

February 27, 2018

Educational Planning & Technology Subcommittee  
and  
Instruction & Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting

A joint meeting of the Educational Planning & Technology Subcommittee and Instruction & Curriculum Subcommittee of the Westfield School Committee was held on Tuesday, February 27, 2018, at 6:00 pm in the City Council Chambers, at City Hall, 59 Court Street, Westfield, MA. Members present by roll call: Cindy Sullivan, Ramon Diaz, Tim O'Connor, Heather Sullivan, and Mr. Kevin J. Sullivan. Also in attendance: Mrs. Diane Mayhew and Mayor Brian Sullivan.

Tim O'Connor called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

1. Public participation, excluding personnel: to be addressed after presentations
2. Discussion/Review of Transition Committee proposals for:
  - a. K-4 Redistricting
  - b. Grade 5-6 School Design
  - c. Grade 7-8 School Design

Superintendent Czaporowski stated that the presentations for the K-4 Redistricting, Grade 5-6 School Design, and Grade 7-8 School Design would be shared this evening.

Mr. Czaporowski requested that Mrs. Dargie and Mrs. Bourque provide a brief update regarding the Grade 5-6 School Design. Mrs. Dargie and Mrs. Bourque reviewed the program of studies, electives, team structure, and staffing. A discussion took place and questions were answered.

Mr. Newton shared a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Grade 7-8 School Design (attached). A discussion took place and questions were answered.

Mr. Rix and Mrs. Kotarski shared a PowerPoint presentation regarding the K-4 redistricting (attached). Mr. Rix and Mrs. Kotarski reviewed the elementary school boundaries, elementary times, and transportation needs. A discussion took place and questions were answered.

Public participation, excluding personnel:

Chris Tolpa, Hawks Circle

Ms. Tolpa asked about the current students in grade 7 and foreign language options for grade 8. Mr. Newton responded that the students would not be affected by the proposed changes.

Heather Talbot, Hassler Street

Ms. Talbot stated that she was happy with the changes. She expressed her concerns about the report cards and the grading system being split in the 5-6 school.

Jackie Redzik, Pine Street

Ms. Redzik stated her concerns about report cards. She suggested that students receive “real” grades in 5 & 6 (not P’s or M’s).

Trish Wysocki, Overlook Drive

Mrs. Wysocki spoke about the ESL students and shared her concerns about staffing, costs, and staff preparation.

Matt Talbot, Hassler Street

Mr. Talbot shared his concerns regarding generating two different reports for the 5-6 school.

Sarah Timmer, Franklin Avenue

Ms. Timmer asked if the grade 7-8 school design would be similar to the Grade 5-6 “neighborhood” school design. Mr. Newton responded the grade 7-8 school design would be a 5 person team.

Tim O’Connor thanked everyone for their input regarding the proposals.

At 7:36pm Kevin Sullivan moved, Cindy Sullivan seconded to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

A report on this meeting was given to the school committee at the March 5, 2018 meeting. Approved by school committee members at the March 19, 2018 school committee meeting.

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Cindy Sullivan, Chairperson  
Educational Planning & Technology Subcommittee

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Tim O’Connor, Chairperson  
Instruction & Curriculum Subcommittee

CS/TO:cm

## Program of Studies

### Grade 7:

- All students take core academics that include: English Language Arts (Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening), Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.
- Students will select from: Spanish 1A or Survey of Applied Technology.
- All students will take: Physical Education, Health, and Digital Literacy.
- Students will select from: Band, Chorus, or Survey of Electives.
- Students needing interventions will incorporate these into one elective block.

## Program of Studies

### Grade 8:

- All students take core academics that include: English Language Arts (Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening), Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.
- Students will select from: Spanish 1B, Spanish 1A, Survey of World Languages, or ELA/Math Intervention as needed.
- All students will take: Physical Education, Health, Digital and Introduction to Financial Literacy.
- Students will select from: Band, Chorus, or 2 half year electives of their choice.

## Teaming Structure

- Maintain teaming structure in both grades 7 and 8
- Five person Academic teams will incorporate the following standards: English Language Arts (Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening), Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies
- Grade level teams will include a special education teacher to further our mission to improve inclusive practices

## Proposed Schedule Design

- We designed a schedule that combines two different configurations; one of shorter classes and one of longer classes.
- Students would take all 8 of their courses on one day.
- The next two days, students would take fewer classes and have longer class periods.
- A look at this proposed schedule is shown on the next slide.

## Proposed Schedule – 3 Day Cycle

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom
1	8	3
2		
3	4	7
4		
5	6	5
6		
7	2	1
8		

## Grading System/Marking Periods

- To best accommodate the survey course design and to maximize educational opportunities for our students, we have designed a program that operates on quarters and semesters.
- For the 2018-19 school year we will use a numerical grading system.

