

An Alternative Education Proposal

by Lisa Jeanne Graf

At BPS one building could be configured to serve two high schools. One school would have classes in the daytime. One school would have classes in the evening and weekends.

One option in this scenario would be that the day students and the evening/weekend students could cross register.

A modified scenario could be one school offering day and evening classes with the student population equal to two schools.

Teachers could teach at one school or two schools. The curriculum could be the same for traditional or non traditional hours depending on the student populations.

The strengths of this proposal are:

1. Money would be saved on building costs that could then be reinvested into school budgets.
2. Evening and weekend classes would work well for several student populations including:
 - a. Off track youth
 - b. Students who are interested in having internships like the Northeastern co-op program
 - c. Students who have caregiving roles during the daytime
 - d. Students that wish to earn money during the daytime.

Funding

Building costs could come partially from new market tax credits. This funding can be used for public schools and has been used for that purpose. The fact that these buildings would serve off track youth would help gain this funding.

Resources:

<http://nmtccoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/NMTC-Progress-Report-2015-Final.pdf>

This report lists on page 16 public school projects that were funded by new market tax credits.