

Study of Four Middle Schools:

**HW Porter, RHAM Middle School, Mansfield Middle School,
and Bolton Center School
for the**

**Board of Education Public Hearing for Future Needs
Monday, April 23, 2018**

**by the
Columbia Board of Education Subcommittee
Jim Chakulski Lisa Napolitano Kathy Tolsdorf**

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The enclosed information represents the best efforts of an initial look done by the Board of Education subcommittee in the Spring of 2017 to investigate, summarize, and present how some area middle schools use scheduling and school organization to educate their students. Our purpose was to allow us to begin to reflect on how our own middle school programming compares, competes, and provides for our children. It is incumbent on the Board of Education to evaluate how we might best provide for our students in the face of declining enrollment and State funding.

	HW Porter	RHAM Middle	Mansfield Middle	Bolton Center
Population of Middle School	Grades 5-8 +/- 180 (+/- 440 preK-8)	Grades 7-8 +/- 480	Grades 5-8 +/- 550	Grades 6-8 +/- 210 (+/- 580pK-8)
Language Core	Taught as one 60 min core. No leveling. (full year) 180 hr/year	LA in Grade 7 and 8 Honors, Gr. 8 42 min/day 126 hr/year	LA core in both grades 7 and 8. No leveling. 45 min/day 135 hr/yr	LA core in 6, 7, and 8. No leveling. 45 min 135 hr/yr
Reading		Instructional differentiated core reading instruction in grade 7, not in Grade 8. 42 min/day 126 hr/year (7)	Reading instruction in 5th and 6th grades. Reading (content and fiction) instruction in 7th Literature in Grade 8 -also emphasis on writing and research 45 min /day 135 hr/yr	No core reading instruction in regular core program. (2x/wk silent sustained reading during their SSR “flex block” in am.) Support reading for those in need,
Formal Core Combined LA+Rding	180 hr/year in all grades.	252 hr/yr in all grades.	270 hr/yr in all grades	135 hr /yr in Grade 7
Science	Taught ½ year daily in 60 minute core in grades 5, 6, 7, and 8 No levels. 90 hr/year	Taught daily full year in 42 minute core in 7 and 8. Leveled/ STEM 126 hr/yr	Taught daily full year in 45 minute core in 5-8. No levels. 135 hr/yr	Taught daily full year in 45 minute core in 6-8. No levels. 135 hr/yr

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Social Studies Core	<p>Taught ½ year daily in 60 minute core in grades 5, 6, 7, and 8</p> <p>90 hr/year</p>	<p>Taught daily full year in 42 minute core in 7 and 8.</p> <p>126 hr/yr</p>	<p>Taught daily full year in 45 minute core in 5, 6, 7, and 8</p> <p>135 hr/yr</p>	<p>Taught daily full year in 45 minute core in 6, 7, and 8.</p> <p>135 hr/yr</p>
Math Core	<p>Taught 4 / 5 days (0.8 full time) in 60 min blocks. Common block between grades allows for acceleration/remediation and flexibility.</p> <p>Leveled in grade 6 allowing for students to take advanced math at EO Smith.</p> <p>144 hr/yr/grade</p>	<p>Taught daily full year in 42 minutes.</p> <p>2-year acceleration in- school. Honors STEM Math (7 and 8) open to those not in STEM team.</p> <p>Advanced STEM math in gr.7 and 8</p> <p>126 hr/yr/grade</p>	<p>Taught daily full year in 42 minutes.</p> <p>1-3 year acceleration in- school. Math is leveled.</p> <p>135 hr/yr/grade</p>	<p>Taught daily full year for 45 minutes.</p> <p>Honors Math 1-year acceleration in- school.</p> <p>135 hr/yr/grade</p>
Physical Education and Health	<p>2x/wk gr 5-8 54 h/y Health: 5x/wk/Quat gr 5-8 33.75 h/y</p>	<p>2x/wk gr 7,8 50.4h/y</p>	<p>2x/wk gr 5,6 - 54 h/y 2x/wk gr 7,8 - 54 h/y</p>	<p>2x/wk gr 6 - 54 h/y 2x/wk gr 7,8 - 54 h/y</p>

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World Language Offered	<p>Spanish (also lessons in elementary school grades 1-4 30 min/wk)</p> <p>gr 5, 6 - 2x/wk for 40min gr 7, 8 - 2x/wk for 40 min and 1x/wk for 60 min</p> <p>54hr/yr gr 5,6 83 hr/yr gr 7,8</p>	<p>Spanish, and/or French, and Latin</p> <p>Exploratory in grade 7 (1/4 year),</p> <p>Daily all year in grade 8</p> <p>31.5 hr/yr gr 7 126 hr/yr gr 8</p>	<p>Spanish and/or French, Latin, and German (+x-change programs)</p> <p>1/2 year Spanish in grade 5, 2x/ wk) Full year exploratory in grade 6 (4 lang) 3x/wk Study of one language in grades 7 and 8 (3x/wk)</p> <p>54 hr/y gr 5 (Sp.) 81h/y gr 6 (ex)</p> <p>81 h/y gr7Lang 1 81 h/ygr8 Lang 2</p>	<p>Spanish and/or French</p> <p>Taught daily as core all year.</p> <p>135 h/y gr. 6 Exploratory (Fr and Spanish)</p> <p>135 h/y gr. 7 135 h/y gr. 8</p>

