In an effort to accentuate programs and classes that increase proficiency and credit recovery, Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) has approved changes to the 2009 summer school schedule. The schedule also increases time for students to take advantage of summer enrichment opportunities offered through SPPS, the City and other providers.

At the March 17 Board of Education meeting, school officials approved a revised summer school schedule with fewer school days and more education time built into each day. The new schedule will have students in summer school for six hours per day over three weeks. In the past, the summer school schedule included four hours per day over five weeks.

Changes to the summer school calendar increase enrichment opportunities for students and are more consist with a regular school day. "Students will receive the same amount of academic instruction as in years past but their days will be similar to the regular school year with more enrichment opportunities," said Valeria Silva, SPPS Chief Academic Officer. Highlights of the revised schedule include:

- Students at the secondary level completing credit recovery could receive three credits through a standards focused curriculum, whereas in previous years students could only receive two credits.
- There is an additional three-week high school session at Gordon Parks High School where students can earn an additional three credits. If a high school student is enrolled in both summer sessions, they could earn up to six credits.
- The condensed schedule reduces scheduling conflicts for families seeking summer enrichment opportunities for their children.

The 2009 summer school schedule runs from June 22 through July 14 at 41 sites including 28 elementary, six middle, and seven high schools. There will be no school on July 3. An additional high school session is scheduled from July 20 through August 7 at Gordon Parks High School.

Special education students with documented needs for Extended School Year on their Individual Education Plans (IEPs), are scheduled for summer school at seven sites from June 22 through July 24 (no school on July 3), for four hours per day. Based on needs documented on a students' IEP, additional services are also being provided at the general education summer school sites. The OnTrack program, for middle school students, is four hours per day from June 22 through July 17 (no school July 3) at Harding Senior High School.

Letters will be mailed home the week of April 20 for any student needing to attend summer school. Additional information is available at SPPS schools or online, www.spps.org/SummerSchoolInfo.html .