

Board of Education  
Darien, Connecticut

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021**

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Darien Public Schools'  
Administrative Offices  
Meeting Room  
6:45 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to order
2. Proposed Adjournment to Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of attorney client privileged memorandum regarding allegations and/or legal claims of Brian Zuro, Charles Zuro and/or Sarah Zuro
3. Reconvene in public session.
4. Adjournment.

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021**

**PLACE:  
DARIEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS'  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES  
MEETING ROOM  
7:30 P.M.**

**TENTATIVE AGENDA**

- |                                 |                    |           |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| 1. Call to Order.....           | Mr. David Dineen   | 7:30 p.m. |
| 2. Chairperson's Report.....    | Mr. David Dineen   |           |
| 3. Public Comment*.....         | Mr. David Dineen   |           |
| 4. Superintendent's Report..... | Dr. Alan Addley    |           |
| 5. Approval of Minutes.....     | Board of Education |           |
| 6. Board Committee Reports..... | Mr. David Dineen   |           |

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021**

**7. Presentations/Discussions**

- a. Darien Public Schools Status.. Update      Dr. Alan Addley
- b. Follow Up Discussion on..... January 9<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting Questions on 2021-2022 Proposed Board of Education Budget      Dr. Alan Addley
- c. Discussion of Board of Finance.. Appropriation Request for 2020-2021      Dr. Alan Addley
- d. Further Discussion on..... Transportation Study      Dr. Alan Addley
- e. Presentation and Discussion.... of Board Master Agenda for February - August 2021      Dr. Alan Addley

**8. Action Items**

- a. Personnel Items.....      Ms. Marjorie Cion
  - i. Appointments
  - ii. Resignations/Retirements

9. Public Comment\* .....      Mr. David Dineen

10. Adjournment.....      Mr. David Dineen

AA:nv

**\* Due to the current COVID-19 regulations and restrictions pertaining to public indoor gatherings, the Board of Education meeting will be available to the public via Zoom.**

**Those members of the community wishing to view only, should do so through the Darien Youtube link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUnnvYKBfFrTWQRuoB6OZA>**

**Those members of the community wishing to participate in public comment should join the meeting via Zoom:**

**<https://darienps.zoom.us/j/99328062259>**

**In order to reduce audio interference, members of the community are requested not to simultaneously view by Youtube while participating on Zoom.**

**APPROVED**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2020**

**PLACE:**  
**DARIEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**VIA ZOOM**  
**7:30 P.M.**

**Board Members Present:**

|         | Brown | Dineen | McCammon | Maroney | Ochman | Parent | Ritchie | Sini | Stein |
|---------|-------|--------|----------|---------|--------|--------|---------|------|-------|
| Present | x     | x      | x        | x       | x      | x      | x       | x    | x     |
| Absent  |       |        |          |         |        |        |         |      |       |

**Administration Present:**

Dr. Addley, Mr. Tranberg, Ms. Klein, Ms. Cion and Mr. Rudl

**Audience:** Meeting held in Board of Education office and via You Tube / Zoom

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Call to Order   | Mr. David Dineen, Chair,<br>at 7:30 p.m. (0:00)  |
| 2. Chairperson's Report  | Mr. Dineen<br>at 7:30 p.m. (0:00)  |
| 3. Public Comment  | Mr. Dineen<br>at 7:33 p.m. (0:03)  |
| <br>   |  |
| Mia Mihopoulos<br>Jonathan Dunn<br>Stacey Tie<br>Joslyn Delancey<br>Joanna Walsh | 3 Mansfield Place<br>175 Raymond<br>10 Clocks Lane<br>Stamford, CT (DEA President)<br>17 Pleasant St |
| <br>   |  |
| 4. Superintendent's Report   | Dr. Alan Addley<br>at 7:44 p.m.(0:14)  |

5. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Dineen  
at 7:48 p.m. (0:18)

**Motion to Approve Minutes of the Special Meeting and Executive Session held on November 10, 2020; Minutes of the Organizational Meeting held on November 10, 2020; Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 10, 2020:**

