

Board of Education School Start/End Time Task Force Meeting

Friday, December 6, 2019 12:00 PM

Weston High School Main Office Conference Room, 24 School Road, Weston, CT
06883-1623

I. Scheduling-Ken Craw, Lisa Wolak, Laura Kaddis

II. Update on Elementary Parent Focus Group-Kristen Ancker and Jenny Walsh

III. Update on Staff Focus Groups-Stacy Slater and Erin Merrifield

IV. Update on Surveys for All Families, Staff and WMS/WHS Students-Bill McKersie

V. Update for Board of Education at December 16, 2019 Meeting-Bill McKersie

A. December 16, 2019 Update

B. New Report Date in February 2020

VI. Next Meeting Agenda

WMS Master Schedule

2020-2021

Flexible PFA/ELT: Current Schedule

Period	Time	Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8	
		A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day
1	7:45 – 8:34	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
2	8:38 – 9:20	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT
3	9:24–10:06	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
4	10:10-10:52	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic
5		10:56-11:26 Lunch	10:56-11:26 Lunch	10:56-11:38 PFA/ELT	10:56-11:38 PFA/ELT	10:56-11:38 Academic	10:56-11:38 Academic
6		11:30-12:12 Academic	11:30-12:12 Academic	11:42-12:12 Lunch	11:42-12:12 Lunch	11:42-12:24 PFA/ELT	11:42-12:24 PFA/ELT
7		12:16-12:58 PFA/ELT	12:16-12:58 PFA/ELT	12:16-12:58 Academic	12:16-12:58 Academic	12:28-12:58 Lunch	12:28-12:58 Lunch
8	1:02-1:44	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic
9	1:48– 2:30	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT

WMS Master Schedule

2020-2021

Flexible PFA/ELT: 8 am start time

Period	Time	Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8	
		A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day
1	8:00 – 8:49	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
2	8:53 – 9:35	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT
3	9:39–10:21	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
4	10:25-11:07	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic
5		11:11-11:41 Lunch	11:11-11:41 Lunch	11:11-11:53 PFA/ELT	11:11-11:53 PFA/ELT	11:11-11:53 Academic	11:11-11:53 Academic
6		11:45-12:27 Academic	11:45-12:27 Academic	11:57-12:27 Lunch	11:57-12:27 Lunch	11:57-12:39 PFA/ELT	11:57-12:39 PFA/ELT
7		12:31-1:13 PFA/ELT	12:31-1:13 PFA/ELT	12:31-1:13 Academic	12:31-1:13 Academic	12:43-1:13 Lunch	12:43-1:13 Lunch
8	1:17-1:59	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic
9	2:03– 2:45	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT

WMS Master Schedule

2020-2021

Flexible PFA/ELT: 8:15 am start time, 2:45 end
41 minute classes, no extra time for announcements

Period	Time	Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8	
		A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day
1	8:15 – 8:56	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
2	9:00 – 9:41	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT
3	9:45–10:26	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
4	10:30-11:11	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic
5		11:15-11:45 Lunch	11:15-11:45 Lunch	11:15-11:56 PFA/ELT	11:15-11:56 PFA/ELT	11:15-11:56 Academic	11:15-11:56 Academic
6		11:49-12:30 Academic	11:49-12:30 Academic	12:00 -12:30 Lunch	12:00 -12:30 Lunch	12:00 -12:41 PFA/ELT	12:00 -12:41 PFA/ELT
7		12:34-1:15 PFA/ELT	12:34-1:15 PFA/ELT	12:34-1:15 Academic	12:34-1:15 Academic	12:45-1:15 Lunch	12:45-1:15 Lunch
8	1:19-2:00	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic
9	2:04– 2:45	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT

