

The Saydelphic

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Saydel High School

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What's Up With the Block?

by Megan Schmidt

There have been many changes at Saydel High School this year. New classes, new teachers, new students, and a new schedule. This year the school is trying something new by going to a partial block schedule on Thursdays and Fridays. Mr. Kevin Schulte talked about how the schedule allows for professional development time and provides students increased learning opportunities due to the extended amount of time in classes.



Freshman Jade Olsen and sophomore Josie Stock watch Mr. Dana Accola during culinary.

Students and teachers have very different views on the modified block schedule. Just like any other schedule, there are good and bad aspects. The first negative that most students think of is how it conflicts with DMACC. Senior Sadhika Patel says, "Last semester I was late to classes or missed half of the period." Freshman Marissa Challey also brings up a good point, "[You] won't have classes for a day and then have to jump back into what you were doing."

Students have brought up many positives as well. Sophomore Jackson Jarrell talks about how there is more time to work on bigger projects that are often required in engineering or art classes. Teachers are available to help the students during Academic Support. Other students bring up how classes spend a longer amount of time going over a lesson and it allows more discussion. This was one of the outcomes Mr. Schulte was hoping to see along with group work. He also states that students overall scores have improved with block scheduling.

Teachers also have their opinions on block scheduling. For some classes it is a fantastic way to get large projects done, while in other classes it can be difficult to sit in a desk the entire hour. Ms. Megan Hibbs says, "It's a long time for students to pay attention." Block scheduling does help greatly for classes like culinary where students need an hour and a half to create their dishes. "It gives lots of time for classes that are project based," stated Ms. Lindsay Nickol. Overall, there are many pros and cons to the new schedule that Saydel has this year.



Juniors Brandon Reese and Devin Porter work on their homework in math class.

What's New in the Classroom?

New Classes at Saydel

by Taylor Newell

A number of new classes were added to Saydel's curriculum in the 2015-16 school year. The types of classes range from new art classes all the way to new business classes.

Starting with the art classes, Drawing and Painting used to be two separate classes, but were combined into one class this year. We now offer Drawing and Painting 1, and Drawing and Painting 2. Both classes are just one semester, and both require Introduction to Art before being allowed to sign up. Drawing and Painting 1 is a prerequisite to Drawing and Painting 2. In Drawing and Painting 1, students will learn about art history, while also learning important techniques such as drawing, shading, and mixing colors. In Drawing and Painting 2, students will learn to master and perfect skills learned in Drawing and Painting 1. 3-D Studio Art was also added into this year's art curriculum. 3-D Studio Art is also only one semester long, and requires students to take Introduction to Art before signing up. In 3-D Studio Art, students will explore and learn new sculpting techniques.

Graphic Design 1 and 2 are also new classes added to Saydel's art program. Both Graphic Design 1 and 2, have a prerequisite of Introduction to Art and are one semester long. They are both also dual credits for DMAAC. Ms. Lindsay Nickol expressed that students love the dual credit because by the time they are done with both classes, they will have a total of six college credits. Students will explore and learn about the careers associated with graphic design, while also practicing with software such as Photoshop and Illustrator. Both classes follow the DMAAC curriculum. "It starts out easy and gets tougher, but students tend to grasp it well," said Ms. Nickol.

The last of the new art classes is AP Studio Art. AP Studio Art requires students to take introduction to art and have at least five fine art credits. AP studio art gives two credits for one semester because it meets for two class periods a day. In AP Studio Art, students will create a fine arts portfolio, centered on themes and mediums. Students have the ability to earn college credits, depending on whether or not certain criteria are met. AP Studio Art is aimed at students wanting to take their skills to the next level.

If art isn't your thing, maybe business is? A number of new business classes were also added this year, Principles of Business being one of them. Principles of Business is a one semester long class. In this class students will learn about the big things that make up a business, such as marketing, management, and finance.

Senior Tony Figgins paints a sculpture.



Also added to the business curriculum is Business Economics. Business economics is one semester long and requires you to take Principles of Business before you are allowed to sign up. In Business Economics, students will learn about the economic issues a business could face and how to solve them. Students will also learn about economic decisions in a business and how they affect it.

Wrapping up with the business classes is Principles of Engineering. This is a year-long class and offers three Iowa or ISU credits. Before taking Principles of Engineering, students have to take Introduction to Engineering Design. Principles of Engineering gives students the opportunity to learn about the major topics of the college level engineering course. Students are also able to learn skills and understanding of course concepts. Students will then be able to apply what they learned into problem solving and be able to communicate with the professional community.

A new class was added this year for freshman called Life and Leadership. The class is offered every other day for the whole school year. Life and Leadership teaches students how to be leaders in their classes, community, and work force. Life and Leadership focuses on four main



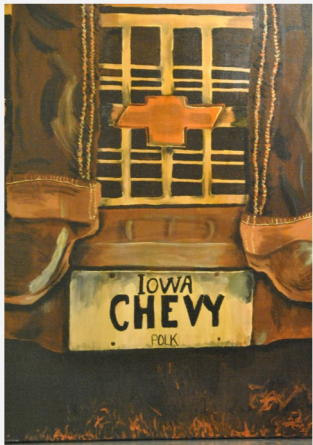
Sophomore Aubriegh Shineflew works on a painting.

