

Franklin Public Schools  
Franklin School Committee

School Start Times Advisory Committee  
Full Committee

Thursday, September 20, 2018  
7:00 P.M.  
Franklin High School Library

MINUTES

Sara Ahern called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Sara Ahern, Miriam Goodman,, Erica Monteiro, William Klements, Monica Linden, Jen DeBaggis, Emily Ambrose, Jessica Pisano, Kit Brady, Elizabeth Woelflein, Oona Harrington, Maria Weber, Tom Angelo, Gigi, Zub, Ellen Gould (7:39pm)

Student Liaisons Present: William Olbrys, Grace Newton

Others Present: Michelle McGonagle

Members Absent: Mary Jane Scofield, Donna Grady, Rebecca Cameron

Student Liaisons Absent: William Gardner, Conlon Hickey

Minutes from the June 7, 2018 committee meeting were approved as amended. (motion by M Linden, second by W Klements, 8-0-5 (Weber, Brady, Zub, Angelo, Harrington abstain))

Minutes from the June 17, 2018 steering committee meeting were approved. (motion by M Linden, second by J Pisano, 5-0)

The Steering Committee made a recommendation to appoint Sara Ahern as Chairperson for Point Communication. Upon motion by V Zub, second by W Klements, the committee unanimously approved the appointment of Sara Ahern as Chairperson to be empowered to speak on behalf of the Committee as the Point Communication Person

Updates from Subcommittees

Transportation - All of the scenarios considered would result in cost increases due to the inability to continue use of partial day buses. Two of the options would require 20 additional buses. This would be at a cost of approximately \$58,000 per bus. Holmes needs a 30 minute window between tiers in order to maintain the number of buses being used. Without the 30 minutes, additional buses would be needed.

Other scenarios were suggested by B Holmes which could potentially result in a savings of approximately \$350,000. The subcommittee modified those scenarios slightly and M Goodman will discuss with B Holmes and report back to subcommittee.

After school - posted a meeting but only had two members, so there was not a quorum present.

Research on other districts - W Klements generated a general list of questions to ask other districts in an effort to streamline contact to other districts. Focus is on lessons learned, CBA changes, policy changes, unanticipated consequences. Three districts in hockomock league, three comparable in size and some other local districts were chosen. for a final list of 10 districts. S Ahern will reach out to Central Offices personnel at those districts

M Linden asked if we could reach out to other communities that changed times and then changed back.

W Olbrys asked if we could we ask other districts in RI? G Zub will reach out to a known contact for some additional information on RI districts.

K Brady asked what local resources were enlisted (pediatricians, other experts) and is curious to know how other districts manage their after school activities?

Before school - M Goodman reached out to the administrators overseeing the preschool, foodservice, athletics and Lifelong Learning Institute.

- Foodservice
  - Can accommodate mostly any change in start times
  - May need to shift staffing hours or provide a PM snack for students depending on times chosen
- Morning Movement Activities (Lifelong Learning)
  - Time may be reduced from 60 to 45 minutes depending on times chosen
- Solutions Program (Lifelong Learning)
  - Shift in staffing hours could be required which could make morning positions less attractive to applicants and positions more difficult to fill
  - Possible increase in MS student participation depending on times chosen
  - Later elementary shift would likely increase in PM care demands which would likely increase tuition.
- Crossing Guard Schedules
  - No impact to ESPs serving as crossing guards
  - Possible difficulty finding crossing guards at later times
- Pre K
  - Potential change to start time may be needed which may impact peer enrollment and van transportation
- Teacher child care

- Unknown at this time- perhaps a survey at some point? Work will overlap with employee impact subcommittee.
- Parent child care
  - Unknown at this time - perhaps a survey at some point?
- HS Activities/Sports Practices (rink time?)
  - No impact to rink time practices for ice hockey.
  - Not likely to impact other FHS Activities- Music Rehearsals and Student Government meet in the morning, but those groups would shift to a later start time should there be a change.

There could be an impact on custodial staff. There is a need for inquiry to Town officials.

#### Discussion of Timeline and Communication Goals

- Information to Joint PCC
- Survey (1-2 questions) to students and parents independently - late October/early November
- Community coffees
- Suggestion to have literature at harvest festival 10/13 to explain why we are looking at it and the process/plan
- Survey can be a communication tool itself. Include links to documentation gain clarity around possible recommendations
- Sleep research will create a draft infographic for publicity and bring back to full committee. Plan/Process would be second part of the information to be developed.

Subcommittees were given time to check in with each other as some committee work overlaps.

After school check in with transportation - Questions raised: Can teams be dismissed early? Can sports buses get to leave the loop early? Challenges with golf team that can't play after dark.

Practice and competitions can be examined. W Klements state that it is not standard procedure to dismiss students early for athletics, but could be possible for games that are farther away. Swimming team must be out of YMCA at 3:40pm. Gymnastics team must be out of Flipside Gym by 4pm. FHS can review bus, but no immediate thoughts on how an "express lane" for athletics could work.

S Ahern to research deadlines for implementation and collective bargaining implications if there were to be a shift in times. There may be smaller changes that could be made, such as having half days in the afternoon, instead of the morning.

Homework at all grade levels is also being considered.

S Ahern to reach out to school physician and nurse liaison for presenters to discuss health impacts of school start times.

S Ahern indicated the need to schedule additional dates and asked the committee to identify their availability for various upcoming dates. Denise Miller will send out information to the group with dates in October, November and December

Unanimous vote to adjourn at 8:36 pm (motion by M Linden, second by E Monteiro)