



Personal Learning Time

Throughout this school year, we have been collaborating as a staff about various innovative practices to support and enhance student learning. Recently, we conducted student focus groups with over 150 students to seek feedback and reflections from our learners on various questions about their experience at Cambie as well as their personal learning preferences. One area for which we received overwhelming positive support was around the topic of implementing some form of Personal Learning Time.

Starting on Thursday, May 10th, we will be implementing a 6-week pilot project around Personal Learning Time. Although it is late in the school year, we believe this is a valuable time to implement Personal Learning Time as all students should be working hard to finish the school year in the most positive way possible.

What is Personal Learning Time?

- Every Thursday, students will participate in 60 minutes of PERSONAL LEARNING TIME. During this time, they will have flexibility and choice regarding what learning task they wish to focus on. Students will be supervised by their homeroom teacher and will be able to ask for support as needed. This is “self-directed” time for students to learn.

Why provide Personal Learning Time?

- One of our school goals is to increase student engagement in learning. We have been striving to achieve this all year through various efforts such as our “Raising the Bar” yearly theme. We believe that one of our responsibilities is to teach our students how to take ownership of their own learning. This is a life skill that we need to teach our students before they graduate from secondary school.
- Our data has shown that, due to a wide variety of factors, many students struggle to complete and submit all assignments. This Personal Learning Time is intended to help students learn to more effectively manage their time and to provide students a safe, supervised and supported classroom environment to work on any aspect of their learning.

What can students do during their Personal Learning Time?

- Complete homework
- Complete assignments
- Prepare for an upcoming quiz / test
- Catch up on missed tests/quizzes/assignments
- Work on a project
- Engaged reading
- Re-write or re-organize notes
- Organize binder/notebook
- Many other options...



Where will this Personal Learning Time come from?

- Currently, students participate in 15 minutes of engaged reading daily. We will repurpose this engaged reading time to create a schedule that allows for one 60 minute period every Thursday for Personal Learning Time. Students will have a revised schedule on Monday, Tuesday Wednesday and Friday with 5 minutes of time added to each period, and an alternate schedule each Thursday with 60 minute classes plus the Personal Learning Time. The amount of instructional time in each class will remain the same.

Will school still begin at the same time each day?

- Yes – the first class will still begin at 8:25am with a warning bell at 8:18am.

Will the school day finish at the same time?

- Yes – the last period class will still end at 2:48pm each day.

All students will be expected to participate in this Personal Learning Time and attendance will be taken by homeroom teachers. Students will be responsible for planning ahead and bringing the necessary learning materials with them to homeroom in order to maximize the use of the 60 minutes of instructional time.

The implementation of this Personal Learning Time has been intentionally planned to start with a strong and clear structure; once a routine has been established and students understand the expectations of this time, then we will gradually provide greater flexibility and choice. Our hope is that we will be able to transition to a more flexible delivery model that will allow students to work with various teachers and subjects during this time.

Expectations of students:

- RESPECTFUL:
 - Value this time to work on self-directed learning activities.
 - Respect that this is learning time, not social time.
- RESPONSIBLE:
 - Manage your own time by working on assignments, getting extra support, reviewing, studying for tests, doing make-up tests, completing homework, and/or doing silent reading.
 - Be actively engaged and learning during this time.
- READY TO SUCCEED:
 - In advance of the personal learning time, set a specific goal for what you will focus on.
 - Arrive to homeroom on time for attendance.
 - Remain in the learning space for the duration of the period.

Following this 6 week pilot project, we will seek feedback from students, staff and parents on your reflections of Personal Learning Time; this feedback will guide action for the future.



REVISED SCHEDULE:
Effective Thursday, May 10th until the end of the year

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday:

- Period 1: 8:25 – 9:45am (80 min)
- Period 2: 9:50 – 11:10am (80 min)
- Break: 11:10 – 11:20am
- Period 3: 11:25 – 12:45pm (80 min)
- Lunch: 12:45 – 1:25pm
- Period 4: 1:30 – 2:48pm (78 min)

Thursday

- Period 1: 8:25 – 9:25am (60 min)
- Personal Learning Time - HOMEROOM:
9:30 – 10:30am (60 min)
- Period 2: 10:35 – 11:40am (65 min)
- Break: 11:40 – 11:50am
- Period 3: 11:55 – 12:55pm (60 min)
- Lunch: 12:55 – 1:35pm
- Period 4: 1:40 – 2:48pm (68 min)

Dates:

- *May 10 Day 2 (1234) – students stay in homeroom*
- *May 17 Day 1 (4123) – students stay in homeroom*
- *May 24 Day 2 (1234) – students start in homeroom. Possible flexibility*
- *May 31 Day 1 (4123) – students start in homeroom. Possible flexibility*
- *June 7 Day 2 (2341) – students start in homeroom. Possible flexibility*
- *June 14 Day 1 (1234) – students start in homeroom. Possible flexibility*

