



Supporting Students with Unfinished Learning and Diverse Needs

Scheduling - Question & Answer Session

June 30th, 2021



District Management Group | Helping Schools and Students Thrive

Agenda

Welcome & Overview

Top 5 Scheduling Questions

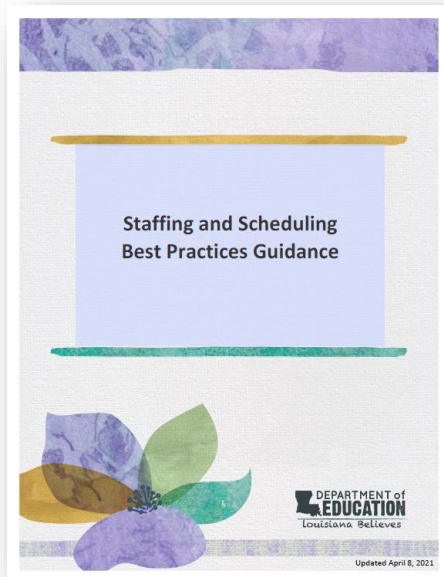
Open Q&A Forum

Closing



The Louisiana Department of Education has partnered with District Management Group, a Boston-based public education consulting firm.

LDOE Partnership with District Management Group (DMGroup)



Comprehensive Guidance Document

- Details best practices for addressing unfinished learning and meeting the needs of diverse learners
- [Document Link](#)



Supports for LEAs in Implementing Best Practices (*Spring – Fall 2021*)

- Live webinars, resource sharing sessions, and question & answer sessions
- Opt-in intensive regional technical support and district specific coaching



Q&A sessions are in direct response to the request of school and district leaders across Louisiana for a forum to ask specific questions.

Rationale Behind Q&A Sessions

- **LDOE and DMGroup interviewed districts and networks across Louisiana:**
 - Resounding feedback that there was a desire for a forum to ask specific questions related to staffing and scheduling best guidance



- **LDOE and DMGroup are responding to your needs:**
 - 2 Q&A Sessions in 3 rounds of sessions over the next few months on the following topics:
 - Staffing Guidance
 - Scheduling Guidance
 - Topics for discussion are and will continue to be based on the input and voices of participants
 - We will incorporate your feedback and continue to improve the structure and focus of sessions



Q&A sessions create a forum for individuals from across the state to ask targeted questions related to their challenges.

Overview of Q&A Session



1. **Top Questions** – DMGroup will share relevant guidance and best practices in response to the top questions raised by educators and leaders throughout Louisiana.



2. **Open Question Forum** – Session participants can submit questions by either raising their hand or by entering their questions directly into the chat feature of Zoom.



3. **Breakout Sessions** – Participants will also join breakout sessions at various points to have small group discussions with their peers.

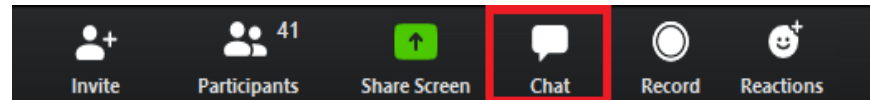


At any point throughout today's session, you can use the chat feature in Zoom to submit questions.

 Use the Chat to Submit Questions

What questions do you have about scheduling to address students' unfinished learning?

- Submit questions at anytime during the session by using the 'Chat' function in your Zoom window.



- You can also email questions to Joe Costello at:

jcostello@dmgroupk12.com



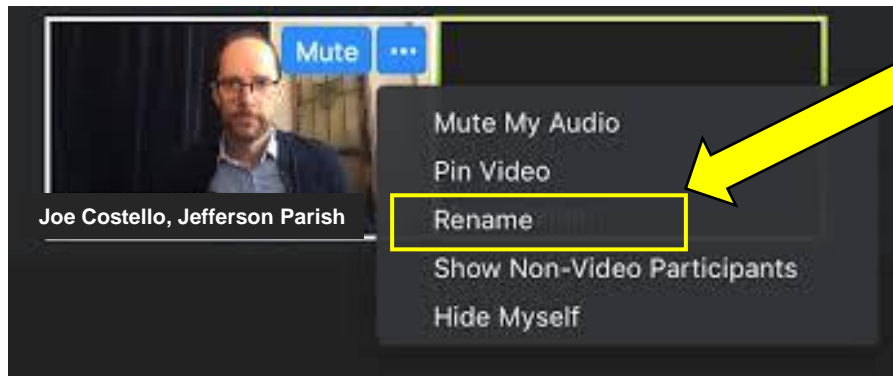
Please change your 'name' on zoom so that our team can organize breakout rooms more effectively.



