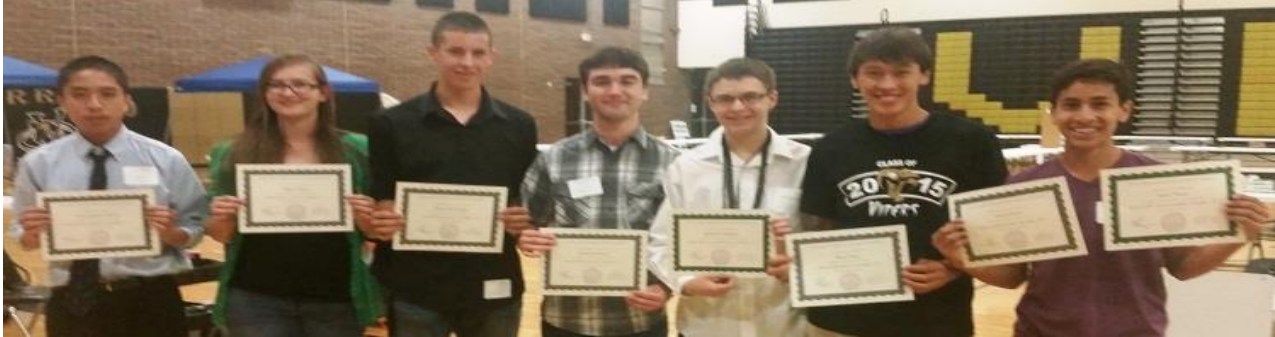




## ***AFUHSD Moves to Modified Traditional “Hybrid” Schedule for 2016-2017 School Year***



***Dear Members of the Agua Fria Union High School District Community,***

The Agua Fria Union High School District is excited to announce that we will move from the current “Block” schedule to a modified traditional, “Hybrid” schedule for the 2016-2017 school year. This two year process has involved continuous and systematic planning and communication across all levels of our District.

### ***What does the term “hybrid” schedule mean?***

The AFUHSD “Hybrid” schedule is a daily bell schedule that follows a traditional six-period format for three days per week and blocks out extended periods of time for the other two days of the week. In other words a “hybrid” schedule is a combination of a traditional and block periods of time where:

- Monday, Tuesday and Friday – All six periods meet for 60 minutes.
- Wednesday/Thursday – Three periods meet each day for extended time – 100 minutes.

### ***What are the benefits of moving to the Hybrid schedule?***

#### **The Hybrid Schedule:**

- Represents the best of both worlds, combining the best elements of the current block schedule with a traditional schedule format allowing for flexibility and innovation.
- Aligns more closely with graduation and college entrance requirements as established by the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR).
- Increases instructional time in core areas of math, English and Science.
- Aligns with scheduling formats of over 75% of high schools nationwide and reflects the model utilized by some of the highest achieving districts in the state.
- Eliminates gaps between coursework and testing windows (AP, AzMERIT, etc.).
- Broadens opportunities and flexibility for instruction, advancement and intervention.
- Student course selection will begin in December and conclude the end of January.

## Credit Formula and Requirements

### CURRENT SCHEDULE

#### Block Schedule Credit Formula

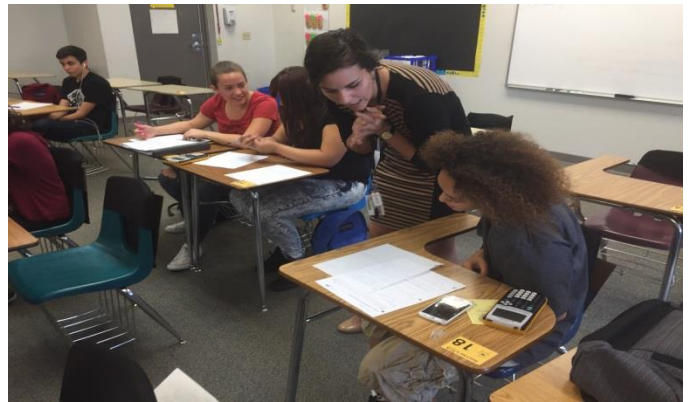
**4 classes per day** x 1.0 credit = 4 credits x 2 semesters = **8 credits per year**

#### Hybrid Schedule Credit Formula

Beginning 2016-2017 school year

**6 classes per day** x 0.5 credit = 3 credits x 2 semesters = **6 credits per year**

The number of credits required to graduate will be adjusted while each cohort progresses through their four years in high school. Currently, on a block schedule, students have 32 opportunities to earn the 28 credits required for graduation. Students in the Cohort of 2017 will have 30 opportunities to earn 27 credits; the cohort of 2018 will have 28 opportunities to earn 26 credits; and the cohort of 2019 will have 26 opportunities to earn 24 credits required for graduation. Therefore, credits for graduation will be adjusted until the cohort of 2020. This will be the first graduating class to have been on a hybrid schedule all four years, with 24 opportunities to earn the required 22 credits for graduation. This aligns our credit requirements with most of the top performing districts in the state and with Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR).



#### The transition of credits will be as follows:

	<u>School Year</u>	<u>Possible Credits</u>	<u>Credits Needed for Graduation</u>
<u>Cohort 2017</u>	First year on hybrid	30	27
<u>Cohort 2018</u>	Second year on hybrid	28	26
<u>Cohort 2019</u>	Third Year on hybrid	26	24
<u>Cohort 2020</u>	All four years on hybrid	24	22

We would like to thank all of our students and families as we continue to work together as a community to provide the highest quality educational environments and learning opportunities for our students each and every day in the Agua Fria Union High School District. Please communicate with your school's administrative team with any thoughts and questions. Your input is essential in our transition to the new scheduling format for the 2016-2017 school year.

Agua Fria High School: 623-932-7300

Millenium High School: 623-932-7200

Desert Edge High School: 623-932-7500

Verrado High School: 623-932-7400