

School Start Times Task Force

Meeting 8—July 10, 2014

Minutes

Members Attending: F. Chaney, P. Bukowski, C. Truffer, T. Tudor, H. MacIntosh, W. McIntire

Absent Members: M. McMahon, K. Lane, D. Batten, F. Chaney, K. Chandler, W. Meyers, C. Streeter, J. Horstkamp, K. Snyder

Also in Attendance: L. Grey-Hawkins (recorder), P. Crain

This meeting was hosted as an Adobe Connect/teleconference meeting to provide **an overview of the AACPS Hybrid Learning Start Time Option**. This meeting was attended by a limited number of Task Force members and provided an introduction to the Hybrid Learning Start Time Option that Kathy Lane introduced during Meeting 7.

Lauren Grey-Hawkins led the introduction by outlining the following components of this option:

- Through this option, all students would have a delayed start time of 30 minutes, exactly like the 30 minute late for all option that we discussed earlier.
- In addition, high school students needing more sleep could choose to participate in a hybrid learning schedule. These hybrid learning students (approximately 20% of the study body at any given school) would:
 - Arrive to school ½ way through 2nd period—starting the school day 110 minutes later than students with a traditional schedule. During the second half of second period, students would have a “skinny” period that functioned as the in-person component of their hybrid courses.
 - Take 2 Hybrid courses, taught by an AACPS teacher, that include both an online component (completed on a student’s own time) and an in-person component (to be completed at school with peers in skinny period – half-way through period 2, daily).
 - Take four traditional courses at school on an A/B-day schedule;
 - Take 1-2 courses virtually, completely online. With this option, hybrid learning students could choose to take 7 or 8 classes each semester. These online courses would be managed by an AACPS employee and offered by a third-party virtual learning platform.
- If more than 20% of the student body wanted to participate in the hybrid-learning option (highly unlikely), then we may have to approach this as a program of choice option and it may need to go to lottery – there is much more to be discussed about this option.

Lauren stressed that this option was still in its early stages of development and was being developed as an option in addition to the other start time options being considered by the Task Force.

Overall, the members of the Task Force present agreed that the option was unique and expressed interested in the idea. They also agreed that there were still questions to be considered to ensure equity for all students. Specifically, how can we ensure equity for students who do not have access to a home computer and/or do not have access to internet? How can we support diverse learners so that all students succeed in the program? How do we present this non-traditional option to the community? Should the school system purchase tablets or computers for students who participate in this option?

Lauren closed the meeting with agreement that there are many valid questions to be answered and the assurance that the Task Force would be able to revisit and discuss this hybrid learning option at Meeting 9 and beyond.

Next meeting:

August 12, 2014

5:00-7:00 pm

Anne Arundel County Public Schools

Center III

2644 Riva Rd

Annapolis, MD 21401.