WMS Master Schedule

2020-2021

Flexible PFA/ELT: 8:30 start

Period	Time	Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8	
		A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day
1	8:30 – 9:19	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
2	9:23 – 10:05	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT
3	10:09-10:51	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
4	10:55-11:37	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic
5		11:41-12:11 Lunch	11:41-12:11 Lunch	11:41-12:23 PFA/ELT	11:41-12:23 PFA/ELT	11:41-12:23 Academic	11:41-12:23 Academic
6		12:15-12:57 Academic	12:15-12:57 Academic	12:27-12:57 Lunch	12:27-12:57 Lunch	12:27-1:09 PFA/ELT	12:27-1:09 PFA/ELT
7		1:01-1:43 PFA/ELT	1:01-1:43 PFA/ELT	1:01-1:43 Academic	1:01-1:43 Academic	1:13-1:43 Lunch	1:13-1:43 Lunch
8	1:47-2:29	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic
9	2:33– 3:15	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT

WMS Master Schedule

2020-2021

Flexible PFA/ELT: 8:35 start

Period	Time	Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8	
		A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day
1	8:35 – 9:24	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
2	9:28 – 10:10	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT
3	10:14-10:56	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
4	11:00-11:42	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic
5		11:46-12:16 Lunch	11:46-12:16 Lunch	11:46-12:28 PFA/ELT	11:46-12:28 PFA/ELT	11:46-12:28 Academic	11:46-12:28 Academic
6		12:20-1:02 Academic	12:20-1:02 Academic	12:32-1:02 Lunch	12:32-1:02 Lunch	12:32-1:14 PFA/ELT	12:32-1:14 PFA/ELT
7		1:06-1:48 PFA/ELT	1:06-1:48 PFA/ELT	1:06-1:48 Academic	1:06-1:48 Academic	1:18-1:48 Lunch	1:18-1:48 Lunch
8	1:52-2:34	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT	Academic	Academic
9	2:38– 3:20	Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic	PFA/ELT	PFA/ELT

Weston Public Schools
School Start/End Time - "What If" Option

8:15 a.m. / 9:00 a.m.

6 hour & 30-minute student day

Reflects 15 minute reduction in length of student day

This option was developed for several student-centered reasons:

1. It represents a significant change in the start time for secondary students compared to our current 7:45 a.m. start time.
2. It represents a more reasonable end time for both the secondary and elementary students to minimize the disruption to after school activities.

Schools	Start Time	End Time	Length	Pros	Cons
WMS, WHS	8:15 am	2:45 pm	6 hours & 30 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shift to later start time provides secondary level with 30 additional minutes before the start of the day. • The end time is only 15 minutes later than it is currently to minimize impact on after school activities. • Students get on and off the bus in daylight. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of instructional time would result in a one to two minute reduction to each academic period. • Athletes would need to leave at least 15 minutes earlier for athletic contests, albeit less of an impact than the 8:30 option • Practices would need to start slightly later to allow time for athletes to change, see the trainer and get to their practices.
HES, WIS	9:00 am	3:30 pm	6 hours & 30 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The end time is only 15 minutes later than it is currently to minimize impact on after school activities. • Avoids the need to flip K-5 with 6-12 so older students are available to look after younger siblings. • Students get on and off the bus in daylight. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of instructional time would require 15 minute reduction across academic blocks. • Later start time for elementary may prompt some families to identify before school care.

WHS Start/End Times

**SAME LENGTH SCHOOL DAY - 56min blocks
MOVING BACK START AND END TIMES**

Current	Block	Start	End
7:45 Start	1	7:45 AM	8:41 AM
2:30 End	2	8:46 AM	9:42 AM
56m block	3	9:47 AM	10:43 AM
	4	10:52 AM	12:28 PM
	5	12:33 PM	1:29 PM
	6	1:34 PM	2:30 PM

	Block	Start	End
8:00 Start	1	8:00 AM	8:56 AM
2:45 End	2	9:01 AM	9:57 AM
Option 1	3	10:02 AM	10:58 AM
	4	11:07 AM	12:43 PM
	5	12:48 PM	1:44 PM
	6	1:49 PM	2:45 PM

	Block	Start	End
8:30 Start	1	8:30 AM	9:26 AM
3:15 End	2	9:31 AM	10:27 AM
Option 2	3	10:32 AM	11:28 AM
	4	11:37 AM	1:13 PM
	5	1:18 PM	2:14 PM
	6	2:19 PM	3:15 PM

