

**GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GREENWICH, CT**

SUMMARY OF SCHOOL START TIME OPTIONS
September 10, 2015, Second Edition

The following are the six school start time options currently under consideration for Greenwich Public Schools. This document consists of two parts.

The first part is a list of the six school start time options that are currently being considered. The first three options were taken from the GPS School Start Time Survey administered in Spring 2015. Options 1-4 are based on the research of case studies in the US. These are the options most frequently used by other districts that have revised their high school start time. The fifth and sixth option were generated as a result of the work of the School Start Time Steering Committee.

The second part of this document includes the variables and implications that are being examined relative to each of the six options. These are key areas that the School Start Time Steering Committee will be analyzing in order to develop recommendations.

Option 1A and 1B

1A) Switch Elementary School and High School Start Time Or 1B) Switch Elementary School and Middle School or High School Start Time

1A) Elementary	7:30	1B) Elementary	7:30 or 7:45
Middle School	No Change	Middle School	8:15 or 8:45
High School	8:15 or 8:45	High School	8:15 or 8:45

Districts that have implemented this strategy: Pulaski County, AK; Bentonville, AK; Wilton, CT; Milford County, DE; Harlem, IL; Fayette County, KY; Mahtomedi, MN; Bedford County, VA*

Option 2(A-E)

Switch Entire District Start Time by at least 30 Minutes Later with Start Time Options in 15 Minute Increments Ranging from 30 Minutes to 90 Minutes Later

OPTION	2A	2B	2C	2D	2E
High School	8:00-2:45	8:15-3:00	8:30-3:15	8:45-3:30	9:00-3:45
Middle School	8:15-3:05	8:30-3:20	8:45-3:35	9:00-3:50	9:15-4:05
Elementary School*	8:45-3:15	9:00-3:30	9:15-3:45	9:30-4:00	9:45-4:15
	9:15-3:45	9:30-4:00	9:45-4:15	10:00- 4:30	10:15-4:45

* Reflects the current practice of two start and end times for elementary schools

Districts that have implemented this strategy: North Andover, MA; Brunswick County, ME (elementary schools were only shifted 15 minutes later); Hudson County, OH*
Districts that have implemented this strategy: Long Beach Unified SD, CA; Holyoke PS, MA*

Option 3

Flexible Start Time and Extended School Day by One Block at the High School

(Students have the option of starting the school day one period later and ending later)

Districts that have implemented this strategy: Denver, CO; West Hartford, CT*

Option 4 (not on survey)

Switch High School Start Time Later

(All other school start/end times remain the same)

Districts that have implemented this strategy: Colorado Springs, CO; Santa Rosa County, FL; Marion County, FL; Bonneville Joint School District, ID; Needham, MA; Edina, MN; Moore County, NC; North Clackamas, OR; Dallas, TX; Austin, TX*

Option 5 (not on survey)

Recharge Schedule

(There would be a delayed opening one day a week on a designated day. For example- Every Wednesday high school start time would begin 2 hours later)

Districts that have implemented a variation of this strategy: Long Beach Unified School District, CA; Milford County, DE*

Option 6

Maintain Current School Start Times

(All school start times would remain the same)

**Information taken from "School Start Time Change: An In-Depth Examination of School Districts in the US" by The Children's National Medical Center, April 2014*

SCHOOL START TIME OPTION VARIABLES AND IMPLICATIONS

<i>VARIABLES</i>	<i>IMPLICATIONS</i>	<i>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</i>
Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the cost to increase the number of buses so that high school SST is the same as elementary SST? What would be the cost to provide bus service to more students in order to decrease the congestion on Post Road? • Would Town of Greenwich need to hire more crossing guards in order to safeguard students in areas of concern or where lighting is inadequate? • What are other costs associated with changing the SST? (Lights on the fields, an increase in electricity, utility and heating usage and demands on schools?) • How often is the field used and reserved by other outside agencies thus rendering a profit for the BOE? How much profit? 	<p>Jim Hricay</p> <p>Anthony Giovannone</p>
Transportation (Buses)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which SST options would require additional buses and what is the cost? • How many additional buses would be needed to go from our current tiered bus schedule to a non-tiered system? Cost? • How many additional bus drivers would we need to hire for each SST option? • How can we deliver district-wide bus services at the lowest possible cost? • Would this mean a longer bus ride for students? What is the current longest bus route or ride for students? • Would we need to redesign bus routes to change SST and for which options? • Are bus passes an option for some of the older students? • Would a change in SST increase the number of students who will need or require bus service? Which SST options? How many students currently ride the bus to school? • How much time is there between the last bus drop off at the HS and the start of the elementary school rounds? • When is the latest time buses can leave in order to get elementary students to and from school during daylight hours? • Would a later SST limit the number of available buses for field trips and sports? 	<p>Jim Hricay</p> <p>Janice Domiziano</p> <p>Mary Stuart</p> <p>Valerie Erde</p>

