



**BOULDER VALLEY**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education | January 26, 2021

# Equal School Day

## Update

## Background

- BVSD school start/end times vary by school and level
- Disparity throughout the system—unequal learning experiences for students
- Inefficiencies in district-wide services such as Transportation

## Progress

- **2016 | Recommendations for an Ideal School Day**
  - Standardize the length of the school day at each level
  - Align start/end times with best practice research on adolescent sleep patterns
- **2019 | High school day set at 8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. (7.25 hrs.)**

A photograph of four people, two women and two men, standing in front of a line of yellow school buses. In the background, there are mountains under a clear sky. The bus in the foreground has the number 2505 and a red stop sign. The text 'Team Members' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

# Team Members

## School Leadership

Barbara Aswege, Eldorado K-8 AP  
Joan Bludorn, Arapahoe Ridge High School Principal  
Tanya Santee, Birch Principal  
Don Stensrud, Fairview Principal  
Brady Stroup, Eisenhower Principal  
Megan Weir, Angevine Middle School AP  
John White, Southern Hills Middle School Principal

## Boulder Valley Education Association

Patty Delgado, BVEA Vice-president

## Consultants

Robert Jacobus, School Bus Logistics  
Tatia Prieto, Prismatic Services

## District Leadership

Kim Bloemen, Early Childhood Education Executive Director  
Ann Cooper, Food Services Director  
Robbyn Fernandez, Area Superintendent - East Network  
Mike Lowe, Student Services Director  
Katherine Mills, Professional Development Director  
Rob Price, Asst. Superintendent of Operational Services  
Dennis Rastatter, Special Education Executive Director  
Tony Skala, Transportation Director

## District Staff

Susan Cousins, Communications Specialist  
Landon Hilliard, Student Transportation Coordinator  
Lynn Tidd, Transportation Supervisor  
Phil Winterbourne, Business Services Analyst

# Goals

- Standardize length of school day by level
  - ✓ High school day set at 7.25 hrs. (2019-20)
- ✓ Align bell times to national research regarding adolescent sleep patterns
  - ✓ High school start time adjusted to 8:30 a.m. (2019-20)
- Design an efficient and affordable transportation routing system/schedule to align to the new length of day
- Standardize professional learning time (PLT) to occur outside the school day using a late start model
- Review/revise lunch times to provide students with a full 25 minutes to sit and eat

