HIGH SCHOOL RELATED RECOMMENDATIONS FROM A COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Ventura County Office of Education
High School for 21st Century: Ventura County High Performing High Schools
Commission Report
Creating New High Schools, Chapter One

Excerpt from Chapter One, “Creating New High Schools”:

“What Can I Do?
To ensure that all high school students gain maximum benefit from 21st Century high schools that emphasize academic rigor, we recommend the following:

(NOTE: Many of these recommendations have to do with master scheduling, assignment of teachers, interdisciplinary career-themed pathways, student interventions, and teacher collaboration. Highlighted items are closely related to master scheduling or aspects of the master schedule process.)

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District Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents:
• Closely monitor teacher assignments made by principals to ensure that the students who need the most help academically get the best and most experienced teachers;
• Increase staff development opportunities for principals and assistant principals to learn more about master scheduling strategies.
• Support the development of career pathways within schools.
• Build partnerships with community colleges, and design and implement an articulated secondary/postsecondary curriculum.
• Pursue UC A-G credit for CTE programs.

High School Principals:
• Build a master schedule based on students’ needs.
• Assign your strongest teachers to your students who need the most help.
• Make it a requirement that struggling students receive intervention – not an option.
• Provide teachers meaningful and ongoing opportunities to collaborate on issues of student learning.
• Hold teachers and departments accountable for rigorous curriculum.
• Provide teachers time to collaborate.
• Create interdisciplinary teams of teachers that allow CTE and academic teachers to meet regarding curriculum and an opportunity to collaborate.
• Celebrate the accomplishments of students involved in CTE programs. Identify, develop and support career pathways.