

# H.S. STUDENTS TREK NEW EDUCATION PATH

## • MASS CUSTOMIZED LEARNING/MODULAR SCHEDULING IMPLEMENTED

The start of a school year means new beginnings for students, teachers and a school district.

That sentiment took on new meaning for Harrisburg High School at the start of the 2013-14 school year when the district implemented modular scheduling and mass customized learning (MOD/CL) for their incoming freshmen class.

"The Class of 2017 (students) are the pioneers and have

had the great courage to lead from the edge," Harrisburg High School Principal Kevin Lein said.

In modular scheduling class scheduling occurs in customized time frames to accommodate courses and students in a more flexible method of delivery. Mass Customized Learning utilizes research-based methods of individualizing learning and technology to allow students to reach potential.

"This is a far path from the normal lecture format, or even the guided discovery we sometimes reward as constructivist and individual," Lein said. "The strategies employed by the instructors are individualized and personalized."

Currently, between the freshmen and sophomore classes there are 310 students going down the MOD/CL track with the program expected to grow to more than 500 students next year.

Lein said there is no eligibility requirement or enrollment cap, but students need a well-developed work ethic and maturity of accountability and responsibility to be successful in the program.

"This method is harder, requires skills not normally expect-

**MOD/MCL Sample Schedule**

		Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.
8:00 - 8:20	MOD 1	Band	Band	Band	Band	Band
8:20 - 8:40	MOD 2					
8:40 - 9:00	MOD 3					
9:00 - 9:20	MOD 4	IMC	Writer's Workshop		Literature Seminar	Science Lab
9:20 - 9:40	MOD 5					
9:40 - 10:00	MOD 6	Science Seminar	IMC	Science Lab	Math Lab	Spanish I
10:00 - 10:20	MOD 7					
10:20 - 10:40	MOD 8		Math Seminar	IMC	Wellness	IMC
10:40 - 11:00	MOD 9	Spanish I	Math Lab	Lunch		Lunch
11:00 - 11:20	MOD 10					
11:20 - 11:40	MOD 11	IMC	Social Science	Wellness	Writer's Workshop	Math Seminar
11:40 - 12:00	MOD 12	Lunch	PBL			Math Lab
12:00 - 12:20	MOD 13	Science Lab	Lunch	IMC	IMC	
12:20 - 12:40	MOD 14		IMC		Lunch	Writer's Workshop
12:40 - 1:00	MOD 15	Writer's Workshop	Writer's Work	Math Seminar		Literature Seminar
1:00 - 1:20	MOD 16				Social Science	Wellness
1:20 - 1:40	MOD 17	Social Science	Literature Seminar	Spanish I		
1:40 - 2:00	MOD 18				IMC	
2:00 - 2:20	MOD 19	Intro to Ag	Intro to Ag.	Intro to Ag.	Intro to Ag.	Intro to Ag.
2:20 - 2:40	MOD 20					
2:40 - 3:00	MOD 21	Wellness				

ed of high school students and the uneasiness and anxiety always associated with educational transformation," Lein said.

Parents and students understand the benefit of the program, but also sometimes experience doubt when the targets and expectations seem so elevated, said Lein. During a conversation prior to Christmas break, a group of students in the

program cited four characteristics needed to be successful in MOD/CL:

- Work ethic and accountability;
- Educational Extrovert not afraid to ask questions and meet with teachers;
- Responsibility and time management;
- Self-Awareness.

MOD/CL allows for students to develop and reach potential within a timeframe that matches their development and graduate within four years like their peers on the traditional track, which Lein praised for being exemplary.

Lein credited stakeholders in the district and the Class of 2017 for their commitment to the new beginning at Harrisburg High School and setting an example for the classes to come.

Our staff, (school) Board and parents involved are committed to our mission to have Harrisburg High School students become 'Independent Learners' ready for any life path," Lein said.

"This method of instruction is excellent preparation."