

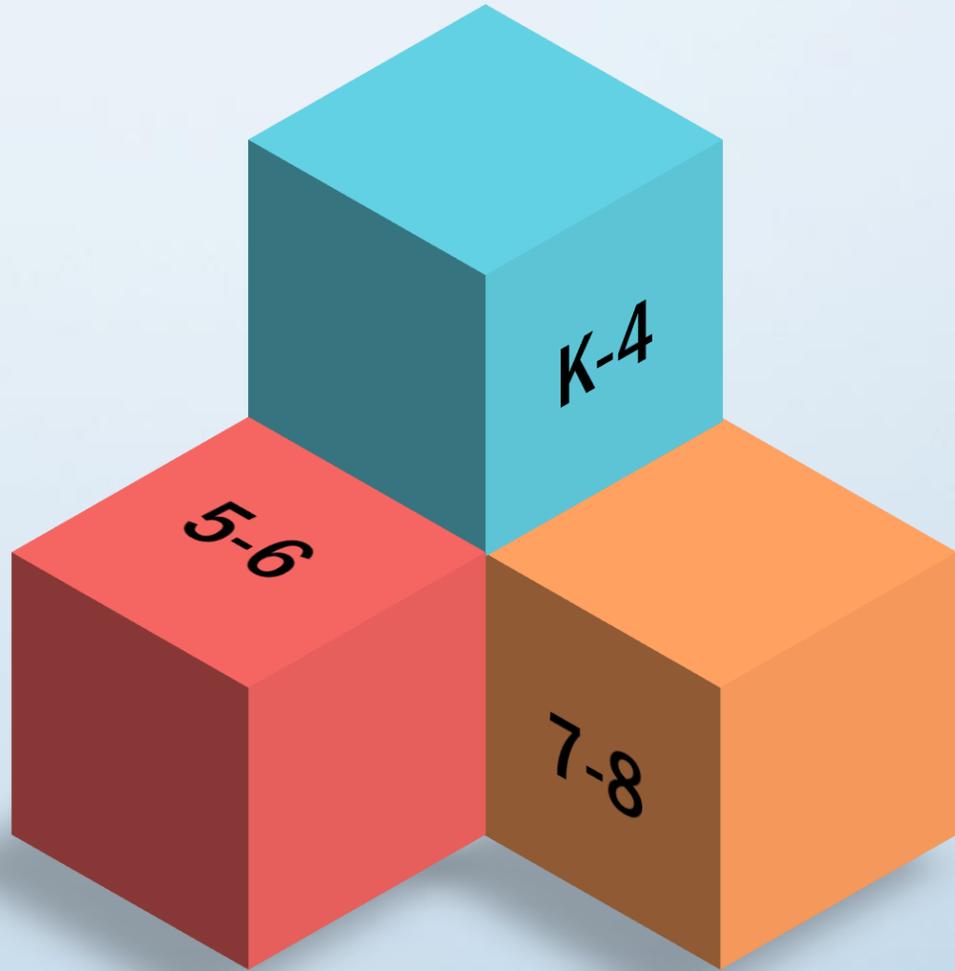


Transition Update

November 20, 2017



Stefan Czaporowski, Superintendent of Schools



1. Workgroup updates
2. ERSD survey results
3. Other considerations
4. Questions

Workgroup Updates

- **Staffing**

- Review of applicable and appropriate licenses for teachers in the new K-4; 5-6; and 7-8 school configuration.
- Review of all license information for all Pre K-8 Unit A members and for all Unit B members.
- Met with the 5-6 and 7-8 working groups to be briefed on current reorganization plans.
- Development of guidance for Unit placements which will be presented to the Executive Board for Transition on December 1.

Workgroup Updates

- **K-4**

- Made the decision to redistrict internally rather than hire a consultant.
- Three options are being worked on currently for review. So far, each option minimizes interruptions.
- Once the preferred option is selected, the transportation plan will be developed.

Workgroup Updates

- **5-6 (Mrs. Katie Bourque will be the Principal at the 5-6 school).**
 - Successful PD day on November 7 - Grade 5 and Grade 6 teachers came together for team building and school design.
 - This week, workgroup met to review all work product (Concerns, Brainstorm Ideas about the new school, and Suggested Transition Activities. These results help inform continued discussion of Teams, Schedules, Core Subjects and Specials, as well as other considerations.
 - Members reported out on continued efforts to contact each 5/6 school in Massachusetts. Several members signed up to visit John R. Ryan School in Tewksbury, MA on December 5 or Sherwood Middle School, Shrewsbury, MA on December 6.
 - NELMS (New England League of Middle Schools) presentation in December.

