# Jefferson Township Public Schools Grades 4-8 Restructuring Plan 2025-2026 School Year

Peggy Widgren, Principal

Board of Education Presentation May 12, 2025





## Stakeholder Feedback

# Visit to Orange Avenue School Cranford, NJ (Monday, November 25, 2024)

- Jeanne Howe, Superintendent
- Roger Jinks, Assistant Superintendent
- Kevin Lipton, JTHS Principal
- Peggy Widgren, JTMS Principal
- Emily Incledon, Grade 4 Stanlick
- Ralph Argondizzo, Grade 5 White Rock
- Sharon Thomas, Grade 8 ELA JTMS and JTEA Representative

#### What we learned:

- Use of facilities
- Managing two models (middle school and elementary school) under one roof
- Managing two different start times
- Master Schedule Development



## Stakeholder Feedback

# Facilities Walkthrough (Tuesday, December 3, 2024)

- Jeanne Howe, Superintendent
- Rita Giacchi, Business Administrator
- Roger Jinks, Assistant Superintendent
- Kevin Lipton, JTHS Principal
- Peggy Widgren, JTMS Principal
- Nicholas Serganese, Facilities Supervisor
- Jared Marquard, Facilities Assistant Supervisor
- Michelle Ziobro, Grade 4 Stanlick
- Lynn Scognamiglio, Grade 5 Stanlick
- Kim Holler, Special Education White Rock
- James Rowe, Grade 4 White Rock
- Kristin Scholz, Grade 5 White Rock
- Robert Tiedeman, Elementary Instrumental Music

#### What we learned/discussed:

- Sectioning of grade levels
- Utilization of Large Spaces
- Shared spaces for electives
- Media Center usage
- Playground equipment and space
- Suitable rooms and placement of Special Education classrooms and related services
- Furniture needs
- Grade level restroom allocation
- Pick-Up and Drop-off
- Bells and Announcements
- Hallway traffic
- Technology needs



# Stakeholder Feedback

#### **Scheduling and Programming**

(Friday, January 3, 2025 and Tuesday, January 7, 2025)

- Peggy Widgren, JTMS Principal
- Josephine Ramirez, Supervisor of Student Personnel Services
- Emily Incledon, Grade 4 Stanlick
- Kristin Scholz, Grade 5 White Rock
- Kim Hollar, Grade 4 and 5 Special Education
- Rachel Decker, Grade 6 JTMS
- Alyssa Guagenti, Gateways and Special Education JTMS
- Danielle Haucke, Vocal Music JTMS
- Sharon Thomas, Grade 8 ELA JTMS

#### What we learned/discussed:

 A shared vision of a sequential education model that is responsive to the academic, social, emotional, and developmental needs of students in grades 4 through 8.



# **Our Vision**

Release of Responsibility

**Ease of Transitions** 

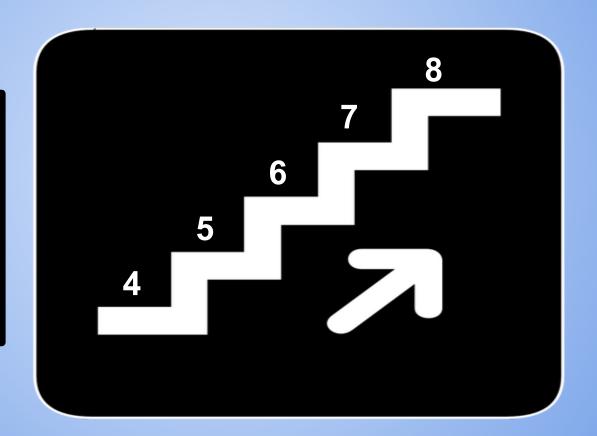
**Purposeful** 

Meaningful

**Sequential** 

Responsive

**Readiness** 







A map of the school was shared during the presentation which showed where each grade level will be located and what common spaces would be shared by all grades, such as the cafeteria.

