

## High School Start Time Advisory Meeting

12/03/18

ITC

6:00 -7:30

Present: Anna Stubblefield, Christina Holt, Rick Ingram, Cynthia Eubanks, Sam Rabiola, Gabriel Dalton, Matthew Ellis, Peter Karman, Allison Smith, Justin Anderson, Randy Clark, Vanessa Sanburn, Charlotte Anderson, Mark Preut, Rick Henry, Sandy (via Zoom)

### Welcome

Dr. Stubblefield welcomed the group and explained the task for the night: reviewing the raw data from Patron Insight Survey

### Review of Survey Data (minus phone survey data and responses to open-ended questions)

Dr. Stubblefield shared requested information with the group regarding how much the school year would be extended under different scenarios, and reviewed transportation costs:

- If school started at 8:30am, but ended at the same time, that would add about 8 additional days to the school year and cost between \$200,000-\$300,000.
- If school started at 9:00am, but ended at the same time, that would add approximately 17 days to the school year.
- If we had 1-3 options 7:00AM, 8:00AM, and 9:00AM and only ran buses at 9:00AM we save approximately \$200,000. If we ran buses at 8:00AM and 9:00AM it would cost us approximately \$50,000. If we did not run two routes and provided T bus passes, we could potentially have a cost savings if we ran buses at 9:00AM.

Rick Ingram stated that in the past the city has been open to altering "T" routes to accommodate the school district.

A change in number of school days would need to be negotiated with LEA and would have additional costs. Would also need to explore ramifications for middle school and elementary school schedules.

Peter K. asked how many staff members work at each HS as well as enrolled students. Dr. Stubblefield indicated that 350 staff responses indicate an excellent response rate. 3400 -3500 high school students and approximately 2500 middle school students.

### Reflections/Questions about the raw data

- It is assumed by the group that if a person indicated a preference in a 9:00 start time, then that person would also favor an 8:30 start time.

### Reflections/Questions about the raw data (cont'd)

- There was discussion regarding how a later start time would affect sports practices. Would practices be shifted to before school? Anna indicated that, if the group wished, we could add a recommendation to our recommendation to the board to prevent activities from starting earlier than 7am (or whenever).
- More students may participate in zero hour if school starts later (due to its later start).
- Matthew Ellis stated he feels like there needs to be a schedule redesign committee to look at the entire scope of high school schedules. Some others echoed this sentiment. Rick Ingram shared this issue of school start time has been discussed for 3.5 years, and we now have data. His view is that we need to focus on the purpose of the committee: to look at school start time.
- This survey is not inclusive of the phone survey. The responses included in this report were obtained through surveys emailed to parents as well as promoted on facebook.
- The phone survey will be more representative, as it will include equal numbers of respondents from each quadrant of the city.
- Some schools that have implemented later start times have formed mitigation committees to help with overcoming obstacles. If school start time changes to a later start time, it's possible that another committee would need to form to help create guidelines and policies.
- Sidebar: one committee member indicated that if the school district really wants to help parents, then synchronizing student days off from school would be extremely helpful.
- The Patron Insight phone data as well as interpretations of that data should hopefully be available from PI by Friday of this week. Because the survey results have been delayed, we will not meet on December 10 and will move our next meeting to January 7 from 6:00 - 7:30.
- To be respectful of the group's time, a writing committee will work on wordsmithing of the recommendation to the Board. This committee will meet prior to the next meeting. Volunteers for this committee: Julie Henry, Gabriel Dalton, and Jay Buzhardt. Sam Rabola indicated he would be willing to help if additional help is needed.
- The school board has meetings on 1/14 and 1/28, and it is possible they could also schedule a special meeting, if needed.
- Christina offered to send out a brief SurveyMonkey survey ranking of the three choices to the committee members that committee members can respond to after they have reviewed the full data from Patron Insights. This will serve as a "straw poll" for where committee members are going into our January meeting, so we can focus our time appropriately. During the meeting, further discussion will be held, and a formal vote to inform the recommendation to the board will be taken. Any committee members not in attendance at that meeting can email Christina with their vote prior to the meeting.

### **Next Meeting-**

- December 10<sup>th</sup>- CANCELLED
- January 7<sup>th</sup> (Dawn Downing will send out calendar invite)