

Brighton adding 30 minutes to school days in 2015-16

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Students in Brighton schools will spend an extra 30 minutes in school each day starting this fall, the district announced Wednesday. The extended day was part of a new contract with the Brighton Teachers Association signed last summer. The two sides have spent the last year working out the details of how the extra time will be spent. "Teachers' contact time with children is the single biggest factor in their success," Brighton Superintendent Kevin McGowan said. "We often feel that we're rushed, and that there's not enough time to accomwho plish what we want to accomplish."

The extra 30 minutes will be spent differently in each school based on plans drawn up by teams in each building. Each school developed a plan on the needs for each school, the plans will be refined prior to the start of school in September, said McGowan in a news release. These changes are considered a pilot for the 2015-16 school year, he said.

Council Rock Primary School will add extra time for math and English. The school day will last from 8:15 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., compared to the current 8:35 a.m. to 2:35 p.m.

French Road Elementary School will also add extra time for math and English and will build in flexibility for students need help in a particular subject. The school day will last from 8:55 a.m. to 3:25 p.m., compared to the current 9:10 a.m. to 3:10 p.m.

Twelve Corners Middle School will add an extra period onto the end of the day and shorten each period by one minute. The school day will last from 7:45 a.m. to 2:39 p.m., compared to the current 7:45 a.m. to 2:06 p.m.

Brighton High School will add a 30-minute flex period in the middle of the day when all teachers will be available to students for additional help. There will also be a five-minute homeroom before first period. The school day will last from 7:40 a.m. to 2:47 p.m., compared to the current 7:45 a.m. to 2:35 p.m. Overall, the amount of instruction time will increase from 4.5 to 5 hours every day. Other changes to start and end times could happen later. The district will also combine middle and high school students on bus routes to save money and deal with low ridership.

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