



Lexington Public Schools School Start Times Public Hearing

May 22, 2018

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Background

- Middlesex League School Systems
 - Letter signed by Superintendents to look at High School start times between 8:00-8:30a by 2018-19
 - 6 of 12 moving to start times between 8:15am-8:45am in 2018-19
- Lexington Start Times Task Force
 - 13 member team of impacted stakeholders
- Work to Date
 - Task Force formed spring 2017
 - Website established to disseminate information: <https://lps.lexingtonma.org/Page/10330>
 - Surveyed parents, students (6-12), staff
 - Task Force met 9 times
 - Partnered with Dr. Judy Owens for two presentations (Community Forum and Staff Meeting)
 - Conducted one Community Forum
 - Briefed PTA Presidents Council two times
 - Presented updates and information to School Committee six times
- Three preferred alternatives have been identified

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Option 2 – The Flip

Option 2 - The Flip										
Locations	Route Start Times	Route Length	AM Drop-Off	AM BELL	Day Length	PM BELL	Arrival at School	Departure from School	Route Length	Students Home by
LHS	8:00 AM	0:20	8:20 AM	8:40 AM	6:40	3:20 PM	3:30 PM	3:35 PM	0:20	3:55 PM
Middle School	7:30 AM	0:20	7:50 AM	8:05 AM	6:50	2:55 PM	2:50 PM	3:05 PM	0:20	3:25 PM
Elementary School	7:00 AM	0:20	7:20 AM	7:35 AM	6:30	2:05 PM	1:55 PM	2:20 PM	0:20	2:40 PM

- Reverses order of schools, staggering start times for tiered approach
- Achieves later start time at HS, minimal impact to MS start time
- HS supervision concern in the afternoon dismissal window
- Lowest cost alternative
 - No additional buses required
- 1hr 10min change to elementary start time
- Requires elementary students be at bus stops starting at 7am
- Athletic scheduling becomes compressed – particularly late fall; early spring
 - Need to put lights on fields – i.e. Lincoln Fields - ~\$200k per field
- Recreation Department scheduling impacts; field/building availability for LPS, Recreation, and community organizations
- Elementary METCO routes starting earlier (~10 minutes); benefits MS and HS riders with later start
- After school clubs/activities/jobs become compressed at HS level; increases available time for ES

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Option 4 – Shared Buses

Option 4 - Shared Buses										
Locations	Route Start Times	Route Length	AM Drop-Off	AM BELL	Day Length	PM BELL	Arrival at School	Departure from School	Route Length	Students Home by
LHS	7:45 AM	0:30	8:15 AM	8:40 AM	6:40	3:20 PM	3:30 PM	3:45 PM	0:20	4:05 PM
Middle School	7:45 AM	0:20	8:05 AM	8:20 AM	6:50	3:10 PM	3:00 PM	3:25 PM	0:40	4:05 PM
Elementary School	7:15 AM	0:20	7:35 AM	7:50 AM	6:30	2:20 PM	2:10 PM	2:35 PM	0:20	2:55 PM

- Reduced impact to elementary schools compared to Option 2: "The Flip"
- Achieves later start time at HS and MS
- HS supervision concern in the afternoon dismissal window
- Moderate cost alternative
 - Approximately 11 buses needed - \$960k
- Requires that middle school and high school students ride the same bus
 - May have supervision impacts with buses moving from MS to HS in afternoon
- Athletic scheduling becomes compressed – particularly late fall; early spring
 - Need to put lights on fields – i.e. Lincoln Fields - ~\$200k per field
- Recreation Department scheduling impacts; field/building availability for LPS, Recreation, and community organizations
- Minimizes Elementary METCO routes start time; benefits MS and HS riders with later start
- After school clubs/activities/jobs become compressed at MS/HS level; increases available time for ES

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Option 9 – The Flip (day length mod)

Option 9 - The Flip (day length modified)										
Locations	Route Start Times	Route Length	AM Drop-Off	AM BELL	Day Length	PM BELL	Arrival at School	Departure from School	Route Length	Students Home by
LHS	8:05 AM	0:20	8:25 AM	8:40 AM	6:50	3:30 PM	3:30 PM	3:35 PM	0:20	3:55 PM
Middle School	7:35 AM	0:20	7:55 AM	8:10 AM	6:50	3:00 PM	2:55 PM	3:10 PM	0:20	3:30 PM
Elementary School	7:10 AM	0:20	7:30 AM	7:45 AM	6:30	2:15 PM	2:05 PM	2:30 PM	0:20	2:50 PM

- Same benefits/drawbacks as Option 2 – The Flip, plus the following points
 - Mitigates High School supervision element by extending the school day
 - Allows Elementary schools to start 10 minutes later, MS 5 minutes later – improving bus route start times

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Next Steps

- May 22, 2018 – Public Hearing and School Committee Meeting
 - Present preferred alternatives to attendees
 - Obtain feedback from participants on alternatives
- June 5, 2018 – School Committee Meeting
 - Vote to continue to move forward with preferred option and continued discussion in summer and fall

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