	Block	Start	End
8:35 Start	1	8:35 AM	9:31 AM
3:20 End	2	9:36 AM	10:32 AM
Option 3	3	10:37 AM	11:33 AM
	4	11:42 AM	1:18 PM
	5	1:23 PM	2:19 PM
	6	2:24 PM	3:20 PM

**SHORTER DAY
MOVING BACK START, KEEPING END AT 2:30 PM**

Current	Block	Start	End
7:45 Start	1	7:45 AM	8:41 AM
2:30 End	2	8:46 AM	9:42 AM
56m block	3	9:47 AM	10:43 AM
	4	10:52 AM	12:28 PM
	5	12:33 PM	1:29 PM
	6	1:34 PM	2:30 PM

	Block	Start	End
8:00 Start	1	8:00 AM	8:55 AM
2:30 End	2	9:00 AM	9:55 AM
55m block	3	10:00 AM	10:55 AM
	4	11:00 AM	12:30 PM
	5	12:35 PM	1:30 PM
	6	1:35 PM	2:30 PM

	Block	Start	End
8:15 Start	1	8:15 AM	9:07 AM
2:30 End	2	9:12 AM	10:04 AM
52m block	3	10:09 AM	11:01 AM
	4	11:06 AM	12:36 PM
	5	12:41 PM	1:33 PM
	6	1:38 PM	2:30 PM

Only 1 minute lost from each block due to elimination of long break pre-lunch and no passing time between lunch waves

Could also accomplish with 8:15-2:45 day

	Block	Start	End
8:15 Start	1	8:15 AM	9:10 AM
2:45 End	2	9:15 AM	10:10 AM
55m block	3	10:15 AM	11:10 AM
	4	11:15 AM	12:45 PM
	5	12:50 PM	1:45 PM
	6	1:50 PM	2:45 PM

	Block	Start	End
8:30 Start	1	8:30 AM	9:20 AM
2:30 End	2	9:25 AM	10:15 AM
50m block	3	10:20 AM	11:10 AM
	4	11:15 AM	12:40 PM
	5	12:45 PM	1:35 PM
	6	1:40 PM	2:30 PM

Overlapping lunch waves

WHS OPTION 1 – CURRENT ROTATION SCHEDULE (8:00 – 2:45, 56 MINUTE BLOCK)

BLOCK	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1 8:00 – 8:56	3	1	2	1	4	2	1	2
2 9:01 – 9:57	4	2	1	2	3	1	2	1
3 10:02 – 10:58 **	5	6	3	3	6	5	3	3
4 11:07 – 12:43	6	5	4	4	5	6	4	5
LUNCH								
5 12:48 – 1:44	7	8	7	5	8	7	8	4
6 1:49 – 2:45	8	7	8	6	7	8	7	6
	21	20	21	21	21	21	21	20
DROP	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 & 6	7 & 8	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 & 6	7 & 8

** _____ Common Time/Morning Announcements

Athletes leave at 2:20 pm, 25 minutes of class missed
 Period 8 = 63, Period 7 = 62, Period 6 = 41

LUNCH SCHEDULE

	PERIOD 4 Days C, D, G	PERIOD 5 Days B, E, H	PERIOD 6 Days A, F
1st Lunch			
2nd Lunch			
3rd Lunch			

WHS OPTION 2 - CURRENT ROTATION SCHEDULE (8:30 – 3:15, 56 MINUTE BLOCK)

BLOCK	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1 8:30 – 9:26	3	1	2	1	4	2	1	2
2 9:31 – 10:27	4	2	1	2	3	1	2	1
3 10:32 – 11:28 **	5	6	3	3	6	5	3	3
4 11:37 – 1:13	6	5	4	4	5	6	4	5
5 1:18 – 2:14	7	8	7	5	8	7	8	4
6 2:19 – 3:15	8	7	8	6	7	8	7	6
DROP	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 & 6	7 & 8	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 & 6	7 & 8

** _____ Common Time/Morning Announcements

Athletes leave at 2:20 pm, miss entire period
 Period 8 = 63, Period 7 = 62, Period 6 = 41

LUNCH SCHEDULE

	PERIOD 4 Days C, D, G	PERIOD 5 Days B, E, H	PERIOD 6 Days A, F
1 st Lunch			
2 nd Lunch			
3 rd Lunch			

