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Triad #1</th>
<th>8/19 – 9/6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Week Off (Mid-Term Break)</td>
<td>9/9 – 9/13</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Triad #2</td>
<td>9/16 – 10/4</td>
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<td>Triad #3</td>
<td>10/7 – 10/25</td>
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<td>Fall Break</td>
<td>1 Week Off (Fall Break)</td>
<td>10/28 – 11/1</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Triad #4</td>
<td>11/4 – 11/22</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 Week Off (Mid-Term Break/Thanksgiving)</td>
<td>11/25 – 11/28</td>
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<td>Triad #5</td>
<td>12/2 – 12/20</td>
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• Block Schedule (M/W classes & T/Th Classes) *Spring Only – Terms 3 & 4

Stories: 8:30am – 8:50am (Required for Graduation)
Period 1 Classes: 9:00am – 10:30am
Break: 10 Minutes
Period 2 Classes: 10:40am – 12:10pm
Lunch: 12:10pm – 1:00pm
Period 3 Classes: 1:00pm – 2:30pm
**Fridays: 8:30am – 1:00pm Life Skills Class (Required for Graduation)

| Term 3   | Block Classes             | 1/13 – 3/6 |
| Term 4   | Block Classes             | 3/30 – 5/22 |
Credits Earned:

Students will earn 2.5 credits for all courses except math, world languages, and advanced language arts courses which are worth 5 credits. Students will also earn 2.5 credits per term for attending stories daily and another 2.5 credits per term for attending on Fridays for the Life Skills class. Students will also earn 2.5 credits of advisory during Terms 1 and 2 since this time will be built into the Triad classes.

Homework:

The amount of homework will vary from course to course. To the extent possible, students will be given time to complete work in class. There may be evenings when students have up to 1 hour of homework, however the advantage of intensives and triads is that students are not juggling assignments for multiple courses each night. They only have to focus on one or two courses at a time. Teachers are always willing to work with students who need extra time or extra support. It is best for students/families to communicate with teachers as soon as possible to coordinate for accommodations and confirm expectations. Homework Lab is available daily for students to work with teachers one-on-one.

Absences:

We understand that absences will happen. Our teachers are committed to working with students who have absences to make up the work so they do not lose out on credit. Daily assignments and make-up work will be posted either to a class website or through Infinite Campus. Students are encouraged to coordinate with a teacher in advance if a scheduling conflict is known. They are also encouraged to e-mail teachers as soon as possible when an absence occurs to coordinate for make-up work. Infinite Campus will be a useful tool for students and parents/guardians to track progress and monitor for incomplete/missing work. Teachers will also be available for Homework Lab until 4:30 M, W, Th, and until 3:00pm on Fridays to help students with any questions or assignments. Students who need extended time due to an excused absence will be allowed to submit make-up work by 5:00pm on Monday of the following week. This will allow students to use the weekend and Homework Lab on Monday to finalize any make-up work. We ask that parents/guardians help minimize absences as best they can.