High School Start Time Working Group Introduction

Newton Public Schools School Committee

September 16, 2015

~ Newton Public Schools and the Newton School Committee believe that a later high school start time has important health and wellness benefits for adolescents ~

Working Group Charge and Goals

▶ Define what are the necessary changes to make a later high school start time happen in Newton

  ▶ Gain a full understanding of the action steps, resources and changes that are necessary in the short- and long-term

▶

Working Group Charge and Goals cont.

▸ Determine how can meaningful progress can be made

  ▸ Formulate action steps, resources and changes into a detailed road map

    ▸ Road map will reference cost information and other necessary resources, as well as policy and legal implications

Working Group Structure

▸ Small group to support research, analysis, the identification of options and action steps

▸ Collaboration with stakeholders

▸ Process will be:
  ▸ Transparent
  ▸ Data-driven
  ▸ Interactive
  ▸ Dynamic

▸

Collaboration with Stakeholders

Local Stakeholders

Parents ~ Students ~ District Leadership ~ Principals ~ Teachers ~ School Councils ~ PTOs ~ NTA ~ NESA ~ NCE ~ Before and After School Child Care Providers ~ Walk-to-school Advocates ~ Bus Riders ~ Traffic and Safety ~ Parks and Recreation ~ Newton Alderman ~ Mayor

Regional Stakeholders

Dual County Athletic League ~ Bay State Athletic League ~ MIAA ~ EDCO ~ Other Public School Districts ~ Massachusetts Legislature

Connected Issues to Further Explore

▶ Family schedules and child care

▶ Student employment

▶ Parent work schedules

▶ Extracurricular activities

▶ Interscholastic Athletics

▶ Field and gym access for youth sports

▶ Collective bargaining

▶ Bus transportation

▶ Traffic

▶ Statewide legislation

Communication and Feedback

▶ Adapt, re-use, and expand current best practices

▶ Bi-monthly reports to School Committee and community

▶ Structures for stakeholder input
- ▶ Data collection and surveys
- ▶ Written comment
- ▶ Public meetings

▶ Robust online information
- ▶ Two-way communication
- ▶ Web site sign-ups to receive the latest information

▶

Work Plan and Estimated Time Line

FALL 2015

- Identify and advance essential collaborations
  - Information gathering
  - Identification of shared interests

FALL 2015/WINTER/SPRING 2016

- Analyze options for incremental and longer-range changes

LATE SPRING 2016

- Formulate a detailed road map

Next Steps

- **Letter to the Community**
  - How to sign up for updates

- **Mechanisms for collaboration and two-communication**

- **Working group begins data collection/analysis**
  - In collaboration with stakeholders