

Franklin Public Schools  
Franklin School Committee

School Start Times Advisory Committee  
Full Committee

Thursday, March 14, 2019  
7:00 P.M.  
FHS Media Center

MINUTES

I. Call to Order - S Ahern called the meeting to order at 7:06pm

Members Present: Sara Ahern, Miriam Goodman, Monica Linden, Jessica Pisano, Gigi Zub, Elizabeth Woelflein, Erica Monteiro, Jen DeBaggis, Emily Ambrose, Ellen Gould, William Klements, Oona Harrington, Donna Grady, Rebecca Cameron, Mary Jane Scofield

Members Absent: Tom Angelo, Kit Brady, Maria Weber

Student Liaisons Present: Grace Newton

Student Liaisons Absent: William Gardner, Conlon Hickey, William Olbrys

Others Present: Cindy Douglas

II. Approval of Minutes

- a. Full Committee Meeting -- 2/28/19 motion by V. Zub , second by M Linden, approved (9-0-4 (Klements, Harrington, Cameron, Grady))
- b. Steering Committee -- None for approval
- c. Subcommittee Meetings -- None for approval

III. Discussion of Data and Information - S Ahern walked the committee through draft final report and asked that Steering Committee members summarize the subcommittee activities and major takeaways. Each subcommittee summarized the research they have done and their findings. S Ahern indicated that she had an update from T Angelo about gymnastics. He had shared that practices might need to be scheduled before school based on facility availability; he had reported it might lead to a cost savings with a reduction in afternoon busing. Further, the YMCA seems to not be able to adjust their pool schedule to accommodate our time shift. There would be minimum practice time with Scenario B, and no time in Scenario A. Usage of the pool at Adirondack club would be at an

additional cost. There are 51 total students on boys and girls swim teams. W Klements shared informal information from about 25 high students who saw a change in start times as a loss in afternoon time to themselves. E Ambrose shared that many middle school students were excited about shifting to later start times. Mixed opinions were shared. The committee had the opportunity to comment, question, and discuss.

- IV. Discussion of Potential Recommendation - S Ahern asked the group if they felt prepared to make a recommendation. The group was ready to vote and decided first to see if there was consensus to make any adjustment in start times. There were thirteen yes votes and two no votes to make an adjustment to school start times.
- V. Potential Vote - The next discussion focused on which Scenario was preferred or if either scenario was the only one supported or not supported at all. The group had the opportunity to hear from each member of the committee regarding their vote and the reasoning behind it. S Ahern provided K Brady's opinion as he was unable to attend this evening and sent his thoughts along. There was discussion around the swim team, indicating that with Scenario A, there would not be an opportunity for students to participate due to the availability of pool time. This was a concern raised. At 8:40pm, D Grady and E Ambrose left the meeting.

The group was polled as to which scenario they could/could not support.

Scenario A only received 1 vote  
Scenario B only received 2 votes  
Preference for A better than B received 2 votes  
Preference for B better than A received 8votes

The committee struggled with this decision and discussion ensued as to how to communicate this information.

- VI. Discuss paper & presentation to School Committee - S Ahern looked for volunteers to present this information to the School Committee on March 26, 2019. B Klements and J Pisano volunteered. Committee members are encouraged to attend. S Ahern would be notifying families that the presentation would be taking place in an upcoming newsletter and encouraging public participation.
- VII. Other - G Newton was glad the committee explored a change in start times. She felt it would give students who could sleep that option to do so for a longer period of time.
- VIII. Motion to adjourn by M Linden, second by R Cameron (unanimous) at 9:12pm