WHS OPTION 3 - CURRENT ROTATION SCHEDULE (8:35 – 3:20, 56 MINUTE BLOCK)

BLOCK	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1 8:35 – 9:31	3	1	2	1	4	2	1	2
2 9:36 – 10:32	4	2	1	2	3	1	2	1
3 10:37 – 11:33 **	5	6	3	3	6	5	3	3
4 11:42 – 1:18	6	5	4	4	5	6	4	5
LUNCH								
5 1:23- 2:19	7	8	7	5	8	7	8	4
6 2:24 – 3:20	8	7	8	6	7	8	7	6
DROP	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 & 6	7 & 8	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 & 6	7 & 8

** _____ Common Time/Morning Announcements

Athletes leave at 2:20 pm, miss entire period
 Period 8 = 63, Period 7 = 62, Period 6 = 41

LUNCH SCHEDULE

	PERIOD 4 Days C, D, G	PERIOD 5 Days B, E, H	PERIOD 6 Days A, F
1 st Lunch			
2 nd Lunch			
3 rd Lunch			

WHS (8:15 -2:45, 55 MINUTE BLOCK) - CURRENT ROTATION SCHEDULE

BLOCK	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1 8:15 – 9:10	3	1	2	1	4	2	1	2
2 9:15 – 10:10	4	2	1	2	3	1	2	1
3 10:15 – 11:10 **	5	6	3	3	6	5	3	3
4 11:15 – 12:45	6	5	4	4	5	6	4	5
LUNCH								
5 12:50 – 1:45	7	8	7	5	8	7	8	4
6 1:50 – 2:45	8	7	8	6	7	8	7	6
	21	20	21	21	21	21	21	20
DROP	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 & 6	7 & 8	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 & 6	7 & 8

** _____ Common Time/Morning Announcements

Athletes leave at 2:20 pm, 25 minutes of class missed
 Period 8 = 63, Period 7 = 62, Period 6 = 41

LUNCH SCHEDULE

	PERIOD 4 Days C, D, G	PERIOD 5 Days B, E, H	PERIOD 6 Days A, F
1 st Lunch			
2 nd Lunch			
3 rd Lunch			

DRG-A Start/End Times

DRG A -School	School Day			Change to start/end times
	Start	End	(Hours)	
Wilton	8:20 AM	2:50 PM	6:30	4-day rotation, 4-blocks daily, 8 periods
Staples	7:30 AM	2:15 PM	6:45	4-day rotation, 8 periods, drop 2
Ridgefield	7:25 AM	2:15 PM	6:50	8-day rotation 7/8, drop 1
Darien	7:40 AM	2:17 PM	6:37	8-day rotation, 7/8, drop 1
Joel Barlow	7:30 AM	2:08 PM	6:48	7-day rotation, 8 periods, drop 1
New Canaan	7:30 AM	2:05 PM	6:35	8-day rotation, drop 1
Weston	7:45 AM	2:30 PM	6:45	8-day rotation, drop 2

WHS CURRENT ROTATION SCHEDULE (7:45 – 2:30)

BLOCK	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1 7:45 – 8:41	3	1	2	1	4	2	1	2
2 8:46 – 9:42	4	2	1	2	3	1	2	1
3 9:47 – 10:43 **	5	6	3	3	6	5	3	3
4 10:52 – 12:28	6	5	4	4	5	6	4	5
LUNCH								
5 12:33 – 1:29	7	8	7	5	8	7	8	4
6 1:34 – 2:30	8	7	8	6	7	8	7	6
	21	20	21	21	21	21	21	20
DROP	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 & 6	7 & 8	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 & 6	7 & 8

**10:43-10:48 Common Time/Morning Announcements

Athletes leave at 2:20 pm, 10 minutes of class missed
 Period 8 = 63, Period 7 = 62, Period 6 = 41

LUNCH SCHEDULE

	PERIOD 4 Days C, D, G	PERIOD 5 Days B, E, H	PERIOD 6 Days A, F
1 st Lunch 10:52-11:22			
2 nd Lunch 11:25-11:55			
3 rd Lunch 11:58-12:28			

