



Public Schools of North Carolina
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee

Report on Planning Time for Teachers

SL 2005-276, Sec. 7.30

Date Due: January 15, 2006

Report #22

DPI Chronological Schedule

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Report on Best Practices Regarding Teacher Planning Time

The Professional Teaching Standards Commission coordinated a review of planning time for teachers in North Carolina elementary school during the spring and summer of 2005. The definition of planning time used for this data collection was where, during the course of the instructional day, the teacher has a designated block of time for the express purpose of planning. The resulting data is a compilation from four sources:

1. DPI survey through the School Personnel Support Section administered in April 2005 at the request of the legislative research staff.
2. Examination of all elementary schools participating in the 2004 Teacher Working Conditions Survey where scores in the domain of Time exceeded 3.0 (out of a 5.0 scale.)
3. Site visits to all 27 "REAL D.E.A.L." elementary schools in spring & summer of 2005 to document best practices in use of time.
4. Input from Superintendents and Principals resulting from calls to every superintendent and message on principals' biweekly message (March-June, 2005)

The findings should in no way be considered an exhaustive search nor does the data reflect that of an empirical or research based study. The objective was first to identify elementary schools where there is consistent planning time for teachers and secondly, to document how principals are able to provide this time. Findings are overwhelmingly conclusive in showing that planning time is the result of a school being able to offer enough "Specials" in the schedule.

Specials are classes like Art, Music, Physical Education, Computers, etc. In these cases, teachers plan while their students attend a different "Special" each day of the week. And in almost every case, there is no source of funding for these Specials other than ADM, Title I, and local funds.

The study is disappointing in that there are no revolutionary practices to share across the state. Principals are doing the best they can with the resources they have. There is a dearth of planning time for elementary teachers and this is increasingly hard for them to understand when they realize that most middle and high school teachers work in a block schedule where they typically have 90 minutes of planning each day.

The authorizing legislation directs the State Board of Education to disseminate information on best practices in the use of time. The Professional Teaching Standards Commission stands ready to assist in this effort.

Attachment 1
Session Law 2005-276
Senate Bill 622

PLANNING TIME FOR TEACHERS

SECTION 7.30. The State Board of Education shall report on best practices from North Carolina schools for providing a minimum of five hours per week within the instructional day for planning, collaborating with colleagues and parents, and professional development, especially within elementary school schedules. The State Board shall submit its report to the Education Cabinet and to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by January 15, 2006.

The State Board shall disseminate this information about best practices to schools and school systems across the State.

Attachment 2

PLANNING TIME IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, the implementation of planning time occurs when students are attending "specials."

Source (S=Superintendent, TWC=Teacher Working Conditions Survey, DPI=Department of Public Instruction)	LEA	School Name/ School System	Principal/ Superintendent/ Central Office	Planning time per week	Implementation	Funding Source	Phone
DPI	Ashe	Westwood	Keith McClure	5 hours per week (40 minutes during the day and 20 minutes after students leave)			(252) 527-5143
DPI	Avery	Banner Elk Elementary	Ellis Ayers	60 min. per day	Specials - P.E. 3 days per wk; 35 mins Art, Music, Media, Drama; 1 day 40 mins		(828) 898-5575
DPI	Bertie	West Bertie Elementary	Stan Warren	250 minutes per week	grade level planning	state funded (payroll)	(252) 344-7621
TWC	Burke	Ray Childers Elementary	Doug Rhoney	4 hours per week			(828) 324-1340
DPI	Burke	Valdese Elementary	Rexanna Lowman	5 hrs per week	Specials 45 min; Music, P.E., etc.; Extra planning end of day	school system positions Music, Media. P.E., Computer	(828) 874-0704
TWC	Caldwell	Valmead Basic Elementary	Elaine Tutterow	5 hours; 4 - 45 minute blocks 30 minute duty free lunch	Art, Special Classes, block of time after school		(828) 754-9612
TWC	Caldwell	West Lenior Technology Elementary	Chris Ackerman	40 min/day	Special classes - Art, Music, P.E.	state funds payroll	(828) 754-5161
DPI	Catawba	Clyde Campbell Elementary	Dr. Walter R. Zahler	5 hours per week			(828) 256-2769
DPI	Catawba	Mtn. View Elementary School	Kim C. Penley	50 mins. (walk students to and from class) 40 min per day.	specials are a priority in building	normal day operations	(828) 294-2020

