



Chairperson Lunt, School Board Members and Superintendent Maguire.

I'm Kim Riesgraf, Assistant Superintendent of Administration serving as the project manager for our grade span change.

Tonight is the 5th monthly school board update on grade configuration.

During this report I will:

- (1) Review work completed since last month
- (2) Demonstrate how to access regular updates on our school district website

Priority Result

Beginning the 2015-16 school year, the grade spans for the school district will be:

- elementary PreK/K-5,
- middle school grades 6-8, and
- high school grades 9-12.

Planning for New Grade Spans Board Update

9/23/2014

Key message:

Grade configuration will be preK/K-5, 6-8, 9-12, effective Fall 2015.

One of **our** key strategies is to create transformational system change to ensure equitable student achievement. Equitable student achievement means that ALL learners are performing at high levels and that we are accelerating the learning for students who are not yet meeting our highest expectations.

Early learning is a proven accelerator to close learning gaps. The expansion of all-day kindergarten programming is one of the changes that we have made in the area of early learning. Now that all Kindergarten students are participating in all-day programming, we need more space at the elementary level.

The need for additional space led us to a decision to change our grade spans for the start of the 2015-16 school year. The school board has identified preparation for a change in grade spans as a top priority for this school year. An important part of our planning this year will be to incorporate middle level design and World's Best Workforce requirements, such as literacy by grade three and career and college readiness.

Month in Review

DARE Transition Plan

School Board Work Session – Financing &
Construction

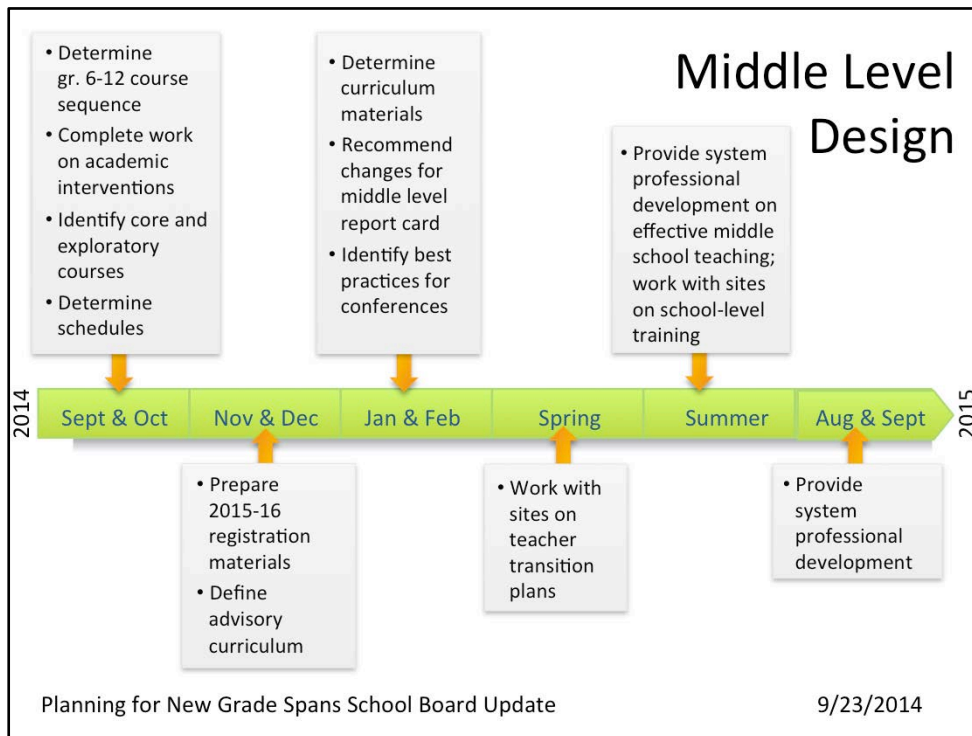
Project team timelines and draft communication
plans

