



## *Whitesboro Independent School District*



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*“Learning Today....Leading Tomorrow”*

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HB 5 has created new guidelines for graduation requirements for students in the State of Texas. The state now requires a minimum of 22 credits to graduate on the Foundation plan. Students who choose to graduate on the distinguished plan or with endorsements will be required to complete 26 credits. Since the state has reduced the number of credits required and has created endorsement plans for students, Whitesboro High School has reevaluated its graduation requirements. WHS is requiring the Foundation and Endorsement plan require 26 credits to graduate.

Based on the new requirements WHS will return to a 7 period schedule beginning with the 2014-2015 school year. The campus has decided to increase the amount of time in class to a 50 minute period. This will create a more conducive instructional setting by adding instructional time to teach new concepts, check for student mastery, and allowing more time in labs for those courses which require a lab setting.

We have tried to create safety nets in the school day to assist students who are in multiple activities such as band, athletics, agriculture, and other extracurricular opportunities. While no schedule is perfect, the 7 period day, 50 minute long approach has been proven to be effective for students and teachers alike.

WHS will begin the instructional day at 8:00 am and release students at 3:18 beginning the 2014-2015 school year. We have determined these time adjustments will assist students with beginning their day at an acceptable time and completing their day early enough so they may participate in extracurricular activities without the loss of instructional time.

If you have questions about the Foundation Plan, Course Endorsements, or the 7 period day please contact the counselors or campus administration at Whitesboro High School by calling 903-564-4208.