Directions for Breakout Rooms

- Change your name on Zoom to the following:
 - Name, District/Charter Network
 - Ex.

Joe Costello, Jefferson Parish



To rename on Zoom:

- Click on your picture in the Zoom window
- Click on the three dots (...), then select 'Rename'
- Rename yourself according to your district/network name to help ensure mixed breakout rooms



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There are established best practices to help address unfinished learning.

Overview of Best Practices

High-Quality Core
and Literacy
Instruction

- 1 High-quality core instruction is the foundation.
- 2 Effective literacy instruction is central to student success.

Extra Instructional
Time from Content
Strong Staff

- 3 Students with unfinished learning and diverse learners need extra instructional time to catch up.
- 4 Both core instruction and acceleration must be provided by content strong staff.

Social & Emotional
Needs and Equity
Matter Greatly

- 5 Meeting the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of students supports academic achievement.
- 6 Equity should be at the forefront of all these strategies.



Top Questions – *Scheduling*

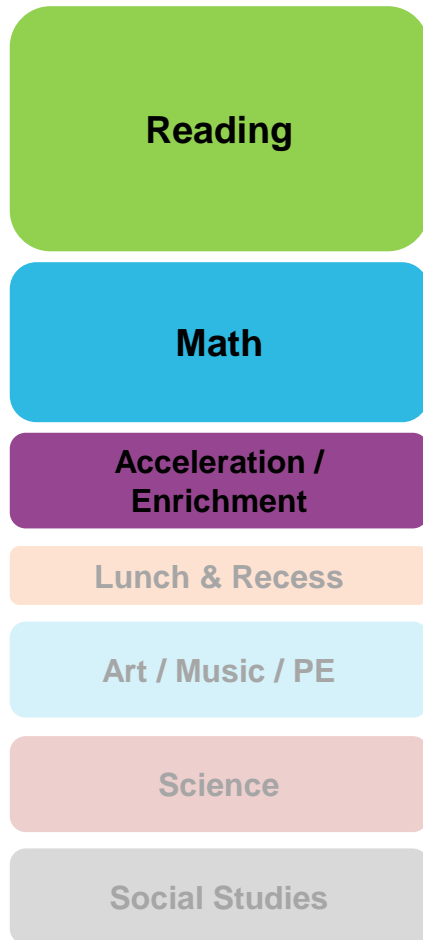
- 1 How to support students with multiple needs (i.e. Special Education, EL, and Acceleration)?
- 2 How to find time for acceleration at the high school level in a way that meets all mandates, including time on learning, Carnegie Credit Units, and graduation requirements?
- 3 How to create more efficient schedules that maximize time on learning?
- 4 How to create schedules that balance acceleration and social emotional learning (SEL)?
- 5 How to balance scheduling needs of students with collaboration time for teachers?



How to support students with multiple needs (i.e. special education, EL, and acceleration)?

Question 1 – Supporting Students with Multiple Needs

Best Practice Elementary Schedule



Preserve Core Instruction with a Built-in Acceleration Block:

- For all students
- Allows for extra-time instruction
- Helps ensure students are not pulled from core reading or math

Additional Considerations:

- Avoid assigning students to multiple periods of acceleration for different subjects.
- Focus on one area of need at a time
- For ELs, integrate English Language Development (ELD) into acceleration by grouping ELs of similar needs



How to find time for acceleration at the high school level in a manner that meets all mandates including time on learning, Carnegie Credit Units, and graduation requirements?

Question 2 – Finding Time for Acceleration

Jump Start TOPS Tech

(Career Diploma) Course Requirements

Subject	Required # of Units for Graduation	Suggested Grade-Level			
		9	10	11	12
ELA	4	✓	✓	✓	✓
Math	4	✓	✓	✓	✓
Science	2			✓	✓
Social Studies	2			✓	✓
JUMP START	9	✓	✓	✓	✓
Health/PE	2				

Prioritize acceleration during 9th and 10th grade by delaying subjects that don't require 4 years' worth of credits for graduation

Additional Considerations:

- Make acceleration credit bearing at the secondary level
- Look for study halls and other non-academic periods similar to study halls to find time for acceleration



Opportunity to Learn from Peers

In breakout rooms, discuss with your colleagues the following question:

What strategies are you going to use to create extra time for acceleration at the elementary and secondary levels?



