

## School start time committee minutes

September 24, 2015

Present: Deirdre d'Albertis, Laura Schulkind, Joe Phelan, Tom Burnell, Diane Lyons

Guest: Mr. Paul Finch superintendent of Red Hook schools

The committee discussed possible ways to gather student feedback. One idea was to have a debate at the high school discussing the issue. This could be videotaped for the students to view. The idea of surveys at both schools tailored to the different ages was discussed. Joe will discuss this with the building principals.

The committee would like to do a phone survey to get parent feedback. Tom said it is possible to do with our system he will look into the details.

Of the three scenarios for changing to a later start time the committee back in June eliminated two of these options.

1- Single tripping system. This would mean all three schools starting at approximately the same time with students K-12 riding the same busses. This option would add additional cost to the district

2- Flipping the start time of the HS/MS with the elementary school. This option has no financial impacts but is seen as too disruptive to elementary students and would negatively affect before and after school programs at all buildings

The committee feels that a slight shift to a later time is the best possibility and would like to continue to pursue this option. This would mean shifting the BMS/RHS schedule 30 minutes later and pushing CLS roughly 15 minutes later. That would give BMS/RHS an 8am start time and 2:46 end time and CLS a 9:10 start time and 3:40 end time. The committee would like the full board to give permission to consider pursuing this option. If the full board is in support of continuing on this path the committee would like to proceed in the following way.

1 –During December's BOE meeting the committee would present all the information gathered to this point. Instead of making a video this meeting would be filmed and the video could be shown to the public as a separate clip. Any recommended change would be piloted first and reevaluated after a year.

2-After the December meeting the committee would send out surveys to parents/staff and students to gather feedback. The committee would also reach out to the ESL families.

3-In the spring, reassess the bus situation and how a shift would affect our current bus routes. Additional busses may be necessary for afternoon runs and sports runs. It would be very important to review this carefully given the difficulties the district experienced this year.

The committee next meets Oct 15<sup>th</sup> 2015.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Lyons