









## Narrative for Paladin Academy

Paladin Academy is a public charter school (ISD #4104) that serves students in grades 9-12. The school has been located at Northtown Mall in Blaine since it opened in the 2003-2004 school year. Public charter schools vary greatly from one program to the next, and are approved by both an authorizer (in our case Innovative Quality Schools) and the Minnesota Department of Education. As a public school over 95% of the school's funding is received directly from state or federal revenue sources based on student count and students with special needs. Enrollment at Paladin Academy has fluctuated slightly, with less students in the earlier years, and more students the last few years. The current enrollment is approximately 150 students, which is the maximum number of students the school's education program can accommodate in the current space.

The plans to expand are a result of the need to accommodate more at-risk students in the North Metro Area, which is the student population demographic we serve. We are targeting an enrollment number of 225 for the 2012-2013 school year. Of course, the actual enrollment will depend on student retention and recruitment which has already begun in earnest.

Currently (for the academic year just ended) we utilize six class periods plus an Advisory Session, Morning Break and Lunch. The day begins with Advisory at 8:30 AM where and begin the day with breakfast. Over 80% of our student population qualifies for the free or reduced meal program. The remaining daily schedule is as follows (the transition between class periods is a five minute pass time):

## Standard Day - Class Schedule

Breakfast	8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	
Advisory	8:30 AM - 8:45 AM	Students check-in with their assigned Staff Advisor
Morning Break	8:45 AM - 8:55 AM	
1 <sup>st</sup> Hour	9:00 AM - 9:50 AM	(Math, Science, Economics, Soc. Studies, Art, or Work-Based Projects)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Hour	9:55 AM - 10:45 AM	(Math, Science, Economics, Soc. Studies, Art, or Work-Based Projects)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour	10:50 AM - 11:40 AM	(Math, Science, Economics, Soc. Studies, Art, or Work-Based Projects)
Lunch	11:40 AM - 12:20 PM	
4 <sup>th</sup> Hour	12:20 PM - 1:10 PM	(Math, Science, Economics, Soc. Studies, Art, or Work-Based Projects)
5 <sup>th</sup> Hour	1:15 PM - 2:05 PM	(Math, Science, Economics, Soc. Studies, Art, or Work-Based Projects)
6 <sup>th</sup> Hour	2:10 PM - 3:00 PM	(Math, Science, Economics, Soc. Studies, Art, or Work-Based Projects)
Dismissal	3:00 PM	

Each subject area includes multiple class offerings over the school year (e.g.: Math: Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry, MCA Preparation, and Calculus).

Paladin Academy utilizes 5-7 passenger vans for the majority of student pick-up and drop-off. Other students utilize Metro Transit options, drive themselves or are transported by parents or guardians.

Paladin Academy is open to all students and has a nondiscrimination policy. In the event that more students enroll than the school has openings, a lottery is held. The program at Paladin Academy is designed to meet the needs of a variety of students. Upon enrollment, each student works directly with the school counselor to create an individualized learning plan. Students take a combination of traditional classes, independent project based learning, work-based learning, and experiential learning. The standard school day is from 8 am – 3:00 pm, but the school does offer and evening program for three hours each weeknight. The evening program has low enrollment, averaging about ten students per evening or less.