

Transportation enhancement outlines for fall launch

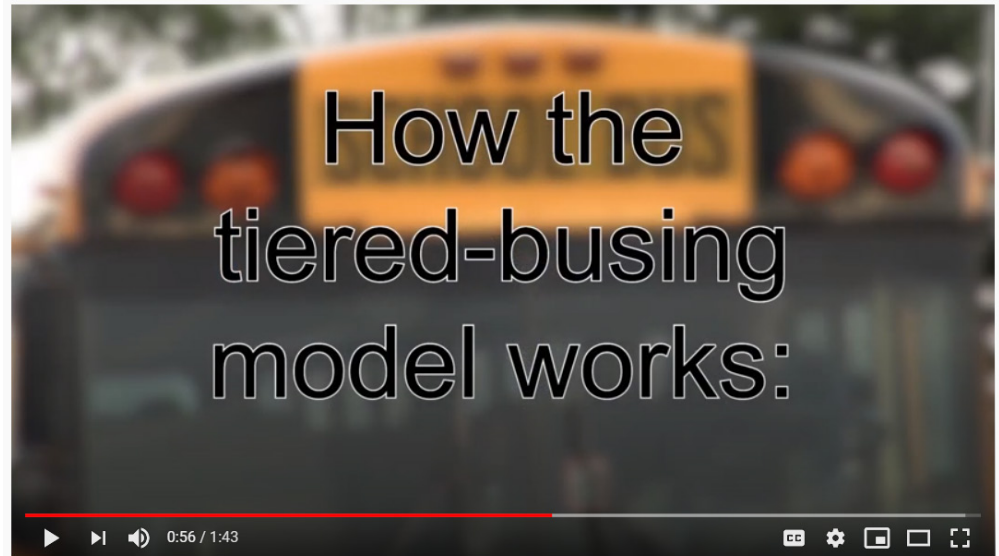
Youth at every age benefit

After careful review and study about tiered busing in detail, this transportation model will be deployed in the fall because it benefits youth of all ages.

How it works

Elementary students will be bused to school first, giving them a daily early start and dismiss each school day.

Middle and high school students will be transported on a second route so their school day will start and end later.



School start and end times for elementary, middle and high schools in Mankato Area Public Schools (MAPS) have been established for the 2020-2021 school year* to reflect the school district's transition next year to a two-tiered busing system:

- preschool 8 a.m. start time
- elementary schools 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Bridges Community School 8:20 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.
- middle schools 8:35 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.
- high schools 8:45 a.m. to 3:35 p.m.

*Due to COVID-19, school start and end times may be adjusted based on school delivery models.

Benefits and implementation

Through research, many advantages are reinforced:

- a later start aligns with older students' natural sleep cycles
- students spend less time on buses
- fewer transitions simplifies bus riding for students
- provides increased breakfast time for youth
- students ride with age-similar bus companions
- tiered-busing is a best fit to Mankato Area Public Schools' size
- opens space for families who want to contract for busing
- efficient and doesn't increase cost

Meaningful change and a commitment to continuous improvement is part of any organization's challenge. Especially when it's about providing excellent education to learners by continuing to offer the best possible experience for all students. Stakeholders, including bus companies, continue to part of the process to ensure a smooth transition. After-school care decisions were also important to outcomes. Learn more about the Mankato Area Public School Board's decision.

For questions or more information, contact Tom Sager, director of business services, at 507-387-3167.