WHS NEW ROTATION SCHEDULE (7:45 – 2:30)

BLOCK	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1 7:45 – 8:41	1	7	5	3	2	8	6	4
2 8:46 – 9:42	2	8	6	4	1	7	5	3
3 9:47 – 10:43 **	3	1	7	5	4	2	8	6
4 10:52 – 12:28	4	2	8	6	3	1	7	5
LUNCH								
5 12:33 – 1:29	5	3	1	7	6	4	2	8
6 1:34 – 2:30	6	4	2	8	5	3	1	7
	21	20	21	21	21	21	21	20
DROP	7 & 8	5 & 6	3 & 4	1 & 2	7 & 8	5 & 6	3 & 4	1 & 2

**10:43-10:48 Common Time/Morning Announcements

Athletes leave at 2:20 pm, 10 minutes of class missed

LUNCH SCHEDULE

	PERIOD 4 Days C, D, G	PERIOD 5 Days B, E, H	PERIOD 6 Days A, F
1st Lunch 10:52-11:22			
2nd Lunch 11:25-11:55			
3rd Lunch 11:58-12:28			

Introduction to SS/ET Options Survey
DRAFT
Version: December 5, 2019

I. Background

The Weston Public Schools (WPS) has been considering the idea of changing start/end times for the past several years. In November 2017, the Board of Education (BOE) received a comprehensive statement on the pros and cons of changing bell times. (Document available at this link: [11-14-17 School Start/End Times Document](#).) In Spring 2019, comprehensive surveys were conducted of WPS parents and employees, which indicated support for continued exploration of change to start/end times. (The full report on the survey is available at this link: <https://meeting.cabe.org/public/Meeting.aspx?PublicAgencyID=47&PublicMeetingID=6942&AgencyTypeID=1>.)

Most recently, in September 2019, the BOE was presented with the preliminary work plan for the School Start/End Times Task Force, an advisory body to the Superintendent established to help develop a recommendation on changing the district's bell schedules. The Task Force work plan spells out organizational details (membership, resource groups, guidelines and schedule) and an analytical framework (guiding questions, analytical priorities, research and information base). The September 2019 memorandum is available at this link: <https://meeting.cabe.org/public/Meeting.aspx?PublicAgencyID=47&PublicMeetingID=7383&AgencyTypeID=1>

The Task Force members:

Membership:

Bill McKersie, Superintendent
Ken Crow, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Phil Cross, Director of Finance & Operations
Lisa Wolak, Principal, Weston High School (Upper Schools Perspective)
Laura Kaddis, Principal, Hurlbutt Elementary School (Lower Schools Perspective)
Mark Berkowitz, Athletic Director
Stacy Slater, WHS School Psychologist, WTA Representative for Upper Schools Perspective
Erin Merrifield, First Grade Teacher, WTA Representative for Lower Schools Perspective
Kim Spangler, Paraeducator, AFSCME Representative
Jenny Walsh, PTO Representative for Upper Schools Perspective
Kristen Ancker, PTO Representative for Lower Schools Perspective
Joe Parciasepe, Program Director for Weston Parks & Recreation, Town of Weston Representative

Introduction to SS/ET Options Survey
DRAFT
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II. Leading School Start/End Time Options

Working diligently since late September, the SS/ET Task Force has helped the Superintendent identify a series of leading options for school start/end times in the WPS. Drawing on research and experiences in other districts and communities, the leading options balance three broad considerations:

1. Findings from medical research on the optimal school start time for adolescents -- Research suggests starting middle and high schools as late as 9:00-9:30 a.m. However, districts dedicated to later start/end times have typically focused on start times ranging from 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Start times later than 8:30 a.m. have usually been ruled out due to negative consequences for instructional time, co-curricular and after-school programming, non-school youth programming, and family evening schedules.
2. Educational structural requirements and needs -- The daily bell schedule substantially shapes the ability to provide robust curricular and co-curricular educational programs. Structural elements linked to bell schedules include academic schedules and time, after-school program schedules and time, district transportation effectiveness and efficiency, town and regional traffic effectiveness and efficiency, and school and district financial resources.
3. Family schedules and needs -- Families are dependent for their own healthy functioning and the management of job obligations on the daily timing of school, including before-school options, the formal school day, and after-school programs.

