

Holliston School Committee  
School Start Time Subcommittee (SSTS)  
Meeting Minutes  
June 11, 2018, 8:30-9:30 am  
Central Office

Attendees: Stacey Raffi (Chair), Cynthia Listewnik, Martha Devoe, Dr. Brad Jackson and Keith Buday.

SSTS reviewed and discussed the information shared from the Sharon and Ashland High Schools regarding the changes they implemented. Reviewed the perspectives and how potentially applies to HHS and the other schools within HPS.

Reviewed response rates and the survey findings. Options under consideration are:

- No change: HHS (7:30-2:03)/RAMS (7:30-1:53), Miller (8:10-2:33), Placentino (8:50-3:15)
- Scenario A: Miller/Placentino (8-2:23) and HHS (8:40-3:13)/RAMS (8:40-3:03)
- Scenario B: HHS (8:00-2:33)/RAMS (8:00-2:23) and Miller/Placentino (8:40-3:05)
- Scenario C: HHS (7:50-2:23)/RAMS (7:50-2:13), Miller (8:30-2:53), Placentino (9:10-3:35)

Discussed the feedback on the options. Scenario A is the most aligned with the research, it is least feasible given after school commitments of students. It would result in the last end times of secondary students what would not be able to be accommodated for athletics, after school employment and be most disruptive to childcare provided by these students. Scenario C is a no additional cost option that does provide a later start but would result in the Placentino bus run happening approximately 20 minutes later. During the winter months, some of the Placentino students are already getting off buses in twilight. Placentino staff survey shared these students are waning at the end of their current day, shifting their day 20 minutes would extend this time period and not lessen it.

Mr. Buday confirmed that Scenario B would require 5 one-run buses and 15 two-run buses to implement. He shared the revised cost increase estimates based on current bus contract and on FY 20 expected bus fees. The estimated increase in transportation cost for Scenario B would be \$250K compared to no additional cost of no change. SSTS also acknowledged that Scenario B may also result in other operational costs that would need to be identified and planned for in the coming year (ex. Elementary unified arts position). Rough estimate to the bus fee would be \$900 per student (students required to pay a fee). Current family cap is 3 or more students, which is a limited number of families currently.

Given the understanding of the options, survey data and the impact of each option, SSTS determined that the decision at hand is to either do nothing or make a change that is in the best interest of all the students of HPS. Under Scenario B, the HHS/RAMS students could have 30 minutes of better sleep each day that would support improved social emotional health. While no option is ideal, the community understands the science and there is support for change. Support does drop when costs increase. The consensus of the SSTS is to recommend moving forward with Scenario B: HHS/RAMS start at 8:00 with Miller/Placentino start at 8:40 with the understanding that if financing is not appropriated then SC would then need to reevaluate the recommendation. The next steps regarding this implementation are:

- Dr. Jackson to update school Principals and ask them to begin identifying all challenges and opportunities this option presents for each school community and any interdependencies.
- Inform the SC of the SSTS recommendation during subcommittee reports and would share survey results and detailed recommendation for SC consideration at its August 30, 2018 meeting.
- SSTS to prepare short presentation to HSC for the August 30<sup>th</sup> meeting.

SSTS assessed how this timeframe fits in its implementation plan and agreed important to update the community in the next SC newsletter. The goal is to have the SC make its decision early in the 2018-2019

school year to allow family and staff ample time to plan for the transition that will be implemented as of the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

In FY19, Dr. Jackson and HPS administration will work together to develop the implementation plan with the administration focusing its attention on all the implementation details and the SSTS focusing most of its attention to developing and implementing a communications plan.

Dr. Jackson agreed to include the additional \$250K in transportation costs required to implement Scenario B into the Superintendent's Recommended FY20 Budget. The SC can consider the options for paying for that (budget, fee, other, or combination of sources) as part of their FY20 budget deliberations.

Next meeting to be scheduled after the start of the next school year.