Planning for New Grade Spans Board Update

9/23/2014

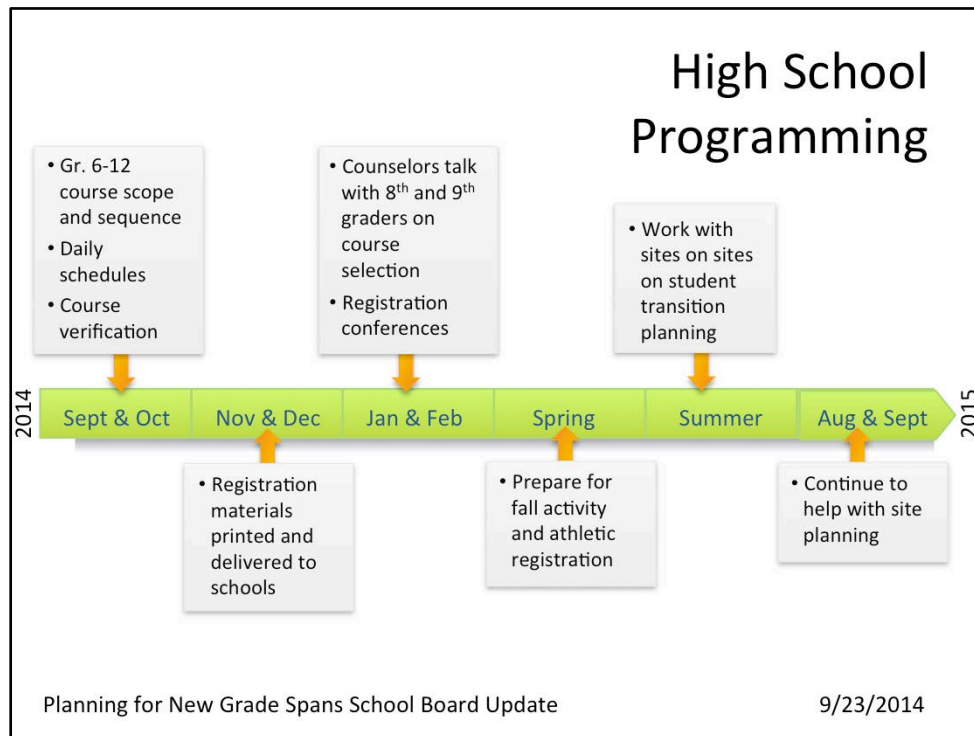
Three of the key accomplishments this month include:

- (1) Working with the Brooklyn Park and Maple Grove Police Departments to finalize a plan that will allow both 5th and 6th grade students at schools in these cities to participate in the DARE program before entering middle school.
- (2) Completing the timeline for the high school facilities financing plan at the September 9 school board work session, and
- (3) Refining project team timelines and further development of each project team's communication plan



The middle level timeline was revised on September 8, 2014. Principals will share this timeline with all 4 junior high school staffs in September and the timeline will be provided by email to elementary teachers.

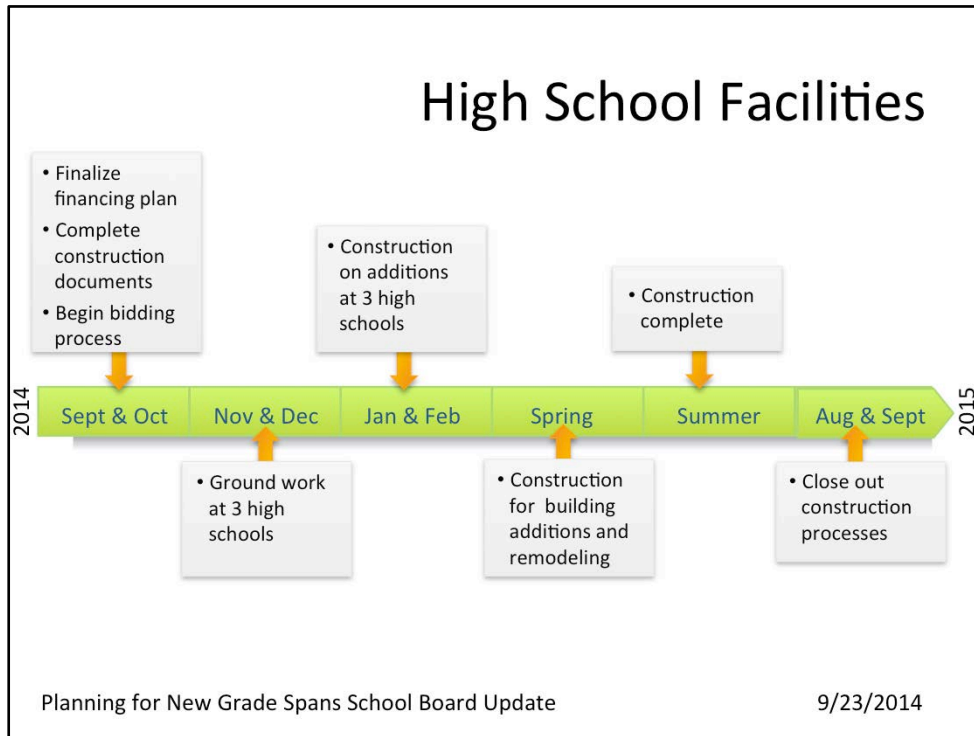
As the timeline illustrates, the key work of the team is Grade 6-12 curriculum alignment in all content areas plus gifted education and special education; determining core courses and electives (which are called exploratory courses in the middle school model); and delivering professional development that provides ongoing learning about the middle level philosophy and effective practices.