Workgroup Updates

- **7-8 (Mr. Paul Newton will be the Principal at the 7-8 school).**
 - Successful PD day on November 7 - Grade 7 and Grade 8 teachers came together for team building and school design.
 - Visits to other schools are being planned.
 - Scheduling options are being vetted.
 - NELMS (New England League of Middle Schools) presentation in December.

ERSD Survey Results

November 7 PD survey results:

Grade 5-6
(36 respondents)

Grade 7-8
(38 respondents)

*Over 70% participation



ERSD Survey 1 (Grade 5-6)

The training was relevant to my work with students.

- Strongly Agree 68.57%
- Agree 25.71%
- Disagree 0%
- Strongly Disagree 5.71%

- Please make sure that all staff understands that we ,as a staff, are starting over. The building is just a building, the culture of the school is up to us, as a cohesive staff.

ERSD Survey 2 (Grade 5-6)

The training incorporated effective engagement strategies.

- Strongly Agree
71.43%
- Agree 22.86%
- Disagree 0%
- Strongly Disagree
5.71%

- I was encouraged by the energy in the room!
- This PD was great. It is nice to be included in the transition process as valued members of the school community.
- Best ERSD day I've ever attended!

ERSD Survey 3 (Grade 5-6)

The presenters were well prepared.

- Strongly Agree 82.86%
- Agree 11.43%
- Disagree 0%
- Strongly Disagree 5.71%

- It was a fantastic day. The presenters were great
- I went away feeling very positive about the time we had together

ERSD Survey 4 (Grade 5-6)

The presenters were knowledgeable about the subject matter.

- Strongly Agree 71.43%
- Agree 20.00%
- Disagree 2.86%
- Strongly Disagree 5.71%

- I did not know what to expect at this training. I was worried that it would be a waste of time; however, I believe that both administrators were there to listen to our concerns and input regarding the transition of the new school.

ERSD Survey 5 (Grade 5-6)

The presenters were responsive to the participants.

- Strongly Agree 85.71%
- Agree 8.57%
- Disagree 0%
- Strongly Disagree 5.71%

- Excellent planning for a large group. All activities were varied and were engaging. You could not have done a better job.

ERSD Survey 1 (Grade 7-8)

The training was relevant to my work with students.

- Strongly Agree
57.89%
- Agree 36.84%
- Disagree 2.63%
- Strongly Disagree
2.63%

- Incredible work!
- Thank you! We needed this activity to help break the ice.

ERSD Survey 2 (Grade 7-8)

The training incorporated effective engagement strategies.

- Strongly Agree 68.42%
- Agree 28.95%
- Disagree 2.63%
- Strongly Disagree 0%

- There are a lot of unknowns regarding the redistricting. Therefore, we (staff) are not sure how much influence our opinions have in the overall make-up of the new building. At the district level, there has to be some knowledge about how much money, or lack of money, there is to actually make our vision a reality.

ERSD Survey 3 (Grade 7-8)

The presenters were well prepared.

- Strongly Agree 68.42%
- Agree 31.58%
- Disagree 0%
- Strongly Disagree 0%

- ...Right off the bat we knew that this was the more expensive option at face-value. Add in that each year there is a budget shortfall that needs to be negotiated, how can our vision be truly implemented. If we had/have a realistic picture about what is possible, than planning and giving our input might actually help us feel like a genuine part of the process. I still feel out of the loop, which creates unease.

ERSD Survey 4 (Grade 7-8)

The presenters were knowledgeable about the subject matter.

- Strongly Agree 62.16%
- Agree 35.14%
- Disagree 2.70%
- Strongly Disagree 0%



ERSD Survey 5 (Grade 7-8)

The presenters were responsive to the participants.

- Strongly Agree 63.16%
- Agree 34.21%
- Disagree 2.63%
- Strongly Disagree 0%



Other Considerations...

- Possible adjustments in school start and end times (K-8) to accommodate transportation needs
- One year moratorium on intra-district transfers and school choice offerings (except WHS). Existing intra-district transfers will be honored.
- A number of high quality transition activities for students, families, and staff will be to be planned by administration and workgroups.
 - Step up days
 - Site visits
 - Combined professional development
 - Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC), Parent Advisory Board (PAB), and Westfield Youth Commission (WYC) collaboration
 - Student Survey

Questions?

**THANK
YOU!**