The Superintendent has concluded, with confirmation from the Task Force, that a major non-negotiable shapes the range of school start/end time options for Weston: the WPS must retain the current two-tier school and transportation schedule, with at least 45 minutes between tiers. One tier groups the lower schools (HES and WIS) by bell schedule and busing; the other tier groups the upper schools (WMS and WHS) by bell schedule and busing.

Two factors make the two-tier structure non-negotiable: finances and traffic. In terms of finances, expanding the tiers, or collapsing them to shorter spacing (less than 45 minutes), would require more buses, which cost approximately \$70,000. In terms of traffic, we have a significant traffic flow impediment to more tightly coupled tiers. School Road is the only way to reach all schools, and there are only two access points to School Road, requiring ample time between tiers

Introduction to SS/ET Options Survey
DRAFT
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to minimize traffic congestion on campus from cars and buses. The modification of tiers for bell schedules and busing has been a major variable for other districts when adopting later school start/end times.¹

Specific Options²

The five leading options for school start/end times in the WPS are listed below in detail. The ordering should not be seen as a priority--instead, the ordering starts with the current schedule and then moves from the earliest to latest start/end times for the upper schools.

Option 1 (Current Schedule) (Length of School Day = 6:45)

WMS/WHS 7:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (First Pickup: 6:50 a.m.; Last Drop: 3:15 p.m.)
HES/WIS 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:45 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:10 p.m.)

Option 2 (15/20 mins delay) (Length of School Day = 6:45)

WMS/WHS 8:00 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:05 a.m.; Last Drop: 3:30 p.m.)
HES/WIS 8:50 a.m. - 3:35 p.m. (First Pickup: 8:05 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:30 p.m.)

Option 3 (30/35 mins delay) (Length of School Day = 6:15)

WMS/WHS 8:15 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:20 a.m.; Last Drop: 3:45 p.m.)
HES/WIS 9:05 a.m. - 3:50 p.m. (First Pickup: 8:20 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:45 p.m.)

Option 4 (45/50 mins delay) (Length of School Day = 6:45)

WMS/WHS 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:35 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:00 p.m.)
HES/WIS 9:20 a.m. - 4:05 p.m. (First Pickup: 8:35 a.m.; Last Drop: 5:00 p.m.)

Option 5 (Current Flipped) (Length of School Day = 6:45)

HES/WIS 7:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (First Pickup: 6:50 a.m.; Last Drop: 3:15 p.m.)
WMS/WHS 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:45 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:10 p.m.)

¹ Other local districts and communities (i.e., Norwalk and Greenwich) have adopted new bell schedules with collapsed tiers and bus schedules. They have been able to handle the added financial cost (annually \$450,000 and \$1.2 million, respectively), and the geography of their schools mitigate the types of on-campus traffic problems that would result from tightly coupled tiers in Weston.

² THIS FOOTNOTE IS SOLELY FOR REVIEW PHASE BY CABINET & TASK FORCE MEMBERS. It will be removed before introduction is final. OPTIONS have been changed from the initial planning documents for the Task Force. They have been reordered to be "by the clock," running from the earliest through the latest start/end time for MS/HS. We also have added a new option, a new Option 3 (highlighted). This new option will be presented by Ken Craw, Lisa Wolak and Laura Kaddis at the 12.6.19 Task Force Meeting.

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III. Survey Purpose, Methods and Schedule

The Superintendent and Task Force have concluded that it is essential to survey parents, staff and students (grades 6-12) on the WPS's five leading options for school start/end times. Entitled *SS/ET Options Survey*, the new survey builds on last year's survey (Spring 2019) and a series of parent and staff focus groups being conducted by Task Force members. The *SS/ET Options Survey* is not a "vote;" it will be one of several sets of information the Superintendent and Task Force consider in making a recommendation to the BOE. The survey will provide a wide base of stakeholders a direct, anonymous means to share feedback on the various options. Similar surveys have been critical to the decision making in other districts and communities considering a change to their bell schedules.

