



# High School Schedule and Start Time Update

Newton School Committee

October 1st, 2018

# Background Review

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- February 2017 - High School Start Time working group recommends:
  - Revise high school schedules
  - Consider shift to HS start times without impacting K-8 times
- Ongoing schedule redesign work incorporated into system-wide goals for SY17-18 and 18-19
- Goal: Updated schedule that supports social/emotional health & academics and facilitates move to later start time.

# Tonight's Agenda

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- I. Schedule Redesign Process Update
- II. Operational Planning Update
- III. Operational Next Steps

# I. Schedule Redesign Process Update

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## Goals of an Updated Schedule

- Ensure that all students can thrive academically, socially and emotionally.
- Maintain the academic excellence and breadth at both high schools, while acknowledging social and emotional needs
- Facilitate faculty collaboration and student support during the school day.
- Consider optimal block lengths and frequency of classes
- Target consistent end times no later than 3:00 p.m and coordinated timing for cross registration

# Schedule Redesign Committee

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## Process Outline

- Combined North/South/District committee
- Research, self-study and input from stakeholders
- Make final recommendation to superintendent

## Timeline

- Formed in Spring 2017 and continuing through Fall/Winter 2018
- Goal to make recommendations prior to FY20 budget process

# Fall Schedule Design Work

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- Reviewing key schedule components
  - Number of courses
  - Rotation configuration and cycle length
  - Block length(s)
  - Flex blocks/Social and emotional learning time
- Collecting faculty feedback on prototypes schedules
- Gathering additional input from families and students
- Adjust and refine proposals to make final recommendations

# Prototype Schedules

## Illustrating different components and configurations

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
Row 1	A (70)	C (70)	A (70)	C (70)	A (70)	A (70)
Row 2	B (70)	D (70)	B (70)	B (70)	C (70)	B (70)
Row 3	C (70 + 5 + 25)	E (70 + 5 + 25)	E (70 + 5 + 25)	D (70 + 5 + 25)	D (70 + 5 + 25)	E (70 + 5 + 25)
Row 4	D (70)	F (70)	Flex (70)	F (70)	Flex (70)	F (70)
Row 5	E (70)	G (70)	F (70)	G (70)	G (70)	G (70)

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Row 1	A (50)	B (50)	A (50)	A (50)	C (50)	A (50)	C (50)
Row 2	C (50)	C (50)	B (50)	B (50)	D (50)	D (50)	B (50)
Row 3	Flex (30)	Flex (60)	Flex (60)	Flex (60)	Flex (60)	Flex (60)	Flex (60)
Row 4	D (80 + 5 + 25)	A (80 + 5 + 25)	E (80 + 5 + 25)	F (80 + 5 + 25)	B (80 + 5 + 25)	C (80 + 5 + 25)	G (80 + 5 + 25)
Row 5	E (50)	E (50)	D (50)	E (50)	F (50)	E (50)	D (50)
Row 6	F (50)	G (50)	F (50)	G (50)	G (50)	G (50)	F (50)
Row 7	Flex (30)						

# Family Survey



B<sub>1</sub>

A<sub>2</sub>

8:35

A<sub>3</sub>

8:35

A<sub>4</sub>

8:40

## NPS Schedule Feedback Survey for Families

Thank you for completing this survey on you and your child's experiences with the current high school class schedule and you priorities for our work in redesigning the schedule.

\* Required

The images below show the daily class schedule with block rotations at Newton North and Newton South. Both schedules currently include three 55-minute class periods and one 75-minute class period per week for each full length course.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
A1 7:50-8:45	B1 7:50-8:45	A2 7:50-8:45	A3 7:50-8:45	A4 7:50-8:45	7:40	7:40	7:40	7:40	7:40
					A <sub>1</sub>	G	A	A <sub>1</sub>	A





# Schedule Redesign Timeline

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- September - Faculty discussion of prototypes and input on key schedule features
- October - Family feedback survey & student focus groups
- November - Development and refinement of schedule proposals
- December - Final schedule recommendation

# II. Operational Planning Update

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1. New cost environment requires a less costly proposal for implementation
  - Starting both high schools at 8:30 adds 8-10 buses and costs \$1.1 million
  - Further annual cost escalation of 5% at minimum
  - No new funding for buses has been identified
2. Conclusion: change can not be limited to the high school
  - Majority of elementary parents do not prefer an earlier start time

# New Fiscal Environment

## High School Start Time at 8:30 a.m.

<b>Changes:</b>	<b>Then</b>	<b>Now</b>
Fleet Size	<b>29 Buses</b>	<b>30 Buses</b>
District Net Costs	<b>\$1.9 million</b>	<b>\$2.5 million</b>
Additional Buses Needed	<b>8 Buses</b>	<b>10 Buses</b>
Additional Net Cost	<b>\$649,440</b>	<b>\$1.1 million</b>
Cost Impact	<b>Most Costly Option Considered</b>	<b>Cost-efficient Option is Needed</b>

# III. Operational Next Steps

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- Develop new options that are financially viable
  - Preserve a multi-tiered bus system in which buses serve multiple schools or levels
  - Include both elementary and middle school start time changes
  - Consider new specifics of high school schedule and other constraints including impact on traffic
- Share new options in Spring 2019
- Solicit community feedback on new options
- Target implementation in September 2020