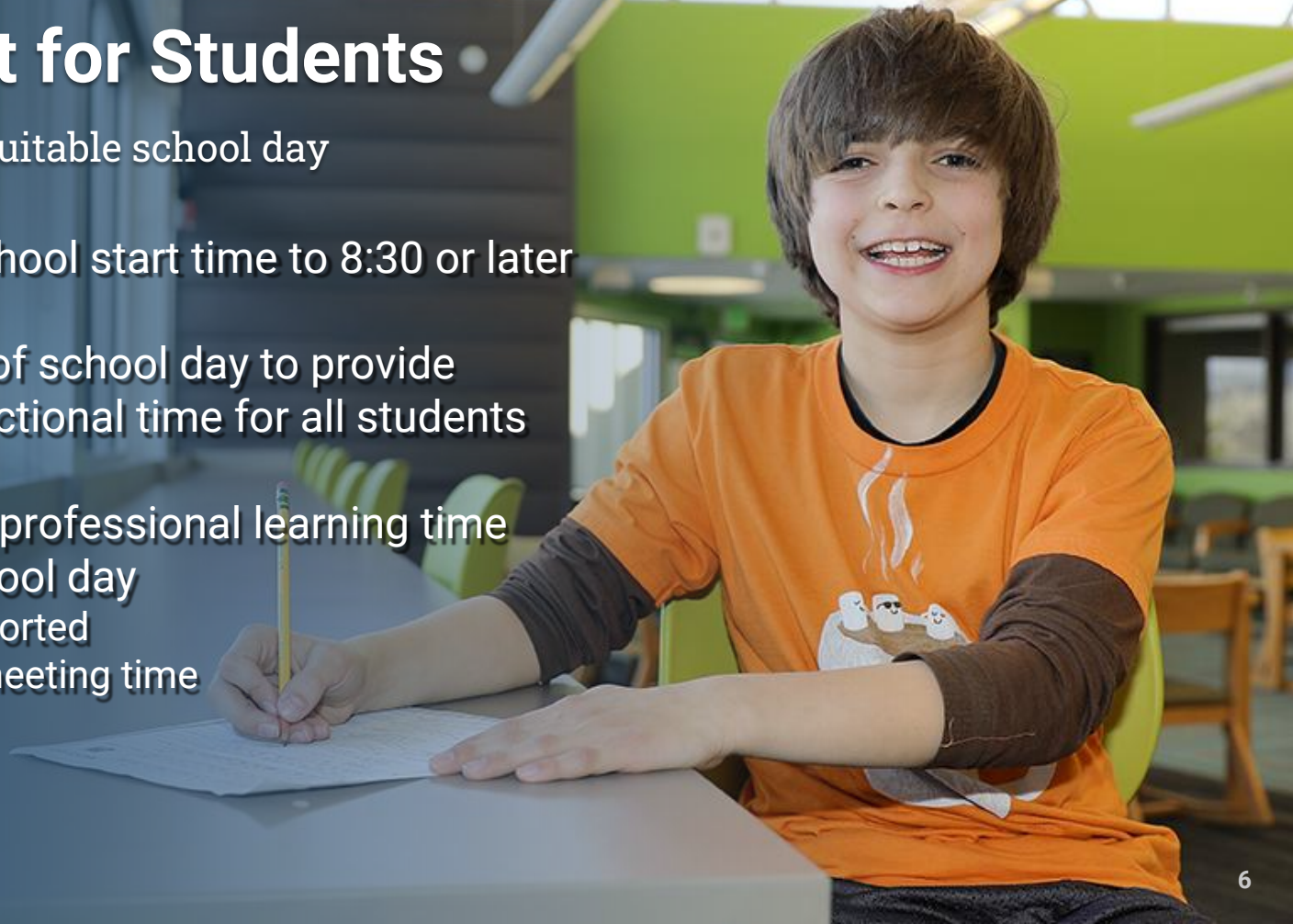
## Guiding Principles

- Develop a well-balanced day for students and staff
- Consider the needs of elementary, middle, and high schools individually and as a system
- Propose transportation recommendations that are cost-neutral or result in a savings, as much as possible
- Consider employee negotiated agreements in making recommendations

# What is Best for Students

Moving toward an equitable school day

- ✓ Adjust high school start time to 8:30 or later
- Adjust length of school day to provide uniform instructional time for all students
- 60 minutes of professional learning time outside of school day
  - BVEA supported
  - Not staff meeting time



# Current Status



**Elementary School | 7:50 - 8:40 a.m. to 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.**

6.5 to 7.3 hrs./day → 1032 to 1175 hrs./year

Only Pioneer, Sanchez and Nederland are at a 7 hrs or longer day; K-8 schools have 7 hr. days with a late-start Wed.



**Middle School | 8:15 - 8:45 a.m. to 3:15 - 3:45 p.m.**

7 hrs./day → 1069 hrs./year



**K-8 School | 8:05 - 8:40 a.m. to 3:05 - 3:40 p.m.**

7 hrs./day → 1069 hrs./year



**High School | 8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.**

7.25 hrs./day → 1112 hrs./year

*\* Instructional hours listed exclude non-instructional time*

## 6.5 vs. 7 hr-day

**86**

**hours/year**



**13.2**

**days**



### CDE Minimum Instruction Hours:

**Kindergarten:** 870 Hours

**Elementary (1-5):** 968 Hours

**Secondary (6-12):** 1056 Hours



# New Unified Bell Time Schedule

## MTThF

7 a.m.    8 a.m.    9 a.m.    10 a.m.    11 a.m.    12 p.m.    1 p.m.    2 p.m.    3 p.m.

Elementary/PK School Tier | 7:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. (7 hrs.)

High School Tier | 8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. (7.25 hrs.)

Middle & K-8 School Tier | 8:40 a.m. - 3:40 p.m. (7 hrs.)

## Wednesday PLT

7 a.m.    8 a.m.    9 a.m.    10 a.m.    11 a.m.    12 p.m.    1 p.m.    2 p.m.    3 p.m.

Elementary/PK School Tier | 8:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. (6 hrs.)

High School Tier | 9:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. (6.25 hrs.)

Middle & K-8 School Tier | 9:40 a.m. - 3:40 p.m. (6 hrs.)

## Standard Professional Learning Time (PLT)

1 hour late start on Wednesdays for all schools

## Exceptions

- Monarch K-8, SHMS, BHMS, Nederland ES - no change in bell times
- Gold Hill and Jamestown start times will not change.
- Flatirons & Foothill ES will be 8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.
- BCSIS will be 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. High Peaks will be 7:45 a.m to 2:45 p.m.
- TEC p.m. bell is 3:20 p.m.



# Bus Service Windows

Elementary/PK	Current Bus Drop	Proposed Bus Drop	Change
BCSIS	8:05	7:50	-15
Bear Creek	8:25	7:35	-50
Birch	7:40	7:35	-5
Coal Creek	7:50	7:35	-15
Columbine	8:10	7:35	-35
Montessori	7:55	7:35	-20
Creekside	7:45	7:35	-10
Crest View	7:45	7:35	-10
Douglass	7:50	7:35	-15
Eisenhower	8:35	7:35	-60
Emerald	7:40	7:35	-5
Fireside	7:45	7:35	-10
Flatirons	8:05	8:05	0
Foothill	8:05	8:05	0
Gold Hill*	NA	NA	0

Elementary/PK	Current Bus Drop	Proposed Bus Drop	Change
Heatherwood	7:50	7:35	-15
High Peaks	7:50	7:35	-15
Jamestown*	NA	NA	0
Kohl	7:50	7:35	-15
Lafayette	7:45	7:35	-10
Louisville	7:50	7:35	-15
Mapleton	7:55	7:35	-20
Mesa	8:20	7:35	-45
Nederland	8:25	8:25	0
Pioneer	7:50	7:35	-15
Ryan	7:45	7:35	-10
Sanchez	7:50	7:35	-15
Superior	7:45	7:35	-10
University Hill	7:45	7:35	-10
Whittier	7:50	7:35	-15

