



PUTNAM COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #535

Recommendation for the Board of Education

Meeting: July 16th, 2024

Item: Adjustment of PCJH Dismissal Time

Recommendation: Contingent upon final review by administration, I recommend the Board of Education approve a change to the dismissal time at PCJH from 3:15 PM to 3:00 PM. This discussion started because of a review of bus routes with Johannes Bus Service, Inc. PCJH currently dismisses later than the other schools, which we believe was done in the past to stagger bus routes. However, Johannes has proposed changes to routes that would reduce students' time on the buses, particularly transfers, if PCJH could end their instructional day at 3:00 PM. Even though dismissal time would not impact the morning hours, the changes proposed by Johannes include the following benefits:

- Morning - Four routes will start 5 to 10 minutes later; however, one route will start 15 minutes earlier
- Morning - All buses will start dropping students off at schools at 7:30 AM (last year 2 buses dropped off students before 7:20 AM)
- Afternoon - Green Bus and Pink Bus will no longer make 2 transfers and commute on Route 71 multiple times
- Afternoon - Three routes will end 15-20 minutes earlier; however, 1 route will be 15-20 minutes later
- Afternoon - Last route ends at 4:19 PM (last year was 4:25 PM)
- Afternoon - Last PCPS student pickup is 3:25-3:30 PM (last year was 3:35 PM-3:38 PM)
- Afternoon - Brown Bus wait time for Green Bus will be 5-7 minutes (last year was 12-15 minutes)
- Afternoon - Orange Bus wait time for Black Bus will be 0 minutes (last year was 10-15 minutes)
- Eliminates Yellow Bus completely (\$49,525.00 FY25 savings)

**These figures are all estimates and may be impacted by final registration and enrollment for 2024-2025.*

Mr. Olson has reviewed the PCJH master schedule and would be able to adjust accordingly by reducing VIP time from 30 to 20 minutes and study hall from 40 minutes to 38 minutes, which means there would be no change to core instructional minutes. He noted that reducing VIP time has been a discussion for a while now, so this dismissal time change lends to that change as well.

