

School Start Time Task Force

Committee Meeting Summary

Committee: Parent Impact Subcommittee

Attending: Philip Cirincione, Daryl Durnell, Rebecca Eberly, Cindy McCarthy, Rebecca McConnell, Sara Missett, Rose Pera, Bob Sokolowski, Sue Tiernan, Steve Werner

Date: 7.25.19

Summary of meeting:

Topics discussed

1. Generate FAQs for parents.
2. Present case studies.
3. Present the opposing arguments.
4. Advertise the Sept 12th meeting.
5. Strongly encourage parent input.
6. Research the impact of later starting times on parenting.
7. Present research on the impact that social media has on sleep.
8. Consider child-to-child care impact if schools start later.
9. Can we make more creative decision before moving to later start times? Are there other strategies to consider?
10. Are we involving non-public schools and parents?

School Start Time Task Force

Committee Meeting Summary

Committee: Staff

Attending: Jeff Ulmer, Mike Marano, Michael Wagman, Rick Martin, Rich Mitchell, Apurv Vachhani, Nick Polcini, Chris Reyna, Kristen Barnello

Date: July 25, 2019

Summary of meeting:

- The committee discussed the following potential impacts to staff of start time changes:
- Union issues? Teachers are parents. How does this impact their families? Are they comfortable with the change? Will this impact their stress levels in the classroom and schools? Will there be additional expense to teachers in the form of childcare? What about commuting patterns?
- Impact on shift employees, specifically custodians?
- Is there a union-administered poll of teacher attitudes?
- How does it impact the master schedule? Would scheduling changes and/or a smarter bell schedule make the actual contractual day much different?
- Are there other contractual implications?
- Teachers' non-teaching duties time shifted to start of the day? Are there advantages to meeting student who need additional help before school instead of after school? Will this shift help accommodate parents who need morning meetings?
- Coaching issues/scheduling games?
- There is some consensus around the importance of looking at the high school schedule as a means to mitigate many of the potential staff impacts.

Next steps: Look more closely at the impact on our custodial staff

School Start Time Task Force

Committee Meeting Summary

Committee: Student Impact

Attending:

Judi Di Fonzo
K Blayne Easter
Anthony Froio
Elisha Ozer
Jason Sherlock
Erin Stephen
Janey Wolff
Art Zadrozny
Leigh Ann Ranieri
Tammi Florio

Date: July 25, 2019

Summary of meeting:

Topics discussed: We discussed the current schedule and the 3 options for changing our start times.

Current: Keep schedule the same (4 tier bus)

- Benefits = no change, most comfortable for the moment, routines stay the same, predictability from financial standpoint
- Drawbacks = effects on student health and well-being, HS students are asleep at 7:30A, many different start times hard for families to navigate
- Suggestion = talk to FMS parents/staff, change the schedule without changing start time, start those changes sooner
- Student impact = students like to get out earlier, would not miss class as much for sports, teachers would not miss class either
- Question = TCHS also changing? Does not matter. We can still send kids for the same programming.

Option 1: PMS and SMS same 8:05, All HS and FMS 8:30, All Elem 9:10 (3 tier bus)

- Benefits = All HS and FMS start later, HS kids who go to bed the latest get the latest, less disruption to those families
- Drawbacks = Only benefits FMS and HS, 4 elementary schools moving to later time could be a drawback since elementary goes to

bed earlier, change/disruption for some, could increase cost for day care/time spent in day care

- Student impact = 2 MS do not experience the benefits of starting later, 4 elementary schools later, students may spend more time in day care
- Suggestion = look at attendance and tardies on late start PLC days (better?)
- Question = how will students manage their extra time to capture extra sleep? Teach sleep hygiene, time management skills (counselors looking at this)

Option 2: All HS/MS 8:15-3:30, No change to Elem (keep 2 start times, 3 tier bus)

- Benefits = Students may be more awake at later time. More convenient for parents to have MS and HS on the same schedule. No change to elementary families. Could decrease need for 2-hour delays?
- Drawbacks = HS students who are driving have busier roads to navigate
- Student impact = jobs, student schedules, no impact on elementary
- Suggestion = look at data among the MS – may not be a benefit to changing MS time

Option 3: 8:30 all MS/HS and 9:10 all elem (2 tier bus)

- Benefits = all secondary students benefit from the latest start time, the later the start time/the later students can sleep the better it is. Could decrease need for 2-hour delays.
- Drawbacks = most expensive
- Student impact = All elementary students must shift to later time even though they go to bed the earliest

Next steps:

Suggestions

- Look at attendance and tardies on late start PLC days (better?)
- Compare MS data - may not be a benefit to changing MS time?

School Start Time Task Force

Committee Meeting Summary

Committee: Transportation

Attending: J. Scully, K. Campbell, A. Haylett , G. Bevilacqua, L. Deitre, A. McCoy, J. Yarnall

Date: 7/25/19

Summary of meeting:

Topics discussed

- Meet and greet with Committee – discussed reasons for participating and expectations
- Discussed current structure of transportation
 - Mandates
 - PDE requirements
 - Non-Public transportation
 - Scheduling complexities
 - Length of ride times
- Discussed results of cost saving from the task force of 2012
- Discussed general scenarios of start times (3 scenarios)
- Defined role of this committee
 - This group is not tasked with determining the effects of later start times on student and performance
 - To outline the cost associated with the 3 scenarios
 - Possible minor adjustment to time in the 3 scenarios
 - Identify pro and cons of each of the scenarios (financially and traffic/facility impacts)
 - Traffic flow implications
- Next steps:

Follow up work before next meeting:

- Meet with representatives from our transportation carriers (Krapf's and On The Go Kids) to ensure that they appoint a representative from their company to assist us with the committee.
 - We think it is imperative to hear form the carriers as to their ability to accommodate the changes (fleet and number of drivers) that will need to occur with each of the scenarios.

- Prepare the base line financial data associated with the current transportation structure at WCASD.
 - This will include number of buses, average ride times, cost, etc...
- Prepare estimates for the number of buses needed with each of the 3 scenarios