
MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Alan Chapman, Superintendent
Board of Education Members

From: John W. Pye, Assistant Superintendent

Date: February 8, 2005

Subject: Tiered Transportation System

The Tiered Transportation System Study was designed to maximize the transportation resources serving the school district. The goal was to provide McLean County Unit District No. 5 with a transportation plan that would provide efficient, safe, reliable transportation for the students.

After considering the input from students, staff, parents, and community members, the district administration is recommending the adoption of Option D which was provided to the Board of Education on January 26, 2005.

Option D

<u>School Times</u>		<u>Earliest Pickup</u>	<u>Arrival Range</u>	<u>Wait Range</u>	<u>Departure Range</u>	<u>Wait Range</u>	<u>Latest Drop Off</u>
7:55 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.	High School	6:45 a.m.	7:25 - 7:45	30 - 10	3:20 - 3:30	0 - 10	3:50 p.m.
8:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Elementary	7:30 a.m.	7:55 - 8:10	20 - 5	3:05 - 3:10	0 - 5	3:55 p.m.
8:35 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Middle School	7:45 a.m.	8:15 - 8:25	20 - 10	3:55 - 4:15	0 - 20	4:50 p.m.

Option D is recommended for the following reasons:

- Minimizes time change for each educational level
 - High School – 10 minutes earlier
 - Elementary – 10 minutes earlier
 - Middle School – 15 minutes later
- Sufficient discrepancy between secondary school starting and ending times to minimize arrival and wait times.

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- Provides opportunities for before and after school activities at all levels (i.e., zero hour classes, PDA opportunities, tutoring sessions, etc.).
- Moderately improves instruction time at the high school level, but plan has the opposite effect at the middle school.
- Supports research that elementary students perform better academically with an earlier start time, but does not support sleep study research on high school students.

The adoption of Option D will require the district to maintain its present bus fleet and may require the addition of buses to provide special education and ESL students with full-day programming. Additionally, the transportation department will continue to review bus routes and the location of bus stops to maximize its efficiency. We also continue to investigate additional transportation options, including the feasibility of a transportation waiver system.

Regardless of the transportation plan implemented for the 2005-2006 school year, it is quite apparent that this area will warrant continued study and may require more changes in the future. Through this on-going examination, we will be better able to provide a quality transportation system for the children of Unit 5.

JWP:pc