## Extracurricular Activities

- Student Leadership
- Student Council
- Drama Club
- Intramurals (seasonal)
- Wright Flight
- Jazz Band and other music opportunities
- Yearbook
- Art Club
- Technology/Robotics or FIRST Lego League
- Other Clubs - based on student interest and input

## Administrative and Support Staff Structure

- Principal and Assistant Principals/Dean of Students
- Special Education Supervisor and Educational Team Leader
- Guidance Counselors and Adjustment Counselors
- School Behaviorist
- School Resource Officer
- Health Office Staff
- School Psychologist
- School Media Specialist and Paraprofessional
- School Secretaries and Office Paraprofessionals

## Instructional Staff

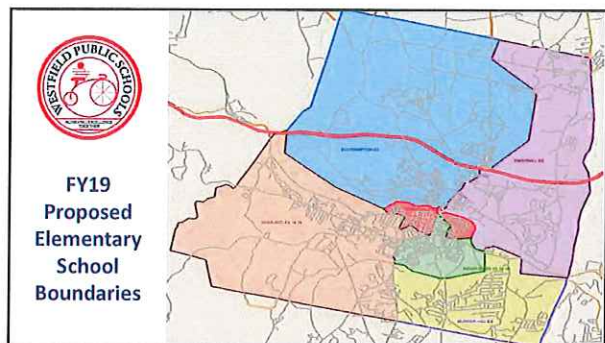
- Grade 7 Academic Team Teachers
- Grade 8 Academic Team Teachers
- Team Special Education Inclusion Teachers
- Special Education Program Teachers
- World Language Teachers
- Physical Education, Health, Family and Consumer, and Leadership Teachers
- Instrumental, Vocal Music, and General Music Teachers
- Art Teachers
- English as a Second Language Teachers
- Applied Technology Teachers
- Intervention and Support Program Teachers
- Instructional Coaches

## Professional Development

- Thus far, we have incorporated staff development related to school design, teacher feedback, and final design input.
- We have also undertaken professional development in the area of improved inclusionary practices.
- Moving forward, it is critical that we provide professional development in the area of planning and executing instruction in expanded blocks of time.

Thank You!!

Questions & Comments



### Redistricting Recommendation

**Russell School:**

- All students attend Highland (128)

**Highland Ave School:**

- ELE Students from Highland & Franklin Ave school areas attend Highland. (82)
- Students from Mechanic Street area attend Abner Gibbs (33)

**Munger Hill**

- ELE Students from Abner Gibbs, Munger Hill, Paper Mill & SRS attend MH. (58)

**WESTFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**FY19 Transportation Needs**

School	Current FY18 Buses	FY19 Buses Needed	FY19 Buses Needed (with time change)*
Westfield High School	23	23	23
Technical Academy	6	6	6
<b>Total A Run</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>
North Middle School	16	15	15
South Middle School	4	10	10
St Marys	9	9	4 (-5)
<b>Total B Run</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>34 (+5)</b>	<b>29</b>
Abner Gibbs	0	1	1
Franklin Ave	2	2	2
Highland	4	6	6
Russell Elem	5	0	0
Munger Hill Elem	4	6	6
Paper Mill Elem	7	7	7
Southampton Road	7	7	7
<b>Total C Run</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>

\*requires a minimum of 45-minutes in the afternoon between the B & C runs.

Projected FY19 Enrollments with Redistricting

School	K	1	2	3	4	Total
Abner Gibbs	40	42	51	40	33	206
Franklin Ave	45	36	46	47	39	213
Highland	92	61	58	66	76	353
Munger Hill	69	62	74	89	78	372
Paper Mill	77	62	72	68	69	348
Southampton Rd	82	63	80	68	73	366
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>1858</b>

## 7/8 School Design and Program Recommendations

February 5, 2018

## 7 / 8 Work Group

Christopher Rogers and Paul Newton, Co-Chairpersons  
Kerri C'Miel, Caitlin Costello, David Gomes, Peg Hill,  
Cynthia Kennedy, Joe Langone, Peter Lurgio,  
Greg Miller, Joe Mullett, Beth O'Connor

## Guiding Principles

- Design a school that would best prepare students for life and education beyond the 7-8 school program.
- Design a school that would give students a wide scope of learning experiences during grade 7.
- Design a school that would give students more voice and choice in their educational program in grade 8.
- Design a school that would allow all students the opportunity to take classes that add excitement and interest to their school day.
- Design a school that has larger, uninterrupted blocks of time that permit more student-centered instruction and deeper learning.

## Our Journey to this Point in Time:

- Met 8 times as a 7/8 school design work group
- Examined research and best practices as related to school design
- Utilized AMLE (Association for Middle Level Education), NELMS (New England League of Middle Schools), Hanover Research (independent educational research firm), and other articles and school design references.
- Invited NELMS, Executive Director Jerry Frew to meet with group on a consultative basis.
- Visited Hurley Middle School in Seekonk, Ma., Enfield High School, and Agawam Junior High School with various groups of teachers.
- Conducted a full day and a half day professional development session for teachers on school design.