

The Board of Education seeks review and evaluation of daily high school start and closing hours. The following provides a discussion outline for this issue.

Issue:

Examine alternatives to the current early start times for high schools.

Current Timing Practice:

- 1) All high schools open at 7:17 a.m. and close at 1:55 p.m. The length of day is 6 hours and 38 minutes. Simultaneous start time coordinates instructional services at CAT-N and CAT-S.
- 2) Elementary and middle schools close between 2:15 p.m. and 3:50 p.m. Daily hours total 6.25 and 6.5 hours respectfully.
- 3) School start times are generally determined by the Transportation Division, subject to established parameters. Timing coordination is critical to cost maintenance.

Options:

- 1) Universal Shift:
Concept: Delay the opening and closing time for all schools. For example, delay the start time for all schools by 15 minutes
Impact: Transport cost is ZERO.
"Sleep" benefit
Closing times window extended from 3:50 to 4:05 p.m.
Community and Activities Impact
Implementation and Timing Considerations: (Good)
- 2) Assign High School at "End of Shift":
Concept: Start high schools after 9:30 a.m. and close at 4:10 p.m. Match CAT Center hours.
Impact: Transport cost is marginal
"Sleep" science issue addressed
Minimal impact on hours at ES and MS
Transport Safety Advantage
Community and Activities Impact
Implementation and Timing Considerations: (Good)
- 3) Expand Transport Capacity:
Concept: Delay HS opening time by 45 minutes. Adjust all other closing times with 4:00 p.m. as latest closing hour. Secure additional equipment and personnel
Impact: Transport cost is significant. \$3-\$4 million per annum
"Sleep" benefit
Modest Impact on hours at ES and MS
Transport Safety Advantage
Community and Activities Impact
Implementation and Timing Considerations: (Poor)

Anne Arundel County Public Schools
 Department of Business and Management Services
 Transportation Division
 Timing Services Outline
 July 2005 (Option 4 Added October 2005)

- 4) “Switch” Elementary and High School Operational Hours:
 Concept: Move elementary school operating hours from current position to the “first” timing position and delay high school hours to the time period currently occupied by elementary schools.

Background Information: Two implementation options are provided below. The following illustrates magnitude: There are 400 buses available. There are approximately 400 high school, 460 middle school and 600 twice-daily elementary school trips. In other words, resources required to service each are not equal, meaning that they are not entirely interchangeable.

Option A: Time Sequence Model: Limited Additional Time and Mileage, No Equipment Increase
 Elementary 400: 7:30 a.m. delivery; 7:45 a.m. opening; 2:00 p.m. closing.
 Elementary 200: 9:30 a.m. delivery; 9:45 a.m. opening; 4:00 p.m. closing
 Middle 400: 7:55 a.m. delivery; 8:05 a.m. opening; 2:35 p.m. closing.
 Middle 60: 9:20 a.m. delivery; 9:30 a.m. opening; 4:00 p.m. closing.
 High 400: 8:20 a.m. delivery; 8:40 a.m. opening; 3:25 p.m. closing

Impact: Annual transport cost: \$325,000 (additional .5 hours for 200 buses)
 “Sleep” benefit addressed for HS
 Modest Impact on hours at MS, But 4:00 p.m. Closing is Required at 4 Middle Schools
 Significant Adjustment Needed for ES Hours, Including 4:00 p.m. Closing for 33% of ES
 Transport Safety Advantage: Negative (Relative Darkness Exposure, ES v HS)
 Community and Activities Impact
 Implementation and Timing Considerations: (Average)

Option B: Time Sequence Model: Secure 65 Additional Buses

Time sequence is similar to Option A above, EXCEPT that the Elementary 200 and the Middle 60 would be serviced within any determined 1.5-hour closing window. For example:

Middle 60 7:50 a.m. delivery; 8:00 a.m. opening; 2:30 p.m. closing.
 Elementary 5 8:00 a.m. delivery; 8:15 a.m. opening; 2:30 p.m. closing.
 Elementary 65 8:30 a.m. delivery; 8:45 a.m. opening; 3:00 p.m. closing
 Elementary 65 9:00 a.m. delivery; 9:15 a.m. opening; 3:30 p.m. closing.
 Elementary 65 9:30 a.m. delivery; 9:45 a.m. opening; 4:00 p.m. closing.

Impact: Annual transport cost: \$3.25M (additional 65 Buses at \$50,000 each per year.)
 “Sleep” benefit addressed for HS
 Model Permits 2:30 to 3:00 Close Consideration at All Middle Schools
 Significant Adjustment Needed for ES Hours, Including 4:00 P.M. Closing at 11% of ES
 Transport Safety Advantage: Negative (Relative Darkness Exposure, ES v HS)
 Community and Activities Impact
 Implementation and Timing: (Challenging: Procurement Timing, Risk, Personnel)