



THEODORE ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL

1400 N. Mantua Street • Kent, Ohio 44240 • 330-676-8700 • www.kentschools.net/rhs

August 23, 2017

Dear Students, Parents, and Friends of Theodore Roosevelt High School,

The Theodore Roosevelt High School Building Improvement Team is proud to work in a community that supports our students and teachers. Our team is continuously looking at strategies that will ensure our students will be highly skilled 21st century learners. Each year, we review our current school schedule to maximize student achievement. In 2015, we shortened our lunch schedule and hall passing time so students could be in their classrooms with their teachers and peers for as much time as possible. Fortunately, those changes resulted in ten more days of instruction.

The next step in our process was to create time that will be used to provide on-going, embedded professional development. During this professional development, our teachers will collaborate to:

- build a universal understanding of strategies and practices that help all students to learn,
- build consistency and accountability ensuring that all students are benefiting from best practices in every classroom, and
- ensure that each student will have the skills necessary to be successful beyond high school.

“Sustained teacher collaboration about instructional strategies, curriculum, students, and assessment, as well as general collaboration is the primary vehicle for continuous improvement of teacher practice, for sharing accountability, and collective responsibility” (Learning Forward. 2011. *Standards for Professional Learning*. Oxford, OH: Author). In an effort to initiate this professional development, we would like to pilot an early release schedule. We hope to start this pilot program in early October. At that time, on Wednesdays, the school day for students will end at 1:44 PM and students will be free to leave the campus. Transportation for students who wish to stay or who have a need to stay will be provided for students at 2:30. Study periods will be set up in the cafeteria and library from 1:44 to 2:30.

We look forward to this plan and its impact on student learning. For more information, call Principal Dennis Love at **330-676-8719** or email him at ke_dlove@kentschools.net.

Sincerely,

The TRHS Building Improvement Team

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- **High Quality Collaboration Benefits Teachers and Students**
<https://learningforward.org/docs/default-source/jsd-october-2015/high-quality-collaboration-benefits-teachers-and-students.pdf>
- **Impact of Collaboration on Student Achievement**
<https://edsources.org/2014/report-highlights-impact-of-more-time-for-teacher-collaboration/62195>
- **Professional Learning Take Time**
http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/global_learning/2014/06/professional_learning_takes_time.html