The *SS/ET Options Survey* is focused on only several questions--all aimed at securing feedback on the five leading options. Given the breadth of the information obtained in the Spring 2019 survey, we are able to keep the new survey focused on start/end time options. One lengthy question in the *SS/ET Options Survey* ties back to information from the Spring 2019 Survey. In that survey we gathered feedback on the considerations for WPS constituents regarding changes to school start/end times (considerations ranging from improvement to student health and well-being to impact on athletics, after-school programs and family schedules). The new survey asks respondents to indicate which of these same considerations are most important in their rating and ranking of the five leading options.

The *SS/ET Options Survey* is an online instrument, using the SurveyMonkey platform. All questions are required to complete. All but one are scale or numeric questions, with a final question providing an opportunity for sharing narrative comments. While we require knowing the affiliation of each respondent (i.e., parent, staff or student, and by upper or lower school level), all responses are anonymous. Analysis and reports of survey results will be conducted and shared such that individual responses are in aggregate. The only differentiation would be by broad groupings: parent, staff, student and upper or lower school level. Gauging feedback amongst these various subgroups is essential--we know from experience and research on school start/end times that there can be significant differences in perspective based on one's role in a district and school level (student age).

IV. Final Word

We encourage all parents, staff and middle and upper school students to complete the *SS/ET Options Survey*. We estimate it will take seven minutes to complete (beyond reading this cover memo). To repeat, the survey is not a "vote" on school start/end times, but will be an essential

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resource for the Superintendent, Task Force and ultimately the BOE in determining future plans for bell schedules in the WPS.

As currently scheduled, the BOE will receive a recommendation regarding school start/end times for the 2020-21 School Year at its meeting on February 24, 2020. It is anticipated that the BOE will deliberate for at least two meeting cycles, with a vote on April 27, 2020. The intent would be to implement any new school start/end times in Fall 2020.



COPY 12/6/19

School Start/End Time Options Survey (12-2019)

DRAFT

Introduction

We encourage all parents, staff and middle and upper school students to complete the SS/ET Options Survey. We estimate it will take 7 minutes to complete. The survey is not a “vote” on school start/end times but will be an essential resource for the Superintendent, Task Force and ultimately the BOE in determining future plans for bell schedules in the WPS.

As currently scheduled, the BOE will receive a recommendation regarding school start/end times for the 2020-21 School Year at its meeting on February 24, 2020. It is anticipated that the BOE will deliberate for at least two meeting cycles, with a vote on April 27, 2020. The intent would be to implement any new school start/end times in Fall 2020.

The survey while accessible on all devices is most easily read through a desktop computer browser (Chrome, Firefox, Safari).

OK



School Start/End Time Options Survey (12-2019)

Role Classification

Please note that based on your role you will be presented with specific survey pages. All pages are not displayed for all respondents.

OK

* 1: Please indicate your role in the school district.
(Select One)

- Parent
- Staff
- Student

Note: If you are both a parent and a staff member



School Start/End Time Options Survey (12-2019)

Staff Classification

2. Staff, please indicate if which school level you are associated with. (Select One)

- Upper Schools (WMS & WHS)
- Lower Schools (HES & WIS)

Note: If you work at both levels and your responses would be different based on the perspective of those levels you may take the survey twice. Once from each perspective.

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School Start/End Time Options Survey (12-2019)

Specific Option Ranking

These questions ask for feedback on five leading options for school start/end times in the Weston Public Schools. They are listed below in detail. The ordering should not be seen as a priority--it starts with the current schedule and then lists each option from the earliest to latest start/end times for the upper schools. Using the slider please rank your preference for each of the options low to the left and high to the right.

* **3. Option 1 (Current Schedule) (Length of School Day = 6:45)**

WMS/WHS 7:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (First Pickup: 6:50 a.m.; Last Drop: 3:15 p.m.)

HES/WIS 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:45 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:10 p.m.)

Low



High

*** 4. Option 2 (15/20 mins delay) (Length of School Day = 6:45)**

WMS/WHS 8:00 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:05 a.m.; Last Drop: 3:30 p.m.)