1<sup>st</sup> Maroney

2<sup>ND</sup> Ritchie

1<sup>st</sup> Maroney

2<sup>ND</sup> Stein

1<sup>st</sup> Parent

2<sup>ND</sup> Maroney

|         | Brown | Dineen | McCammon | Maroney | Ochman | Parent | Ritchie | Sini | Stein |
|---------|-------|--------|----------|---------|--------|--------|---------|------|-------|
| Yes     | x     | x      | x        | x       | x      | x      | x       | x    | X     |
| No      |       |        |          |         |        |        |         |      |       |
| Abstain |       |        |          |         |        |        |         |      |       |

**RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)**

6. Board Committee Reports

Mr. Dineen  
at 7:49 p.m. (0:19)

**PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS**

7. Presentations/Discussions:

- a. Progress Report on Ox Ridge School Building Project

Ms. Amy Samuelson (S/L/A/M)  
Mr. David Cravanzola (O & G Industries)  
at 7:50 p.m. (0:20)

- b. Update on School Reopening

Dr. Addley  
at 8:03 p.m. (0:33)

- c. Discussion and Possible Acceptance of Contemplated Gift from the Blue Wave Booster Club Mr. Chris Manfredonia at 8:24 p.m. (0:54)

**Motion to Approve the Gift from the Blue Wave Booster Club Pursuant to Memorandum Dated November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020:**

**1<sup>ST</sup>** Sini

**2<sup>ND</sup>** Ritchie

|         | Brown | Dineen | McCammon | Maroney | Ochman | Parent | Ritchie | Sini | Stein |
|---------|-------|--------|----------|---------|--------|--------|---------|------|-------|
| Yes     | x     | x      | x        | x       | x      | x      | x       | x    | x     |
| No      |       |        |          |         |        |        |         |      |       |
| Abstain |       |        |          |         |        |        |         |      |       |

**RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)**

- d. Update on Draft District Feasibility Study for Removal of Portables at Elementary Schools and Libraries Re-Imagined Mr. John Scheib (Northeast Collaborative Architects) at 8:28 p.m. (0:58)
- e. Update on Elementary Classroom Space Study Mr. Scheib at 9:35 p.m. (2:05)
- f. Presentation of Updated Five Year Capital Plan Mr. Richard Rudl  
Mr. Michael Lynch at 9:58 p.m. (2:28)
- g. Discussion on October 2020-21 Financial Report and Possible Action on Proposed Budget Transfers Mr. Richard Rudl  
Ms. Tara Ochman at 10:23 p.m. (2:53)

**Motion to Approve the Proposed October Budget Transfers as Detailed in the Memorandum Dated November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020:**

**1<sup>ST</sup>** Stein

**2<sup>ND</sup>** Ochman

|         | Brown | Dineen | McCammon | Maroney | Ochman | Parent | Ritchie | Sini | Stein |
|---------|-------|--------|----------|---------|--------|--------|---------|------|-------|
| Yes     | x     | x      | x        | x       | x      | x      | x       | x    | X     |
| No      |       |        |          |         |        |        |         |      |       |
| Abstain |       |        |          |         |        |        |         |      |       |

**RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)**

h. Update on 2021-2022 Budget

Dr. Addley  
at 10:31 p.m. (3:01)

i. Presentation of Five-Year Budget Projections

Dr. Addley  
Mr. Rudl  
at 10:50 p.m. (3:20)

j. First Reading and Discussion on Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 5125, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and Repeal of Board Policy 5810, Student Use of the District's Computer Systems and Internet Safety; and Proposed Revised Policy 5810, Student Use of the District's Computer Systems and Internet Safety

Ms. Marjorie Cion  
at 10:55 p.m. (3:25)

8. Action Items

a. Personnel Items

i. Appointments

Ms. Marjorie Cion

ii. Resignations/Retirements

at 10:59 p.m. (3:29)

**Motion to Approve the Personnel Items as Detailed in the Personnel Action Report  
Dated November 24, 2020:**

**1<sup>st</sup>** Ritchie

**2<sup>ND</sup>** Maroney

|         | Brown | Dineen | McCammon | Maroney | Ochman | Parent | Ritchie | Sini | Stein |
|---------|-------|--------|----------|---------|--------|--------|---------|------|-------|
| Yes     | x     | x      | x        | x       | X      | x      | x       | x    | x     |
| No      |       |        |          |         |        |        |         |      |       |
| Abstain |       |        |          |         |        |        |         |      |       |

**RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)**

9. Public Comment

Mr. Dineen  
at 11:00 p.m. (3:30)

10. Adjournment

Mr. Dineen  
at 11:00 p.m. (3:30)

