

SUSTAINABILITY PLANNING GRANT

Restructuring Learning Time - Toolkit

Overview:

Extending and restructuring learning time has been identified as a way to improve student learning outcomes. Research suggests that schools that expand and restructure learning time are able to provide their students with more opportunities for individualized and small group instruction. In addition, teachers have more time to provide in-depth instruction and to collaborate around improving classroom practices. The following is a list of resources detailing current research on restructured learning time as well as case studies from schools that are implementing best practices in this area.

Research:

- The following is a report by Massachusetts 2020, a nonprofit foundation, detailing the work of a handful of extended-time schools and their most effective practices.

[http://www.mass2020.org/files/file/Time-for-a-change\(1\).pdf](http://www.mass2020.org/files/file/Time-for-a-change(1).pdf)

- The following report outlines programming strategies that have been used by effective schools with expanded learning schedules.

http://www.schoolturnaroundsupport.org/sites/default/files/tool_5_elt_guide_final.pdf

- Pages 6-11 from the following report outline eight effective practices used in successful extended learning time schools.

<http://www.timeandlearning.org/files/TimeWellSpent.pdf>

Case Studies:

- The following one-page summary describes how a school in Massachusetts used its expanded schedule to create academic leagues that allow teachers time to work with students on specific academic skills.

http://www.timeandlearning.org/files/Academic_Leagues_Tiered_Academic_Support_Edwards_Middle.pdf

- The following one-page summary describes how a school in Massachusetts used its expanded schedule to create a practice called ‘rounds’ that allows teachers to conduct frequent peer observations to help strengthen their instruction.

<http://www.timeandlearning.org/files/Collaborating%20to%20Improve%20Instruction%20-%20Jacob%20Hiatt.pdf>

- The following one-page summary describes how a school in Chicago used its expanded schedule to create a system of teacher office hours as well as a productive alternative to student detention.

<http://www.timeandlearning.org/files/Individualized%20Supports%20and%20Safety%20Networks%20-%20Golder%20College%20Prep.pdf>

- The following one-page summary describes how a school in Massachusetts used additional instructional time to focus specifically on student literacy and writing needs.

http://www.timeandlearning.org/files/School_wide_Instructional_Focus_at_Jacob_Hiatt_Magnet_School.pdf