## Optimizing Bell Times for Better Student Outcomes & Operational Efficiency

**Killeen Independent School District** 



## What is a Tiered Bell Schedule?



A tiered bell schedule staggers school start and end times across different groups of schools



Allows the same buses to service multiple schools in a sequence, optimizing transportation resources



Tiers are often based on school levels (e.g., elementary, middle, high schools)

# Why Change is Necessary?

Current schedules create tight time windows which cause transportation delays

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Adjusting start or end times will improve ontime arrivals and departures across the District



Focus on creating a more efficient and familyfriendly transportation system

#### Key Challenges in the Current Bell Schedule

Afternoon delays: Short Tight morning windows: Impact on students: This limits time for Disrupted routines, time windows among tiers increase lateness. pickups and drop-offs. reduce learning time. Current structure: The Afternoon Take-Backs: **Resource strain:** current bell schedule Requires more staff and To date we have prevents buses from equipment to maintain accumulated 504 takearriving at schools and schedules. backs. other stops on time.

#### A More Efficient System for Students and Families

Improved On-Time Arrivals: Creates buffer time for subsequent tiers

Reduced Transportation Delays: Ensures smoother operations

Better Student Experience: Timely arrivals enhance focus on learning and reduces stress and anxiety

Enhanced Family Routine: Create predictable timelines that support consistency and build trust

#### **Current Bell Schedule**

CURRENT 24 - 25	BUS ARRIVAL TIME		SCHOOL START	SCHOOL END		BUS DEPARTURE TIME
TIER 1 Elementary Schools	7:00am		7:30am	3:00pm		3:07pm
TIER 2 Elem/Middle Schools	7:30am	30m	8:00am	3:30pm	23m	3:37pm
TIER 2.5 Elem	7:55am	25m	8:25am	3:55pm	18m	4:02pm
TIER 3 High Schools	8:00am	5m	8:45am	4:15pm	13m	4:24pm
TIER 4 Special Programs			9:00am	4:30pm		4:39pm

#### Consideration "A" Bell Schedule

CONSIDERATION A (Additional 7 mins)	BUS ARRIVAL TIME		SCHOOL START	SCHOOL END		BUS DEPARTURE TIME
TIER 1 Elementary Schools	6:45am		7:15am	2:52pm		2:59pm
TIER 2 Elem/Middle Schools	7:25am	<b>40</b> m	8:00am	3:37pm	38m	3:44pm
TIER 3 High Schools	8:05am	40m	8:43am	4:20pm	36m	4:29pm
TIER 4 Special Programs			9:00am	4:30pm		4:39pm

### Consideration "B" Bell Schedule

CONSDIERATION B (Additional 7 mins)	BUS ARRIVAL TIME		SCHOOL START	SCHOOL END		BUS DEPARTURE TIME
TIER 1 Elementary Schools	7:00am		7:30am	3:07pm		3:14pm
TIER 2 Elem/Middle Schools	8:10am	40m	8:40am	4:17pm	38m	4:24pm
TIER 3 High Schools	8:50am	<b>40</b> m	9:25am	5:02pm	36m	5:11pm
TIER 4 Special Programs			9:40am	5:10pm		5:19pm

#### Current vs. Consideration "A" Bell Schedule

#### **BELL SCHEDULE**

CURRENT 24-25	BUS ARRIVAL TIME		SCHOOL START	SCHOOL END		BUS DEPARTURE TIME
TIER 1 Elementary Schools	7:00am		7:30am	3:00pm		3:07pm
TIER 2 Elem/Middle Schools	7:30am	30m	8:00am	3:30pm	23m	3:37pm
TIER 2.5 Elem	7:55am	25m	8:25am	3:55pm	18m	4:02pm
TIER 3 High Schools	8:00am	5m	8:45am	4:15pm	13m	4:24pm
TIER 4 Special Programs			9:00am	4:30pm		4:39pm

BELL SCHEDULE A (Additional 7 mins)	BUS ARRIVAL TIME		SCHOOL START	SCHOOL END		BUS DEPARTURE TIME
TIER 1 Elementary Schools	6:45am		7:15am	2:52pm		2:59pm
TIER 2 Elem/Middle Schools	7:25am	40m	8:00am	3:37pm	38m	3:44pm
TIER 3 High Schools	8:05am	40m	8:43am	4:20pm	36m	4:29pm
TIER 4 Special Programs			9:00am	4:30pm		4:39pm

### Intent of Adjusting Bell Schedule

Increase time for buses to complete routes

# Align better with family schedules

Improve punctuality and enhance academic readiness

Consistently arrive and depart on times

#### A Better Future for KISD



Adjusting start or end times support a more efficient system focused on students and families



Reduces delays, improves learning outcomes, and enhances daily routines



Together, we can create a transportation system that meets the needs of our district

Outcomes of an Improved Tiered Bell Schedule

Optimized Bus Usage: Fewer buses are needed as each bus serves multiple routes.

Improved Punctuality: More time between tiers allows for reliable arrival and departure times.

Enhanced Student Experience: Students arrive on time, reducing stress and improving readiness.

Predictable Schedules: Families benefit from consistent and manageable routines.

Operational Efficiency: Reduces the strain on human capital and district resources.