

Dear Mr. Porcello,

Perry has been very innovative over the years especially when it comes to the school schedule. Perry was one of the first schools to implement the block schedule in the 1990's and many schools have followed since then. Over the years the block schedule has proven to be a successful way of going about the school day. However, we think that it might be time for a change in the way we go about things at Perry.

We feel that the schedule should go back to 1-6 block schedule that we had before applying the 1-4 block schedule. This new schedule can be grueling for students and can make them less focused throughout the school day. The long 85-90 minute classes lead to kids being less focused causing them to lose material and quickly fall behind in their classes. A study of student attention during a lecture was done by trained observers and they found that in the beginning minutes of the class they noticed lapses in students focus but after the students got settled in every 3-4 minutes students would lose focus. That little amount of time that kids aren't focused in the beginning of class may not seem like much but when it adds up that's hours of time that is wasted. Kids know going into class how long it will be so that's makes them not want to come in which can also lead to kids skipping and cutting class.