Source (S=Superintendent, TWC=Teacher Working Conditions Survey, DPI=Department of Public Instruction)	LEA	School Name/ School System	Principal/ Superintendent/ Central Office	Planning time per week	Implementation	Funding Source	Phone
DPI	Charlotte- Mecklenburg	Berryhill Elementary	Paul Pratt	45 min per 4 days per week 90 min for one day per week	K-5 teachers plan while classes are in specials - Art, Music, Media, Computer Lab		(980) 343-6100
DPI	Charlotte- Mecklenburg	Blythe Elementary	Jo Karney	45 minutes per day			(980) 343-5770
DPI	Charlotte- Mecklenburg	Eastover Elementary	Vanessa Ashford	90 min planning block	45 min. while students are in Music, Art, P.E.; 20 mins after students are gone before teacher dismissal		(980) 343-5505
DPI	Charlotte- Mecklenburg	Idlewild Elem.	Jane Collins	90 min block 45 min additional - during specials	Teacher Assistants support staff - anyone we can use	paid staff	(980) 343-6411
DPI	Charlotte- Mecklenburg	Villa Heights Academic Center	James Aiken	3.5 hours week			(980) 343-3666
DPI	Chatham	North Chatham School	Carrie Little	30 minutes per day (40 min per day (4th and 5th grade teachers)			(919) 967-3094
DPI	Dare	Cape Hatteras Elementary	Ray D. Gray Jr.	K-5 1 hr per day and 45 min end of day	Students are in specials: Art, P.E.; K-2, 3 hours, Grades 3-5, 50 min		(252) 995-6196
DPI	Davie	William R. Davie Elementary	Danny Cartner	3 1/2 hours per week during instruction day	Art, Music, P.E.	state funds payroll	(336) 492-5421
DPI	Durham Public	Merrick-Moore	Stacey Wilson-Norman	45 min planning time per day	During enrichment classes - Art, Media, P.E., etc.	state allotment	(919) 560-3443
S	Edgecombe	Majority of School System	W.A. Pattillo, Superintendent Cheryl Olmsted	4th - 5th get 4 hours 50 min; 6th - 6 hours 50 min	Support classes: Music, Art, Guidance, Media, Computer once each week for 40 min	regular A D M and enhancement allotment	(252) 641-2600

Source (S=Superintendent, TWC=Teacher Working Conditions Survey, DPI=Department of Public Instruction)	LEA	School Name/ School System	Principal/ Superintendent/ Central Office	Planning time per week	Implementation	Funding Source	Phone
DPI	Forsyth	Konnoak Elementary Majority of School System	Lisa C. Horne, Ed.D. Dr. Edward Sadler, Superintendent	8 hours - grades 3-5 Spanish 90 min 30 min	Duty free lunch, 90 min planning time during specials 45 min Itinerants 30 min - P.E., Music, Art	local and state regular state fund	(336) 771-4567 (704) 866-6100
S	Gaston				By schedule; grade level teachers have 30 min per week special classes	teachers regular pay	(828) 646-3448
DPI	Haywood	Bethel Elementary	Tommy Hollingsworth	6 hrs 40 min			(252) 332-2588
TWC	Hertford	Ahoskie Elementary	Ron Lane	5 hours			(252) 209-6140
TWC	Hertford	Bearfield Primary School	Julie Shields	5 hours			(252) 398-4862
TWC	Hertford	Riverview Elementary	Phillip Gatling	5 hours			252-926-3281
S	Hyde	Majority of School System	Dr. M. Brock Womble, Superintendent	5 hrs	During 3 electives: P.E., Art, Computer	Assessment funds	(252) 527-5143
TWC	Lenoir	Northwest Elementary	Diane Lynch	5 hours			704-664-5553
S	Mooreville City	Majority of School System	Dr. Bruce Boyles, Superintendent Carol Carroll	30 min daily, 30 min special	K-3 specials, 30 min K-2 full time assistants, 3rd grade, 15 min before and after school; K-2, 30 mins during the instructional day	Staff development funds	(704) 664-9777
DPI	Mooreville City	South Elementary	Debbie Marsh	K-2, 60 min per day; 3rd, 70 min per day		regular salary	(252) 459-5268
S	Nash-Rocky Mt	Majority of School System	Janet Carter - Central Office Staff	3-6 hours - Each class occurs weekly for 40-45 min vary from school to school to size of school	Enhancement classes: Art, Music, P.E., Guidance, Library	staff	

Source (S=Superintendent, TWC=Teacher Working Conditions Survey, DPI=Department of Public Instruction)	LEA	School Name/ School System	Principal/ Superintendent/ Central Office	Planning time per week	Implementation	Funding Source	Phone
DPI	New Hanover	Pine Valley Elementary	Cindy Talbert	40 min 4 times a day; 20 min duty free a day	Specialists, ESL, classified staff	Use our paraeducators to supervise students no additional funds	(910) 350-2121
DPI	Newton City	South Newton Elementary	Sarah Ferrell	5 hours 15 min each week	40 min block - support classes - P.E., Art, Music - classified staff does morning duty	use current allotment and schedule classes appropriate	(828) 324-2495
DPI	Rockingham	Wentworth Elementary	Paige McCargo	120 mins per day	This includes before and after school		(336) 634-3250
DPI	Rowan	Rockwell Elementary School	William E. Schnuit Jr. Ed.D.	6 hours	T.A. take on the responsibility of recess or other non academic activities	teacher allotments	(704) 279-3145
DPI	Transylvania	Plisgah Forest Elementary	Ron Kiviniemi	250 minutes per week	Specials: 4 day rotation they have their own TA: Art, Music, P.E., etc.		(828) 884-4489
S	Tyrrell	Majority of School System	Nelson W. Smith, Superintendent	50 min per day	Specials classes: Music, Art, P.E.	don't have funds to finance personnel	(252) 796-1121
S	Vance	Majority of School System	Dr. Norman Sherin, Superintendent Sharon Bolkin, Office Staff	45 min - 1 hr, 15min	Music, Art, P.E.	state and local money	(252) 492-2127
TWC	Wake	Washington Elementary	Peggy Beasley-Rogers	5 hours		staff	(919) 856-7960
S	Winston- Salem/ Forsyth	Majority of School System	Dr. Don Martin, Superintendent	30 min - 1hr max daily		support teachers	(336) 727-7205