**Motion to Adjourn:**

**1<sup>st</sup>** Ritchie

**2<sup>ND</sup>** Maroney

|         | Brown | Dineen | McCammon | Maroney | Ochman | Parent | Ritchie | Sini | Stein |
|---------|-------|--------|----------|---------|--------|--------|---------|------|-------|
| Yes     | x     | X      | X        | X       | X      | X      | X       | X    | X     |
| No      |       |        |          |         |        |        |         |      |       |
| Abstain |       |        |          |         |        |        |         |      |       |

**RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)**

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m. (3:30)

Respectfully Submitted,

D. Jill McCammon,  
Secretary






# Darien Public Schools Status Update

## January 12, 2021



**Darien Board of Education**

# Updates

- 
- A photograph of a classroom. A teacher, a woman in a floral dress and a face shield, stands at the front near a large interactive screen. Several young students are seated at their desks, all wearing face masks. The room is filled with educational materials, including books on shelves and a green chalkboard in the background.
- COVID cases & metrics
  - Remote/Hybrid/In Person Learning
  - 180 days / 900 hours

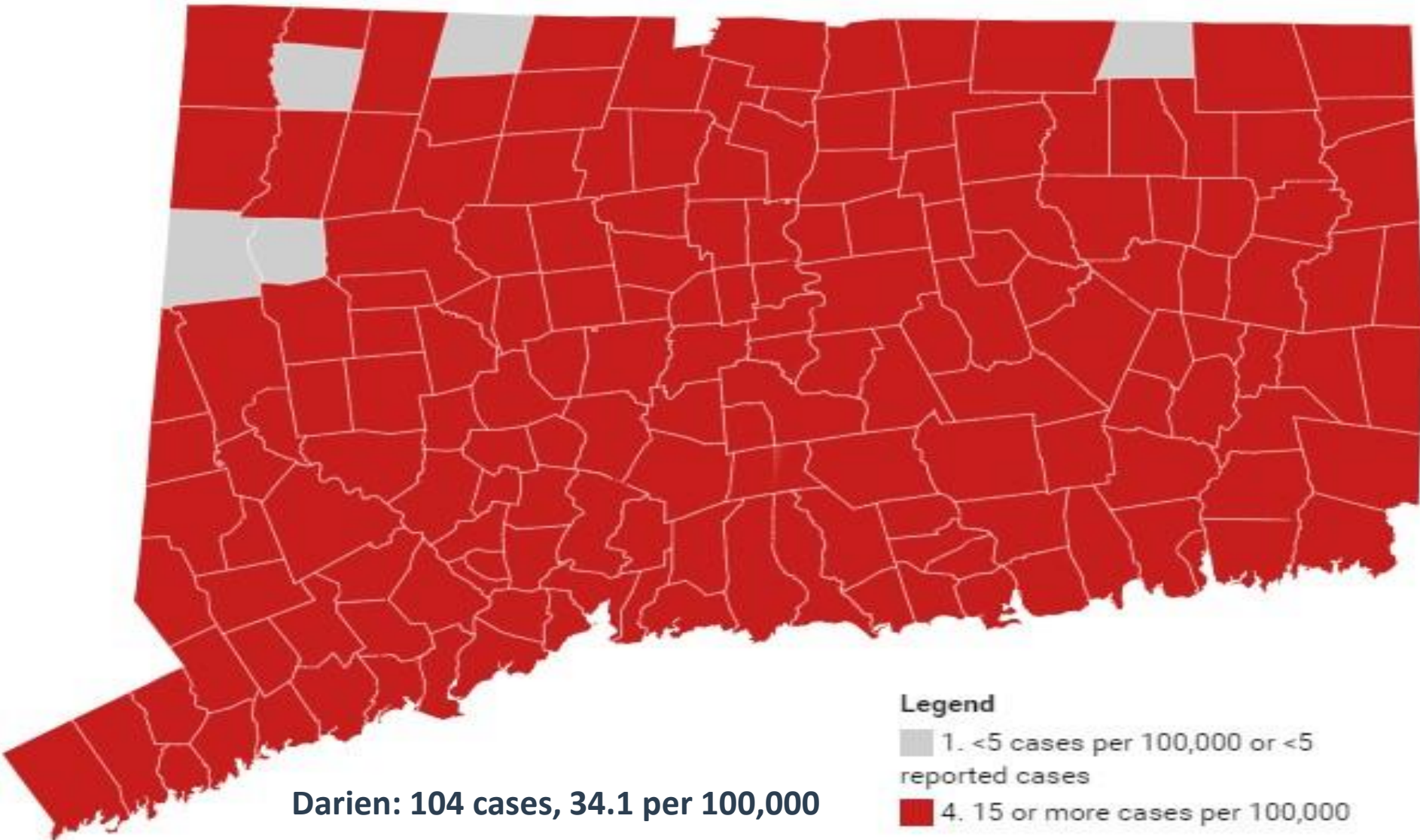
# COVID-19 Cases

| LOCATION         | CURRENT CASES | CURRENT QUARANTINE | CUMULATIVE CASES | CUMULATIVE QUARANTINE |
|------------------|---------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| DHS/FITCH        | 19            | 25                 | 51               | 289                   |
| MMS              | 9             | 10                 | 31               | 294                   |
| HINDLEY          | 6             | 11                 | 15               | 134                   |
| HOLMES           | 5             | 11                 | 24               | 177                   |
| OX RIDGE         | 1             | 6                  | 9                | 41                    |
| ROYLE            | 5             | 7                  | 16               | 126                   |
| TOKENEKE         | 0             | 4                  | 5                | 96                    |
| CENTRAL SERVICES | 0             | 0                  | 1                | 7                     |
| Total            | 45            | 74                 | 152              | 1164                  |

*\*current as of January 10, 8:00 pm*



**Average Daily Rate of COVID-19 Cases Among Persons  
Living in Community Settings per 100,000 Population By Town  
(Data Updated: Jan 7, 2021)**



# County Metrics Week ending Jan 02

|             | Leading Indicator                                | Secondary Indicators    |  |   |
|-------------|--|-------------------------|--|---|