<p>Transportation and Student Commute</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of the children receiving rides to school, how many students are dropped off at school on the parent's way to work? • How would a change in SST impact families if the school hours and parent work schedule were no longer aligned? • How many students walk to school? • Would changing SST require some students to walk home in the dark after-school? ...after drop off by the school bus? ...after sports practice? ...after school sponsored and non-school sponsored programs? ...after daylight saving time in the fall? • What is the number of auto accidents involving high school students per year? Would delaying SST reduce teen accidents and drowsy driving? • What is the impact of changing SST on our students' commute time? • Would more students need to drive to school, thus increasing congestion and decreasing available parking space? 	<p>Jim Hricay Tom Bobkowski Janice Domiziano Valerie Erde Gene Schmidt</p>
<p>Traffic Flow and Congestion Around Town</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An early SST has had little impact on the traffic flow around GHS, would a later start time create more congestion as the roads become busier with commuters? How much more traffic would result? • When is peak time for traffic and congestion around town? Where are the busiest and most congested areas? 	<p>Jim Hricay Tom Bobkowski</p>
<p>Extra-curricular Activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which extra-curricular activities would be affected by a change in SST? Band? Orchestra? Chorus? Theater? Other? • Could some of these programs or activities be incorporated into the school day schedule? • How can we fit more activities (homework completion, sports, clubs, band) into the entire full day school schedule? Could we make it possible for students to get more done at/in school so that other activities become a part of the school day? • How many students currently arrive to school early to participate in clubs, sports practice, get tutoring and other reasons? 	<p>Diane Fox Chris Winters</p>

Sports and Athletic Schedules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which sports teams would be affected if school began 30 minutes or an hour later and how? (Games and practices) • Could after-school sports practice be shifted to before school? Which sports? • How would a later dismissal time impact a student's ability to participate in sports? • How many students play sports during any given sports season and how would a change in SST impact these students? • Would daylight hours impact or reduce time for sports' practices and matches? • Would we need to light or better light the fields for some sports? Which sports? • Would a later dismissal time require teams, intra-mural sports or coaches to compete for field and/or gym space? • How many students would be required to be dismissed from school early (early release) in order to participate in competitive sports? How much time would they miss from school and how often? • Could we adjust the frequency and duration of practices or game time? • What, if any, impact would a change in SST have on the teachers who also serve as coaches? Would it make it difficult to find or hire quality coaches? 	Gus Lindine Sophie Dowling
Contractual Obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would changing the SST impact the teachers' contract or the contractual hours they are required to work? How? • How would staff hours need to be adjusted or shifted for each option? • Could current contractual terms and items be adjusted in the middle of a contract to accommodate new SST? • What could BOE do to help staff adjust or transition to a change in SST? • How would a change in SST impact other unions? Custodial union and their contract? Professional assistants? • How would a change in SST affect itinerant staff with flexible schedules? • What impact would a change in SST have on building administrators? 	Bob Stacy Carol Sutton Tom Healy

<p>Non-contractual Issues related to Staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many staff members have less than 30minute, 45minute or 60 minutes or longer commute to work? The Fairfield County Commute is the 19th worst commute in the country. (Greenwich Times-August 27, 2015) • How would changing the SST impact the commute for staff? • What are the time lost and costs (fuel) associated with an increased commute time for staff? • How many staff would need child-care for their children before or after-school? • Survey the staff to discern how a change in SST would impact family life, routines and management issues? • Would a change in SST leave staff with less or more time with their families? • How would shifting the SST impact staff members who have a second or part-time job after school? • Are there any indications that a change in SST would impact staff recruitment and retention for GPS? 	<p>Bob Stacy Carol Sutton Tom Healy</p>
<p>Family Life and Childcare Arrangements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would a change in SST increase the number of students who are home alone (latch key) after school until their parents get home from work? • What local and how many community organizations are able to provide childcare before and after school? • Would an earlier SST be reasonable for elementary students? • Would an earlier SST for younger students mean an earlier bedtime? Would parents be home from work by bedtime? How much time would parent and student interaction before bed time decrease or increase? • Would more parents require childcare and for which option(s)? • How many parents rely on older siblings to care for the younger siblings before and after school? <p>(Survey: 21% of high school students care for siblings before/after school)</p>	<p>Jen Byxbee</p>

<p>Before and After-school Programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are school and non-school related programs impacted by changing SST? • How are after-school tutorials, religious classes, instrumental lessons, community service and school clubs impacted by a change in SST? • Would students have less and how much less time to access community services (i.e. library, supply and specialty stores) • Would parents require more before or after-school programs? • Are after and before school programs affordable for all members of the community? What are the costs associated with having to use before or after-school programs for students for the school year? • How would the B&G Club continue to employ high students to run their after-school program? They rely on the high school students to arrive first to receive and supervise the elementary students. • How would changing SST impact the breakfast program? Would more or fewer students participate or need to participate in the breakfast program? • Would students have less time to complete homework in the evenings? 	<p>Diane Fox Bobbie Walker, Jr.</p>
<p>Student Employment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many students are employed in after-school jobs? • How many families rely on the extra income from the students who are employed after-school? • Would a change in SST impact the number of hours a student can work after school or during the entire week? • How would a change in SST impact the potential employers of our students? • How can B & G Club employ high school students in their after-school program if elementary students are dismissed first? 	<p>Mary Forde Bobbie Walker, Jr.</p>
<p>Building Operation, Custodial and Security</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How would the operation of the schools be impacted by a change in SST? Would buildings need to stay heated longer? ...lights in the buildings?... lights on the playing fields? 	<p>Jim Hricay Ron Matten Tom Bobkowski</p>

Private Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Would we be able to compete for students with the private schools if we were to implement a change in SST?• How can we best identify our obligation to the private schools?	Bobbie Walker, Jr. Mary Stuart
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