

# **School Start Times Committee 2019**

# AGENDA and MINUTES

Date: October 1, 2019; (6:30-8:00 PM)

**Location: District Services Center, Community Room** 

**Committee Members Attending:** Amy Einolf, LeeAnn Haberle, Amy Harwick, Christy Micucci, Tonya St. Clair, Leigh Ann Staudenmeier, Bethany Tuck, Dean Wackerman, Jenn Woods

District Staff in Support: Nancianne Edwards, Dr. Lisa Hoffman, Mattias van't Hoenderdaal, Dr. Harner

Unable to Attend: Kara Diliberto, Diane Richino, Dean Wackerman, Jenn Woods

Meeting Objectives: Orient the committee to the committee purpose and plan the committee's future work

### Schedule [90 mins]

Time	Mins.	Activity
6:30 to- 6:50 pm	20	Welcome and Introductions
		Please introduce yourself, share which building(s) your child(ren) attend, and share one or two sentences about (1) why you volunteered to serve on this committee, and (2) what committee success looks like to you, (3) how familiar you are with the topic already.
		Parents introduced themselves. The parents who attended represent graduates, high school, middle school, and elementary students. Reasons for volunteering include to learn, to be involved, and experience with issues caused by a lack of sleep. Committee members define success as having input, thoroughly examining the issue, making a student-centered recommendation, learning more about the research, and reaching the optimal decision for recommendation to the Board. Most parents reported having limited familiarity with the topic and research.
6:50 to	10	Committee Purpose
7:00 pm		The Board Goal for this work states:
		Create a parent committee to analyze school start times and costs and make recommendations to the Board by February 1, 2020.
		From our individual committee success definitions, is there anything we need to add to refine or provide more detail to our purpose?
		Suggested Norms:
		We will start on time and end on time to be respectful of the committee members' time.

We will plan each meeting to have an agenda and clear objectives to maximize the effectiveness of our time together.

We will engage in respectful dialogue, recognizing that reasonable people may disagree on substantive issues.

Nancianne explained that the timeline reflected the latest date that the Board could consider the committee's recommendation and be able to make a change for the 2020-21 school year. This is due to the district's budget timeline, and also the lead time required to purchase additional buses if that is necessary based on the committee's recommendation. Depending on how the committee chooses to approach its work, it may not be feasible to develop a recommendation and stakeholder input by February 1, in which case any recommendations for change would not be able to be implemented until the 2021-22 school year.

## Report on Amy Golden workshop at the IU - Dean Wackerman

Dean attended the workshop at the Bucks IU last week along with Nancianne, Dr. Hoffman, Mr. van't Hoenderdaal, and Lori Christine, a teacher at the high school. In Dean's absence, Nancianne and Lisa shared the key information and takeaways from Mrs. Golden's presentation. The slides are posted in the Team Drive and linked HERE.

The state commissioned a committee at the state level to research this issue and report back. The state committee's report will be released on October 17, with a presentation at the Bucks IU on the report on October 22. Committee members are invited to attend on the 22. Nancianne will post the report as soon as it is available on October 17 so the committee can review it.

How should we approach this work? Some questions to be considered:

Does our committee have the necessary representation to address the needs of all stakeholders? Who else should be included?

Parents who volunteered represent all levels (elementary, middle, and high school.) Committee members also serve as booster club officers, serve on the Youth Aid Panel, and are involved in community sports and other organizations. Additional booster club, QMPO, and coach participation would be helpful as the committee's work moves forward.

What are the needs for community education? For committee education?

#### Is the timeline realistic?

Nancianne explained that the timeline reflected the latest date that the Board could consider the committee's recommendation and be able to make a change for the 2020-21 school year. This is due to the district's budget timeline, and also the lead time required to purchase additional buses if that is necessary based on the committee's recommendation. Depending on how the committee chooses to approach its work, it may not be feasible to develop a recommendation and stakeholder input by February 1, in which case any recommendations for change would not be able to be implemented until the 2021-22 school year.

# How should we assess the community's opinions on this topic? Community survey? Other options?

See discussion below about plans to survey students, parents, and teachers.

# There is a large body of research available in the Team Drive - how would the committee like to approach reading then digesting that material?

Committee members will begin to read the materials available in the Team Drive, many of which were collected by the Bucks IU to support districts in their examination of start times

Other questions the committee identified for future discussion are:

What are the policy implications of making a change?

How would a start time change impact athletic practices and game schedules?

What is the benefit of studying this issue at this time? Why now?

What would the goals be of making a change? More sleep? Fewer mental health referrals? Other benefits?

How is Radnor collecting data on effectiveness? Will they have mid-year data available for the committee to learn from?

How would a change affect after school clubs and activities?

How would a change affect students' ability to have after-school jobs?

How would a change impact available time in the afternoon and the ability to have a family dinner/family time consistently?

How would a change affect the tech school?

### **Schedule of Work and Future Meeting Dates**

The committee discussed potential dates for the next meeting and decided on Tuesday, October 15 at 6:30 p.m. Nancianne will ask Heidi to send a Doodle Poll to determine feasible dates for late October, November, early December, and January. Committee members were open to holding meetings on different nights going forward, but other dates around October 15 did not work. We will try to facilitate remote participation in the work for committee members who may not be able to attend.

## **Assignments for the October 15th Meeting**

The committee asked the administration to:

- 1. Create a blank <u>decision matrix</u> document the committee can use to track criteria and options
- Create a shared google doc for the committee to post transportation questions to share with Levy bus (prior to have Levy's representatives in attendance or more detailed work on options)
- 3. Obtain some valid survey samples the committee can use to craft surveys for students, parents, and teachers on this topic (committee members volunteered to do this work, below)
- 4. Share the current layout of our schools in terms of <u>start and end times</u> and <u>length</u> of day
- 5. Collect general information about athletics for each season typical practice

times and game times
Amy E. will share a UK study she referenced with Heidi for inclusion in the Team Drive. Leigh Ann S. will contact Rachel Holler at the IU to obtain information about surveys other districts may have conducted.
Amy E., Christy and LeeAnn H. will reach out to the other districts in the state that have changed their start time to see if they have survey instruments we can review.
The committee's primary objective for the next meeting is to review survey samples and finalize valid survey instruments to share with students, parents, and teachers. Understanding whether this is an issue for our community is important before deciding how to proceed.
Public Comment
There were no members of the public in attendance. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.