Curious to know what a day as Breakthrough teaching fellow is like? At most programs, the day begins around 7:30 AM and ends around 5:00 or 6:00 PM though many teaching fellows also spend some time in the evening preparing for the next day. Here is an example of what a day could look like for a math teacher at Breakthrough:

7:30-8:00 Prepare: Gather lesson materials, respond to student essays, rehearse All School Meeting skit. Meet buses in front of the school.

8:00-8:25 Breakfast: Collect homework, attendance, and announcements.

8:25-8:50 Study time: Meet with a student who is struggling to understand fractions.

8:50-9:45 Math class: Teach strategies for solving word problems, help students classify types of word problems, develop strategies for solving and practicing rigorous problems they will see in Algebra I.

9:45-10:40 Math project: Students measure the volume of the gym.

10:40-11:00 Snack break with students.

11:00-11:55 Math Department meeting

11:55-12:25 Lunch Time! Meet with club to discuss fundraising or sit with your students.

12:25-1:20 Free period: Talk to study skills teacher about a student whose study habits worry you.


2:05-2:55 Non-academic elective class Acting: Do voice and movement warm-ups. Run through Scene 1 of A Raisin in the Sun. Discuss character objective. Illustrate objective with improvisational games.

2:55-3:35 Afternoon activities: Join the Dance Workshop; play volleyball.

3:35-3:55 All School Meeting!

3:55-4:00 Round-up students to get backpacks from lockers.

4:00-4:15 Buses depart Stand at buses; wave goodbye.

4:15-6:00 Faculty meeting Announcements, discussion, reflection.

6:00 Go for a run, have dinner.

8:00 Carefully mark papers and quizzes. Complete lesson plans for the next day focusing on goals of students.

This schedule reflects that of one Breakthrough site. All sites have different schedules but the commitment for teaching fellows is generally full-time-plus.