Education Plan
A.4 School Calendar and Weekly Schedule

The Model Community Learning Center (MCLC) site will be open from early morning until late evening and often on weekends in order to serve a wide variety of needs for our students and community. The school schedule requires a longer instructional day for all students as well as opportunities before and after the expected instructional day. For the initial school year, the school calendar will consist of three week instructional blocks, two intersession explorations, and two student exhibition and portfolio presentation blocks for a total of 204 instructional days. There will also be additional contract days for professional development in order to develop out the new program. This emphasis on additional professional development days is critical to the instructional and climate foundation for the school. The staff will be expected to develop out a number of accountability steps, as detailed in the Performance Management Plans.

Rationale for School Calendar

The school calendar carefully honors the special cultural days and events of our community and will be further developed as we initiate the family involvement components. The daily schedule will be the same for grades 6 – 9 due to the intensive academic nature of the program. While this is more than traditionally required in schools, we believe it is essential in order to accelerate the growth necessary to achieve the high standards set for grade to grade promotion and college readiness. The MCLC will have a Performance Driven Extended Year Calendar that includes significant emphasis on benchmark driven instructional decisions as well as scheduled community involvement blocks and scheduled exhibitions to present the projects developed across the year.

The school calendar and weekly schedule have been designed based upon research to support strong academic outcomes for underperforming students. The weekly schedule is based around providing integrated blocks to reduce the number of preparations for teaching and learning and reduces the loss of time in class transitions. Students entering middle school often face difficulty in managing six or more different classes and teachers. The MCLC schedule addresses this barrier by providing only three blocks with teacher teams that follow the students from one

grade level to the next in order to build solid relationships. Ninth grade transition is also a critical shift for students. As noted in the section on target population, high failure rate in the first year of high school is a strong predictor of school drop out. Therefore, the school calendar and day provide for more instructional time to address the documented achievement needs of our projected student body. The starting time is also later than many schools and is developed based on brain research showing that young people in the middle and early high school age groups will benefit from this later start.

Analysis of the current achievement levels for our target group indicate that they are well below expected levels in math and somewhat below in reading. The project based blocks are designed to create a climate of relevance that draws students into the instruction thereby enhancing the level of engagement required for new learning. The blocks also allow time for the teaching teams to break students into groups for specialized support. Indeed, the "specials" block is designed to provide rapid intervention by offering direct support instruction in math and/or reading as well as enrichment options for students who have demonstrated mastery of the standards in these areas. The assignment for specials classes is based upon results of the formative assessments administered and reviewed each three weeks. This assessment driven element of the program is carefully built into the school calendar.

In addition to the specials block, the humanities and technical blocks promote a strong emphasis on literacy by assuring adherence to the Common Core Standards. The block for Humanities provides for integration of the new reading and writing standards within the Social Studies standards. In the Technical block, the new reading and writing standards are also integrated across math and science as well as through technology. This will help to address the need for improved literacy across our target group.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2013-2014

JULY 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	21			

AUGUST 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

OCTOBER 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOVEMBER 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JANUARY 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	*25*
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

APRIL 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

MAY 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JUNE 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

2013– 2014 School Calendar

1. Professional Development Days (no classes denoted with borders): **July 29–Aug 2, Oct. 11, Nov.5, Feb 10, April 4, and June 23 – 27**

2. First Day of School for Students – **August 5**
3. The 11 Instructional Blocks are denoted by color Total Instructional Days: 204

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

4. The last day of each block is a Late Start Day due to the Professional Learning Community Assessment Alignment (8:45 - 10:45): **Aug. 26, Sept.18, Oct.10, Nov. 19, Dec. 16, Jan. 28, Feb. 19, Mar. 17, Apr.8, May 2,**
5. Each Wednesday is an early release day (dismissal at 1:45) Professional Development: 1:50 – 3:50
6. Fall & Spring Intersession Exploration Days: **Oct 14 – Oct 25 & May 5 – May 16**
7. Project Exhibitions, Portfolios & Student-Led Parent Conferences: **Dec. 17 – Dec. 20 & June 16 – June 20**
8. All school required testing (AIMS/Stanford): **April 23 & 24**
9. Last Day of School for Students: **June 20**

No School Days are highlighted in yellow:

Labor Day: Sept. 5
Veterans Day: Nov.11
Thanksgiving Holiday Break: Nov. 27 – 29
Winter Break:Dec. 23 – Jan 3
(School Office open Dec. 27, Dec 30, Jan 2, Jan 3)

Martin Luther King Holiday: Jan. 20
Rodeo Days Holiday: Feb. 27 & 28
Spring Break: April 18 - 22
Memorial Day Holiday: May 26

CLASS SCHEDULE FOR 2013- 2014 GRADES 6 – 9

Classes meet Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 8:45 am – 3:50 pm
Classes meet Wednesday from 9:00 am – 1:45 pm

There are two major CORE Blocks taught by Highly Qualified Teacher Teams:

- Humanities (English/Social Studies/Fine Arts) and
- Technical (Math/Science/Technology)

There is a Specials Block that also meets daily to focus on specific interests and support for all students.

In addition to class time, targeted intervention classes will be available each morning from 8:00 – 8:45 am and after school until 5:00 pm. These are open to all students but may be required for those who would gain from this added support.

This schedule will assure that core instruction time far exceeds the state requirement at all grade levels. The curriculum examples give some indication of the highly motivational techniques and topics that provide high expectations in each of the CORE areas. Additionally, with the requirement for literacy across the core curriculum the basic skill areas are expected to be included in all aspects of the school.

Class Schedule M, T, Th, F

School Day begins at 8:45 am and dismisses at 3:50 pm

8:45 – 10:45 - CORE I (Humanities or Technical) (120 minutes)
10:45 – 12:00– Lunch and Advisory Team Block- 45 min
12:00 – 2:00 – CORE II (Humanities or Technical) (120 minutes)
2:00 – 3:50 – Specials Block (110 minutes)

Class Schedule Wed (Early Release Day)

School Day begins at 8:45 am and dismisses at 1:45 pm

8:45 – 9:15 – All School Governance Assembly
9:15 – 10:20– CORE I (Humanities or Technical) (65 minutes)
10:20 – 11:25 – CORE II (Humanities or Technical) (65 minutes)
11:25 – 12:40 – Lunch and Advisory Block -45 min
12:40 – 1:45 – Specials Block (65 minutes)