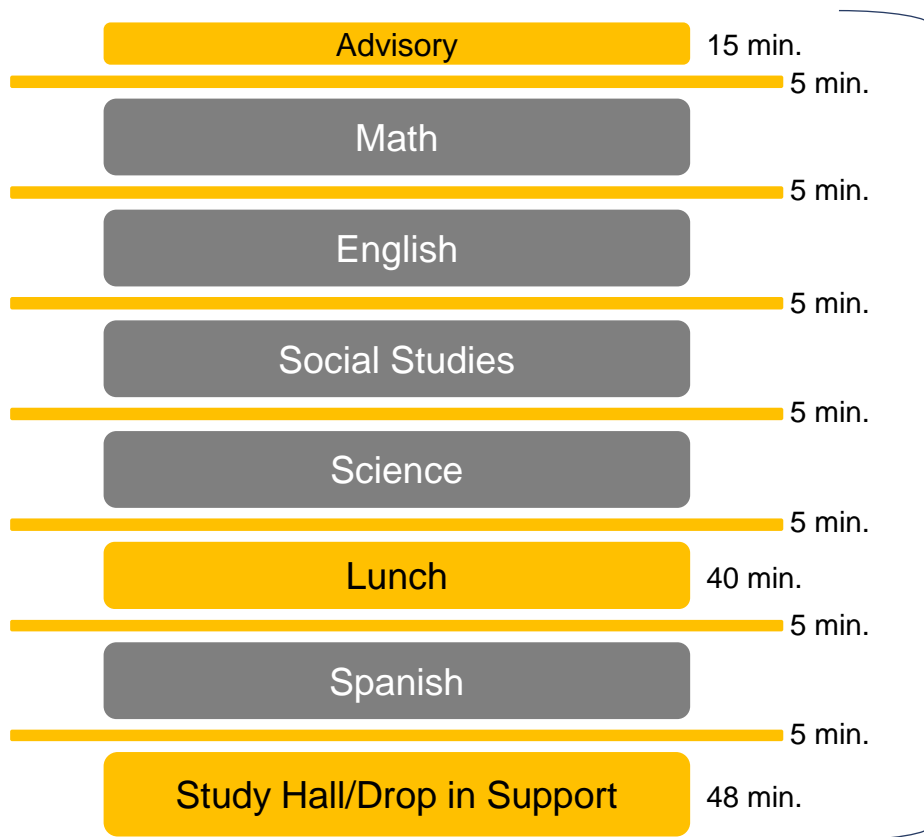
~ Group discussions will last for approximately 7 minutes ~



How to create more efficient schedules that maximize time on learning?

Question 3 – Creating Efficient Schedules

Sample School Schedule Example



138
Minutes of
Non-Instructional
Time per Day!

Create More Efficient Schedules:

- Reduce non-instructional time during the school day including:
 - Transition Time
 - Lunch
 - Study Halls or Other Non-Academic Blocks

Additional Considerations:

- Lengthen the school day for students
- Create a longer school year through a balanced calendar, if appropriate



How to create schedules that balance acceleration and social emotional learning?

Question 4 – Balancing Acceleration and SEL

	Option 1 Create SEL-Specific Period (1x/week)	Option 2 Create Split SEL Period (1x/week)	Option 3 Create Advisory Period (1x/week)
Period 1	Math	Math	Math
Period 2	English	English	English
Period 3	SEL	Elective	Elective
Period 4	Social Studies	SEL Social Studies	Social Studies
Period 5	Science	Science	Science
Period 6	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish Advisory

Additional Considerations:

- Indirect SEL content can be integrated into regular content/courses
- At elementary level, make SEL course a part of the ancillary rotation



Opportunity to Learn from Peers

In breakout rooms, discuss with your colleagues the following question:

Where will you find the time for SEL at both the elementary and secondary levels?



~ Group discussions will last for approximately 7 minutes ~



How to balance scheduling needs of students with collaboration time for teachers?

Question 5 – Balancing Needs of Students and Teachers

Provide a variety of support and collaboration options for teachers, including:

- 1** Strengthen coaching supports for teachers
- 2** Utilize mentor teachers to support new teachers
- 3** Repurpose faculty meetings to focus on teaching and learning
- 4** Provide common planning time for teachers in common subjects when possible
- 5** Use PD days for common planning time



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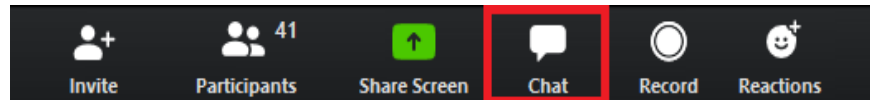


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Tell us what you liked about today's session and how you would like to see this session improved in the future!

Opportunity to Provide Feedback

Link to Provide
Feedback





District Management Group

Helping Schools and
Students Thrive

If you have any comments or questions about the contents of this document, please contact District Management Group:

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