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Other required Academic time	Quarterly Academic Labs: (Required) 2x/wk for 1/4 year each: Lang. Arts Lab Math Lab Geography Lab STEM Sci Lab (in Flex Block) study skills 13.5 hr/yr each lab			Not core, but SSR (Silent Sustained Reading) 2x/wk in grades 6, 7, and 8
Required Specials (PE and Health listed separately)	Daily 45 min for 1/4 year each <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/4 yr Art • 1/4 yr Life Skills • 1/4 yr Gen.Music • 1/4 yr Comp.Tech 	Daily 42 min 1/4 year each <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/4 yr Art • 1/4 yr Fam. Consumer Sci • 1/4 yr Gen. Music • 1/4 yr Tech Ed and 1/4 yr.Exploratory World Lang.gr 7 1/4 yr g. 8 Art Enrichment or Study Hall 	3x/wk 45 min 1/4 year each <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/4 yr Art, • 1/4 yr Life and Consumer Science • 1/4 Yr GenMusic • 1/4 YearTech Ed. 	3x/wk 45 min for a 1/3rd year each <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/3 yr Art, • 1/3 yr Tech Ed • 1/3yr Computer
Recess	20 minutes/day 60 hr/yr (Required Pk-8)	not required in middle schools not also elementary schools.	10 min/day Gr. 5 30 hr/yr	none

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Performance Music (all schools also have some opportunities for guitar)	Chorus not offered as a class but integrated into 1/4 yr general music class (see above) Band not required 2x/wk practice/lesson Jazz band practice before school	Elective Chorus and Band Students must select Chorus or band or Intervention Lab during their 8th period class. Band and Chorus are 42 minutes/day all year in both grades 7 and 8.	Elective Chorus, orchestra or band Students have two 25 minute practices per week in either or each plus one small group or individual lesson per week (22 min.)	Required <u>Grade 6</u> : Chorus or band required 3x/week <u>Grade 7 and 8</u> : Chorus or Band or Music Survey.
Musical ensembles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade Band Combined Band Jazz Band Chorus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Band Jazz Band Festival Band Chamber Ensemble Chorus Select Chorus Boy's Quartet Won "best communities for music award 2017" 	5-6 Chorus Concert choir Chamber choir (select) Junior Jazz Band, 5-6 Jazz Band Beg./Inter Orchestra Orchestra	Grade 6 Band Grade 7 Band Grade 8 Band Combined Band Advanced Band Grade-level choruses Combined Chorus
Visual Arts	1/4 yr Rotation (see specials) +Art enrichment option grade 8 (1/4)	1/4 yr Rotation (see specials) +Art enrichment option in grade 8 (1/4)	1/4 yr Rotation (see specials) + Flex time allows students to do more art	1/3 yr Rotation (see specials)

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Enrichment	<p>Enrichment Program and teacher and program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math Olympiad Competition • Invention Convention • Nat'l Honor Society • Nat'l Junior Art Soc. <p>"In-School" and out of school field trips and after-school program.</p> <p>After-school program, clubs, and student government.</p> <p>Interscholastic sports.</p> <p>Drama productions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INQUIRY Academy and STEM TEAMS expected to meet enrichment needs. • STEM Sci, Math, and Art for those that test in and elect this team. • INQUIRY ACADEMY for self-directed, alternative learners who elect and qualify for the Inquiry Team • Project Oceanology • After-school programs • Sports • Field Trips • Student Competitions • Sports • Drama 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrichment teacher works with all students during "flex block". This includes work on on team project-based learning, supports student interests, and support for school competitions: Invention convention , Math Counts, Robotics, Competition, National Latin Exam, for example. <p>After-school programs, drama, sports, student government, etc.</p> <p>MMS is racially, religiously and economically a diverse school.</p>	<p>No formal enrichment teacher nor program but differentiated instruction.</p> <p>After school clubs provide enrichment, student government, NJHS, etc.</p> <p>(NEMSAC champs./runner-ups in cross-country, baseball, and basketball.</p> <p>Participate in <i>School Choice</i> with Hartford. 10% of students come from Hartford.</p>

<p>Academic Support, and Support Services and Special Ed.</p>	<p>Guidance Social Worker Sch. Psychologist Speech/Language AHM services Homework club with UConn tutors and teacher facilitator Behavior and Academic support services. SRBI / Tiered Intervention and special education by PPT</p>	<p>Guidance, Advisory Speech, OT, PT, Counseling, audiological services, assistive technology and outside consultants. AHM services Intervention Program and Special Topics classes After school writing and math labs and assisted study hall. collaborative and co-taught special ed, adapted reading and english by PPT</p>	<p>Study Skills 3x/wk (135min) Math/Reading support 3/wk Writing Center (as needed) in <i>Flex</i> Block School Counseling and Developmental Guidance and professional support services by PPT Whole school counseling and small-group counseling. Intervention Program Tiered intervention and special education by PPT</p>	<p>Full inclusion, push in and pull out services, co-teaching and paraprofessional support nursing, OT, PT, Speech and Language, School based counseling social worker, school counselor school psych and consulting psychologist Reading teacher for middle school "Whole school "BARK" Unified Sports Team SRBI and Special Ed by PPT</p>
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