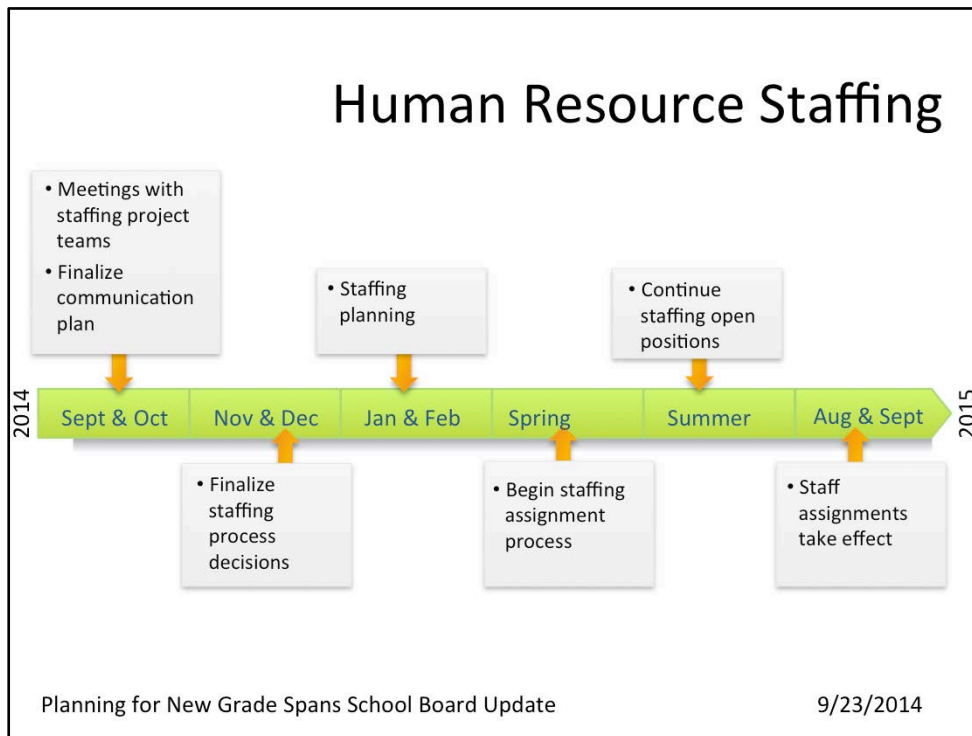
The high school programming team made some slight revisions to the timeline at their September 11th meeting.

This team is working in collaboration with the middle level design team and curriculum and instruction staff on the Grade 6-12 curriculum alignment. Course sequence and scheduling decisions will be made by the end of October to ensure registration materials will be completed and delivered to schools this winter. Registration conference dates have been set and counselors will be visiting the junior high schools in January and February to talk to 8th and 9th grade students about high school course selection.

One of the student transition activities planned by the three district activities coordinators is an offer of free admission for 8th and 9th grade students to attend a selected winter competition at their future high school.



The school board work session on September 9th focused on the concept plans for the additions and remodeling at the 3 comprehensive high schools to make room for the addition of 9th grade. Tammie Epley will be giving the work session report a little later in the agenda. Community members and staff can find information about this work on our school district website.



The human resources project team continues to meet. They launched communication in late August to teachers and Education Support Professionals. Education Minnesota-Osseo gathered feedback from teachers at a union meeting last week.

A labor management committee will meet in October.

Stay informed

[ISD 279 - Osseo Area Schools - Home](#)

The screenshot shows the Osseo Area Schools website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About Us, Teaching+Learning, Schools, Students+Families, Services+Departments, and Community Ed. Below the navigation bar is a main content area. On the left, there is a sidebar menu with links for Annual Report, Corrections & Clarifications, District Profile, Grade Span Changes, Points (with 'Grade Span Changes' highlighted), School Board, School Locator/Maps, and Strategic Plan. The main content area features a news article titled 'BOARD REVIEWS FACILITIES PLANNING FOR NEW GRADE SPANS' dated September 17, 2014. The article text mentions a September 9 work session and board members reviewing facilities and planning for new grade spans. To the right of the article is a sidebar with language options for Español and Hmoob, and a 'KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION FAIR' poster for Saturday, October 11, 2014. At the bottom of the sidebar is a logo for 'Helping Kathryn Regel Achieve'.

Planning for New Grade Spans Board Update

9/23/2014

A good place to stay informed about the planning for new grade spans is on our school district website.

Let's look at what's on the website.

Outline –

- (1) Update and Home page links - under about us
- (2) Overview
- (3) Project Management Docs
- (4) Previous Updates, including each of these presentations and the documents used at the September 9 work session