

Red Wing Public Schools
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Committee Meeting Agenda Item

Topic: Transportation and Starting and Ending Times for 2021-22
Contact(s):
Presenter(s): Karsten Anderson, Superintendent
Sara Houle, CESO Representative

Nature of Action Requested

Committee Recommendation
Committee Information or Report

Background Information

Planning for transportation services for the 2021-22 school year focused on addressing budget concerns and initial feedback from building leaders.

The routing company's preliminary plan shows that a 2-tier system could save the district \$150,000 even if the "No-Bus Zone" is lowered to 1 mile for K-6 students. A 2-tier bus system means that most or all buses are used twice--once for high school students and once for elementary students. A two-tier system also eliminates or greatly reduces transfer buses.

The estimated savings is contingent upon changing the maximum route time for each bus from 3 to 4. First Student is willing to lengthen maximum route times if it receives a 2-year extension. The routing company recommends the terms proposed by First Student.

As requested by building leaders, the high school has the earlier starting time and elementary schools have more minutes per student day. The following chart shows a FIRST DRAFT of drop-off times, starting and ending times for student days, and pick-up times. Routing company representatives and administrators will refine times over the next few weeks. The key is to generate consensus on the high school starting before elementary schools.

School	Parent and Bus Drop-Off Time	Student Day	Parent and Bus Pick-Up Time
K-6 Elementary Schools	8:45	8:55-3:25	3:30-3:40
7-12 RWHS	7:35	7:45-2:30	2:30-2:40

Recommendation

I recommend to the school board to authorize the Superintendent or designee to finalize an addendum to the current transportation contract to reflect terms outlined in First Student's proposal.