| County      | New COVID-19 Cases<br>(14-day avg. per 100K pop) | Percent Test Positivity | New COVID-19 Hospital Admissions<br>(14-day avg. per 100K pop) | Percent COVID-like illness hospital ED visits |
| Connecticut | 54.5   | 8.2%                    | 4.5%   | 6.5%  |
| Fairfield   | 50.0   | 8.0%                    | 4.7%   | 7.9%  |

SOURCE: [CT STATE DATA](#)

# Questions & Comments



# **DARIEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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## **Memorandum**

**DATE:** January 11, 2021  
**TO:** Darien Board of Education  
**FROM:** Dr. Alan Addley, Superintendent of Schools  
Richard Rudl, Director of Finance & Operations

**SUBJECT: Re-Opening Expenditures and Special Appropriation**

Currently, re-opening expenditures for the operating budget stand at \$2,670,497. There are additional proposed transfers totaling \$285,563 for BOE approval that will be brought to Finance Committee on Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, which would reduce this amount down to \$2,384,934. The breakdown by category is as follows:

| <b>Category</b> | <b>Operating Fund</b> | <b>Grants</b>    | <b>Total Spending</b> | <b>Less Grants</b> | <b>Less Transfers</b> | <b>Total</b>       |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Staffing        | \$1,844,439           | \$0              | \$1,844,439           | \$0                | \$(382,935)           | \$1,461,504        |
| Facilities      | \$801,139             | \$389,497        | \$1,190,636           | \$(389,497)        | \$(66,047)            | \$735,092          |
| Technology      | \$188,338             | \$92,611         | \$280,949             | \$(92,611)         | \$0                   | \$188,338          |
| Athletics       | \$122,620             | \$0              | \$122,620             | \$0                | \$(122,620)           | \$0                |
| Transportation  | \$8,840               | \$0              | \$8,840               | \$0                | \$(8,840)             | \$0                |
| Materials       | \$69,551              | \$0              | \$69,551              | \$0                | \$(69,551)            | \$0                |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>\$3,034,927</b>    | <b>\$482,108</b> | <b>\$3,517,035</b>    | <b>\$(482,108)</b> | <b>\$(649,993)</b>    | <b>\$2,384,934</b> |

As discussed in previous meetings, it is the Administration's recommendation to bring forward to the Board of Education a request for a special appropriation, which if approved would then move forward to the Board of Finance and the RTM. It is our recommendation at this point to bring forward a recommendation of \$2,384,934 to fund re-opening expenditures due to COVID. This too will be discussed at the January 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee meeting.