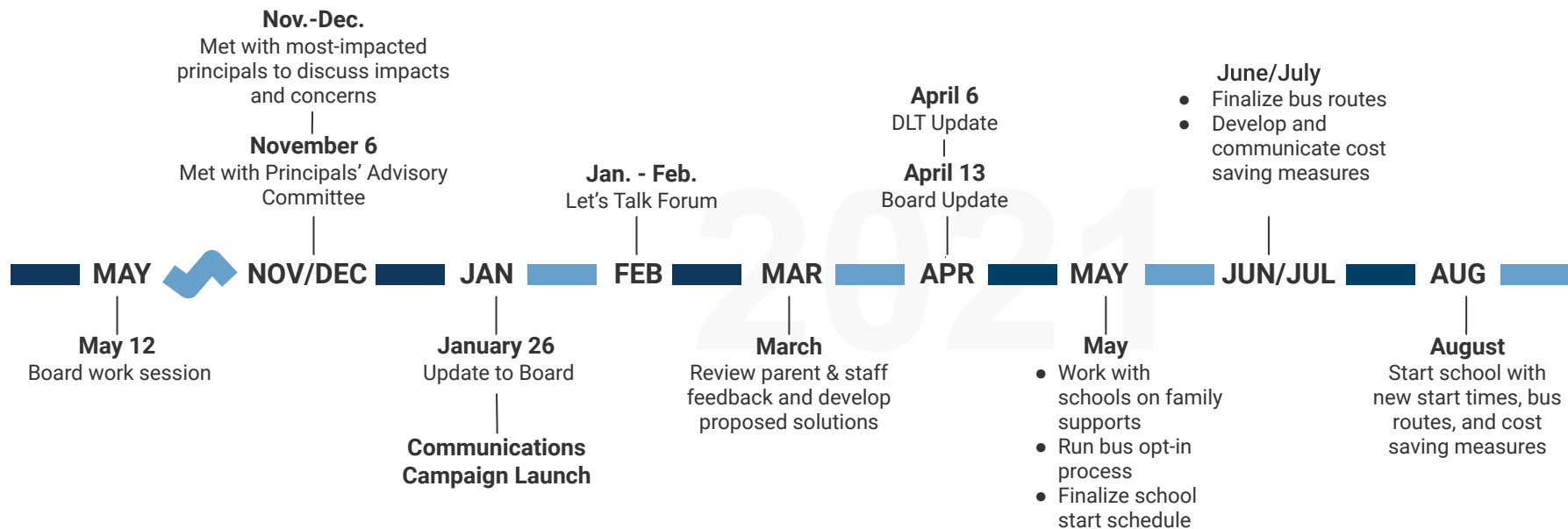
Middle	Current Bus Drop	Proposed Bus Drop	Change
Angevine	8:30	8:30	0
Broomfield Heights	8:35	8:35	0
Casey	8:20	8:25	+5
Centennial	8:27	8:30	+3
Louisville	8:25	8:30	+5
Manhattan	8:30	8:30	0
Platt	8:30	8:30	0
Southern Hills	8:05	8:05	0

K-8	Current Bus Drop	Proposed Bus Drop	Change
Aspen Creek	8:25	8:30	+5
Eldorado	8:15	8:30	+15
Meadowlark	8:30	8:30	0
Monarch	7:45	7:45	0

\* Gold Hill and Jamestown do not have bus service.



# Equal School Day Implementation Timeline



# Communications Plan



## January Launch

### For families and staff

- Webpage (on-going)
- Update to Board (Jan. 26, April)
- Letter from Superintendent (Jan. 27)
- The Spot (Feb. + as needed)
- Let's Talk broadcast (Jan. + as needed)
- Let's Talk engagement forum with parent survey (Jan. - Feb.)
- Meet with DPC (Jan. 20)
- Meet with DAC (February)



### Parent Survey (via Let's Talk forum)

- Focus on understanding challenges for transitioning to the new bell schedule
- What child care options will families need?
- Will the longer day change school meal needs?

### For staff

- Webpage (on-going)
- Internal channels (Jan. + as needed)
- BVEA communications

**Q:** Which BVSD childcare programs might you need/want before school on late start Wednesdays?

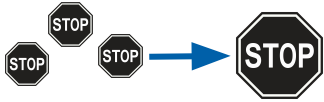
- \_\_\_ School Age Care (SAC)
- \_\_\_ Preschool Enrichment
- \_\_\_ Lifelong Learning enrichment courses
- \_\_\_ None



# Transportation Cost Saving Options with Equal School Day



Replace school buses with RTD passes for some high schools (COVID delay)



Consolidate stops in neighborhoods (reduce stops overall)



Re-evaluate walk distances to school/bus stops and ride times



Evaluate load counts to identify opportunities to consolidate routes  
– Require families to opt-in for bus service (began 20-21)



Other considerations? Hazard routes? Alternative transportation options

# Discussion