HES/WIS 8:50 a.m. - 3:35 p.m. (First Pickup: 8:05 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:30 p.m.)

Low High

*** 5. Option 3 (30/35 mins delay) (Length of School Day = 6:30)**

WMS/WHS 8:15 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:20 a.m.; Last Drop: 3:45 p.m.)

HES/WIS 9:05 a.m. - 3:35 p.m. (First Pickup: 8:20 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:45 p.m.)

Low High

*** 6. Option 4 (45/50 mins delay) (Length of School Day = 6:45)**

WMS/WHS 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:35 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:00 p.m.)

HES/WIS 9:20 a.m. - 4:05 p.m. (First Pickup: 8:35 a.m.; Last Drop: 5:00 p.m.)

Low High

*** 7. Option 5 (Current Flipped) (Length of School Day = 6:45)**

HES/WIS 7:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (First Pickup: 6:50 a.m.; Last Drop: 3:15 p.m.)

WMS/WHS 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:45 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:10 p.m.)

Low High

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See how easy it is to [create a survey](#).



School Start/End Time Options Survey (12-2019)

Additional Questions

- * 8. **Please rank order the five options, with one (1) being your top choice.** To begin SS/ET Time Options are displayed in random order. Using the number drop down to the left or by dragging the options up and down indicate your order preference (one is your top choice).

Option 1 (Current Schedule) (Length of School Day = 6:45)



WMS/WHS 7:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (First Pickup: 6:50 a.m; Last Drop: 3:15 p.m.)
HES/WIS 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:45 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:10 p.m.)

Option 4 (45/50 mins delay) (Length of School Day = 6:45)



WMS/WHS 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:35 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:00 p.m.)
HES/WIS 9:20 a.m. - 4:05 p.m. (First Pickup: 8:35 a.m.; Last Drop: 5:00 p.m.)



Option 3 (30/35 mins delay) (Length of School Day = 6:30)

WMS/WHS 8:15 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:20 a.m.; Last Drop: 3:45 p.m.)
 HES/WIS 9:05 a.m. - 3:35 p.m. (First Pickup: 8:20 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:45 p.m.)



Option 5 (Current Flipped) (Length of School Day = 6:45)

HES/WIS 7:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (First Pickup: 6:50 a.m.; Last Drop: 3:15 p.m.)
 WMS/WHS 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:45 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:10 p.m.)



Option 2 (15/20 mins delay) (Length of School Day = 6:45)

WMS/WHS 8:00 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. (First Pickup: 7:05 a.m.; Last Drop: 3:30 p.m.)
 HES/WIS 8:50 a.m. - 3:35 p.m. (First Pickup: 8:05 a.m.; Last Drop: 4:30 p.m.)

* 9. In rating and then ranking the five options (questions #5-10), which of the following considerations were important to you? Scale 1-5 (with 5 high)

	Low (1)	2	3	4	High (5)
Impact on athletic scheduling and opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on non-WPS after-school programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Low (1)	2	3	4	High (5)
Impact on family routines (including commuting to work)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on elementary students (HES/WIS) having to start later (8:50 a.m., 9:05 a.m. or 9:20 a.m.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on elementary students (HES/WIS) having to start earlier (7:45 a.m.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on non-athletic WPS after-school programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on child care arrangements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on potential early dismissals for WMS/WHS co-curricular activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Low (1)	2	3	4	High (5)
Impact on student transportation arrangements to and from school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on after school job opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on WPS budget	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on WPS teachers and administrators (change in their schedules)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on WPS goals, priorities and initiatives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on middle school and high school attendance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on sleep time for adolescents (middle and high schoolers)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Low (1)	2	3	4	High (5)
Impact on middle school and high school tardiness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on middle school and high school homework completion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on middle school and high school academic success	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on student mental and emotional health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on student physical health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on student behavior issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impact on student safety traveling to and from school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



School Start/End Time Options Survey (12-2019)

Final Question

Open-Ended Question

10. Please share any other priority comments or concerns for you or your family. (Optional)

Priority
Comment 1

Priority
Comment 2

Priority
Comment 3

PREV

DONE

8 of 12 answered