- Grade 4 will be located in the C-wing of the building
- Grades 5 & 6 will be located in the Upper B-wing
- Grades 7 & 8 will be located in the Lower B-wing and the G-wing connector with the high school

The map will be shared with parents at the August Orientation and Open House Meetings

# **School Day Times**



	Grades 7 and 8	Grades 4 - 6
AM Staff Report	7:00 am	7:45 pm
AM Staff Duty	7:05 am	7:50 am
Parent Drop Off	7:05 am - 7:15 am	7:50 am - 8:00 am
Projected Bus Arrival Times	7:05 am - 7:15 am	7:50 am - 8:00 am
Homeroom Official Start	7:20 am	8:05 am
School Day Dismissal	2:00 pm	2:45 pm
Bus Pick Up Time	2:00 ρm - 2:15 ρm	2:45 pm - 3:00 pm
Parent Pick Up	2:00 pm	2:45 pm
Teacher End	2:15 pm	3:00 pm



# Grades 4 and 5

#### Structure

41 Minute Academic Blocks

Gr. 4 - 1 Teacher Gr. 5 - 2 Teacher Teams

Recess - 22 mins W.I.N. - 30 mins Lunch - 25 mins

## **Academics**

Word Work Readers' Workshop Writers' Workshop Math Skills Math Workshop Science Social Studies

Curriculum and Resources will remain the same

# **Specials**

- 1 Day per Week
  - Music
  - Art
  - Spanish
- 2 Days per Week
  - Physical Education

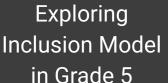


# **Special Education**

Pull-out resource Math and ELA

ICR Science and Social Studies

Self-Contained combined gr 4-6





# **Grade 6**

#### Structure

2 Academic Teams

- 6 Blue
- 6 Gold

4-Day Rotating Schedule - Double Period of Each Core Class

Recess W.I.N. - 33 mins Lunch - 25 mins

#### **Academics**

Language Arts Math Science Social Studies

Curriculum and Resources will remain the same

## **Specials**

**Related Arts Cycle:** 

- Art
- STEM
- Music
- Financial Lit.

9 Week Rotation

PE-4 days per week Spanish-1 day per wk

> Band Chorus During W.I.N.

# Special Education

SCP - ELA and Math ICR - All Core Subjects

Self-Contained combined gr 4-6

Will follow Elementary Code Requirements



# Grades 7 and 8

#### Structure

De-Teamed Departmentalized Program

- 7 52 Minute Periods
- 1 25 Minute Lunch

Class Size Increase

#### Academics

Language Arts

- Gr. 8 1 period
- Gr. 7 2 periods

Mathematics Science
Social Studies
World Language Gr. 8

Curriculum and Resources will remain the same

## **Specials**

Half Year Electives:

- Art
- Forensics
- STEM
- Robotics
- Computer Apps

#### Full Year:

- Band
- Chorus

Physical Education: 8th: Daily

7th: PE-4 days per week Spanish-1 day per wk

# **Special Education**

SCP Math and ELA

ICR - ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies

Self-Contained Combined Grades 7&8

# **Jefferson Township Parent Organization**

#### Thank you to the leadership:

#### **Milton Tri-School PTA:**

- Kim Heiner, President
- Kelly Redling, Vice President

#### **Jefferson Consolidated PTA:**

- Sharon Forrester, President
- Angie Abbassi, Vice President

# Jefferson Township Education Foundation

- Jordana VanWolde, President
- Tracy Fitzsimmons, VP (MS/HS)
- Arlene Coleman. Past VP MS



# **Transition/Next Steps**



#### 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade Student Visits

- June 6, 2025 During the School Day
  - Q/A with our student leaders
  - Tour of the School

#### **Parent Orientation Meeting**

- August 19, 2025
  - o 6:00 7:00 7th and 8th Grade
  - 7:30 8:30 4th thru 6th Grade

#### **Summer Orientation (Open House)**

- August 21, 2025
  - 9:00-10:30 Grades 4 through 6
  - 11:00-12:00 Grades 7 and 8