Paint Brushes, Paint, and Many Hours Later...

by

Sam Bullock

If artistically talented, you may have spent many hours working on an art project at home or in the art room with



Ms. Lindsay Nickol, and possibly entered a piece in one of the art shows that took place this spring. Ms. Nickol submitted student art work to two different art shows: Saydel Community School District's K-12 Art Show in Ankeny on February 25, and Heart of Iowa Arts Conference (HOIAC) on March 3. Ms. Nickol claimed that the Ankeny art show went really well, and there were over 250 people that attended in the two hour showcase. HOIAC is a bigger art conference, and according to Ms. Nickol, "This show is more competitive with a juror, ribbons, and Best of Show Awards." This year students won 10 Judge's Awards at HOIAC.

Overall, this year has been a great year in the art department. Not only did the art department have some great pieces of art entered into shows, but Saydel also gained a new club. This year, Ms. Nickol officially got an art club started. Art club occurs on the second Thursday of every month from 3-4pm. So far art club has had three meetings this year, with a steady twenty participants. In art club students have painted and had a birthday party for Ms. Nickol. Every month art club has a different theme from graffiti art to pottery. If one likes to do art, but doesn't necessarily want to do it for a grade, art club just might be for them. This month, art club's theme will be painting. Come on in and check it out!



senior advice to underclassmen

by hannah van houten

Here's to high school - the best four years of your life, or so they say. But how do you assure they will be the very best? And what is there to even look forward to during high school? Football games, painting the hill, making it to state, learning who your real friends are, and your senior year are just a few important things. Take it from me, a senior, when I say that high school can and will be fun. Senior year will be one of the most stressful yet memorable years of your life. With a little bit of advice from myself, as well as some other upperclassmen, you will be on the right track to making these next couple of years truly the best years of your life.

The most important thing to remember is that you go to school to get an education. It's important to care about your grades and try hard in your classes all the way through high school. Whether you realize it or not, goofing off one year can affect your GPA and your chances of having a successful future. Don't be afraid to ask for help from teachers. If a class interests you, try it. Take advantage of DMACC and Grand View classes. Senior Caitie Fagen appreciates the opportunity to take college classes in high school: "Thanks to DMACC and Grand View classes, I feel like I am much more prepared for college." Do your work, focus in classes, try your best, and remember that how hard you work now will most definitely affect your future.

One of the easiest ways to promise an enjoyable time in high school is to get involved. Sports, student government, choir, band, and cheerleading are just a few ways to put yourself out there, get involved, and make something of yourself during high school. Not only is it proven that students who get involved get better grades in high school, but they also have an even better chance of being accepted into and being successful in college. Senior Jacob Philipsen advises underclassmen to, "study hard and go out for as many sports as you can," because getting involved is a great way to make friends, show school spirit, help others around you, and find something that interests you!

Remembering what's important will help you understand what high school, and life, is all about. When it comes down to it, nobody is going to care who has the best shoes or the most expensive jeans. Who is actually going to remember how goofy you looked with braces, or how embarrassing your first car was? Nobody! The key to enjoying high school is by remembering what's important. A few of the important things (besides getting an education) include painting the hill, being a part of the student section, joining a club and meeting your best friend, that time you got the solo for the choir concert, helping families in need with student government, and getting hypnotized at After Prom. The main point to remember is to not only get involved and make sure your years in high school are enjoyable, but also remember the fun and important things that you do. Make the most out of each and every day. Don't be afraid to be yourself. And most importantly, have fun - especially because people will love to hear your exciting stories at your class reunion 5, 10, 20 years down the road!

Remember who is important and cherish those friendships. High school isn't about finding your future husband or wife, but more about finding your bridesmaids or groomsmen. Having a boyfriend or girlfriend in high school can be great, but never let them hold you back from your full potential. Don't forget to focus on school work, sports, and most importantly friends. The friends you make in high school can be your friends for the rest of your life!

Hard work is the only thing that will get you where you want to go. Whether it be getting a 26 on the ACT, making the gold honor roll, lettering in a sport, making honor band or choir, or making it to state, the only way for this to happen is for you to put forth the effort! Never take the easy way out. If there's something you want to achieve, do whatever it takes to make that happen. Strive for greatness and work hard to be the best you can be!

Start preparing for your senior year and plans after high school, right away! Take the ACT, visit colleges, look into different majors or careers, apply for scholarships, and understand what it's going to take to be successful! When asked how soon a student should start preparing for college, Mr. Alex Stubbers replied with, "Even before that it's looking at classes, knowing what you're interested in. You should have the mindset coming in freshman year knowing if you want to go to college or have an idea of what you want to do after high school." Mr. Stubbers also states that "taking the ACT – the earlier the better, that way you can always retake it." Never hesitate to ask a teacher, parent, or experienced friend for help. Don't wait to do these things right before you graduate. Waiting is one of the biggest mistakes I personally made, so if you are a senior, junior, sophomore, or even a freshman, it's time to start preparing for your future! It's never too early to get a jump start on what will eventually impact the rest of your life.

When people think of high school, they instantly think of fun, friends, sports, and graduating; however, that's not all it comes down to. In fact, high school can be one of the most stressful times in your life. Do what it takes to stay on the right track. Be sure to make the best of each and every year, because these truly are the best four years of your life.

when asked what they will never forget about highschool...

"going through the starting lineups and hearing my name be called"

- Senior Lesa Wicks

"the lessons you learn and the bonds you make with people"

-Senior Kyus Shineflew

"playing baseball with my brother"

-Senior Rece Martin

"my catch"

-Senior Andrew Smith