



# School Start Time, Schedule & Transportation Report Update

Newton School Committee

June 10th, 2019

# Agenda

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1. Review of Final Transportation Consultant Report
  - a. Efficiency
  - b. Traffic and Safety
2. Review of Feasible Start Time Options
3. Next Steps

# Background Review

- School Committee High School Start Time working group - Fall 2015 - Spring 2017
- High School Schedule Redesign process - Fall 2017- Spring 2019
- Transportation consultant review and report - Winter/Spring 2018-19

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A1 (65)	A2 (75)	F2 (75)	A3 (75)	F3 (75)
Flex (20)	B2 (75)	G2 (75)	B3 (75)	G3 (75)
B1 (65)				
C1 (65)	F1 (65)	Flex (50)	Flex (50)	Flex (50)
D1 (65+30+5)	G1 (65+30+5)	C2 (75+30+5)	D2 (75+30+5)	E3 (75+30+5)
		E2 (75)	C3 (75)	D3 (75)
E1 (65)	Flex (50)			

# Transportation Report - Efficiency

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- Report reviewed all costs, routes, duration, and ridership for our transportation services
- Consultant reported busing overall to be as efficient as possible (both cost and overall bus utilization) given timing and traffic within the City
- The Boston METCO routes, which encompass a large portion of Boston, and the Private School Routes, which encompass all of Newton, are required exceptions

# Transportation Report - Traffic and Safety

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- Consultant reviewed a majority of of schools and made some general recommendations on safety
- Recommendations included: Separation of walk/bike, yellow buses, Special Education vans, parking, and pick-up and drop-off activity
- Other comments included lack of staff parking and adding and updating signage around schools
- Specific comments and recommendations regarding Newton South traffic, circulation and safety

# 3 Feasible Options Proposed

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- **Transportation consultant's options for new start times, incorporating the following goals:**
  - Target 8:30 high school start time
  - Minimize elementary and middle school changes
  - Maintain instructional time K-8
  - Minimize traffic congestion and impact
  - Minimize student time on vehicles
  - Cost neutral for bussing

# Feasible Option 1

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<u>School Level</u>	<u>CURRENT TIMES</u>			<u>REVISED TIMES</u>			
	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Day</u>	
Elementary	8:20	3:00	6'40"	8:10	2:50	6'40"	<b>10 mins earlier</b>
Bigelow	8:15	2:45	6'30"	8:05	2:35	6'30"	
Brown	8:30	3:00	6'30"	8:20	2:50	6'30"	
FA Day	8:05	2:35	6'30"	7:55	2:25	6'30"	<b>10 mins earlier</b>
Oak Hill	8:00	2:30	6'30"	7:50	2:20	6'30"	
Newton North	7:50	3:20	7'30"	9:00	3:45	6'45"	<b>70/80 mins later</b>
Newton South	7:40	3:20	7'40"	9:00	3:45	6'45"	<b>later</b>

# Option 1 - Analysis

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## Advantages

- Minimal K-8 time impact
- Desirable later HS start time (9:00)

## Disadvantages

- 3:45 HS end time
- MS times before 8 AM
- Must add 6 buses (\$599,400) or adjust private school times



# Feasible Option 2

<u>School Level</u>	<u>CURRENT TIMES</u>			<u>REVISED TIMES</u>			
	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Day</u>	
Elementary	8:20	3:00	6'40"	7:55	2:35	6'40"	<b>25 mins earlier</b>
Bigelow	8:15	2:45	6'30"	7:50	2:20	6'30"	
Brown	8:30	3:00	6'30"	8:05	2:35	6'30"	<b>25 mins earlier</b>
FA Day	8:05	2:35	6'30"	7:40	2:10	6'30"	
Oak Hill	8:00	2:30	6'30"	7:35	2:05	6'30"	
Newton North	7:50	3:20	7'30"	8:45	3:30	6'45"	<b>55/65 mins later</b>
Newton South	7:40	3:20	7'40"	8:45	3:30	6'45"	

# Option 2 - Analysis

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## Advantages

- Desirable later HS start time (8:45)

## Disadvantages

- 3:30 HS end time
- Very early K-8 start times
- Some MS and ELL buses dropped off early
- Must add 6 buses (\$599,400) or adjust private school times

# Feasible Option 3

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<u>School Level</u>	<u>CURRENT TIMES</u>			<u>REVISED TIMES</u>			
	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Day</u>	
Elementary	8:20	3:00	6'40"	8:50	3:30	6'40"	30 mins later
Bigelow	8:15	2:45	6'30"	8:05	2:35	6'30"	10 mins earlier
Brown	8:30	3:00	6'30"	9:00	3:30	6'30"	30 mins later
FA Day	8:05	2:35	6'30"	7:55	2:25	6'30"	10 mins earlier
Oak Hill	8:00	2:30	6'30"	7:50	2:20	6'30"	10 mins earlier
Newton North	7:50	3:20	7'30"	8:10	2:55	6'45"	20/30 mins later
Newton South	7:40	3:20	7'40"	8:10	2:55	6'45"	later

# Option 3 - Advantages & Disadvantages

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## Advantages

- Bus routing improvements
  - 2 Boston buses can cover morning ES route
  - Additional late buses possible for MS & HS
  - Possible shorter bus routes
  - Tight routing may prevent growth

## Disadvantages

- 8:10 HS start time
- 9:00 ES start time
- Varied MS times (7:50-9:00)
- Some MS and ELL buses dropped off early
- May require 2 additional HS buses (\$198,800)

# Next Steps for Start Time

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- Continue review of feasible options by Transportation department
- Partnership with NTA, elementary/middle leaders, afterschool providers, private schools re: options
- Communication with K-12 families re: benefits & impacts
- Exploration of strategies to minimize impacts
  - Adjustments/improvements to feasible options presented
  - Explore increasing elementary before school and/or afterschool capacity

# Next Steps for HS Schedule Implementation

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- Collective bargaining between NTA and NPS ongoing
- Continue school-based work on flex blocks, professional development, curricular planning, IEP alignment, and course adjustments
- Further exploration of implementation with current or later start times in Fall 2020
  - Significant positive impact on student wellness and academic support

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# Questions and Discussion