# HIGH SCHOOL WALK ZONE RADIUS ANALYSIS

SCHOOL BUS LOGISTICS

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**Date:** November 9, 2020

**Version:** 2.0

**Prepared for:** Darien Public School District, CT

**Darien**  
Public School District





## Contents

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## 1.0 COVER LETTER

November 9, 2020

Richard Rudl- Director of Finance & Operations  
Darien Public School District  
35 Leroy Ave  
Darien, CT 06820

Dear Mr. Rudl,

School Bus Logistics is pleased to deliver this report for a Darien walk zone analysis for your upcoming school year 2021-22. This report outlines findings and recommendations formulated from findings conducted on data pulled from the Versatrans Routing & Planning software. Other data collected from the school district was also used to present findings and recommendations.

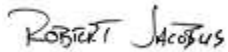
The purpose of the report is to outline ways to improve student safety, maintain service levels, review walk zone radiuses for the high school while keeping costs low. This report also points out recommendations of opportunities to improve service levels, increased efficiencies, and areas of risk.

I appreciate the assistance from you and your transportation staff. This open line of communication has brought forth a better understanding of the needs of the district and the families it serves.

If you have any further questions regarding this report, please feel to reach out anytime. I can be reached at 303-518-3148 or by emailing me at [robert.jacobus@schoolbuslogistics.com](mailto:robert.jacobus@schoolbuslogistics.com)

Regards,

Rob Jacobus



President\CEO



## 2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Study Overview

School Bus Logistics was selected to provide a walk zone radius impact analysis for the Darien Public School District. The preliminary goals of the analysis are to research the impacts of reducing the high school walk zone from 2 miles to 1.75 miles, 1.5 miles or 1 mile from the school. Other options and considerations in this analysis were to review moving some or all elementary schools to a later school start. School Bus Logistics also completed a comparison of neighboring school districts' walk zones distances, see Appendix #1.

#### Project Objectives:

- Review of high school walk zone area south of I-95 freeway
- Impacts of moving the high school walk zone from 2 miles down to a 1.75-mile walk radius
- Impacts of moving the high school walk zone from 2 miles down to a 1.5-mile walk radius
- Impacts of moving the high school walk zone from 2 miles down to a 1-mile walk radius

School Bus Logistics will provide the following tasks in the review of walk radius changes and bell time changes

1. Additional buses required for 1.75-mile walk radius change
2. Additional buses required for 1.5-mile walk radius change
3. Additional buses required for 1-mile walk radius change

#### Summary:

- Option 1- Moving walk zone distance down to 1.75 miles increases 1 full bus route
- Option 2- Moving walk zone distance down to 1.5 miles increases to 2 full bus routes
- Option 3- Moving walk zone distances down to 1-mile increases to 7 full bus routes
- Option 4- Moving ALL elementary schools to the same tier increases to 2 full bus routes
- Option 5- Moving high school walk zone to 1.5 miles and shifting all elementary schools to the same tier increases to 2 full bus routes

### Methodology

School Bus Logistics used Versatrans routing software to run a test bell schedule scenario along with impacts of additional riders to high school routes. Data used was provided from the transportation department upon request for actual load counts on all routes. Multiple Zoom meetings were held with district stakeholders to ensure district objectives were being met.

To begin the analysis School Bus Logistics compiled a baseline of current routing and how route packages are currently setup. For analysis purposes, route packages remained the same for the most part to ensure accuracy. Special needs routes were not part of the analysis. Each route package was documented for the following criteria:

- Impact of routes with adjusted bell times for elementary schools
- Impacts of each set of distance changes for high school regarding the walk zone



Through the process of evaluating current route packages and creating new ones, 5 options were identified; each is summarized in this report.



## 3.0 OPTIONS

To begin the analysis, load counts provided from the transportation department was provided from November 2019 to compare actual ridership to eligible ridership. All options listed have been calculated using actual ridership data. Below is a table that compares eligible vs. actual ridership for high school routes.

| Route | Eligible | Actual | Percent |
|-------|----------|--------|---------|
| 01    | 116      | 61     | 52%     |
| 02    | 108      | 69     | 63%     |
| 03    | 88       | 27     | 30%     |
| 04    | 100      | 35     | 35%     |
| 05    | 76       | 29     | 38%     |
| 06    | 74       | 58     | 78%     |
| 18    | 64       | 22     | 34%     |
| 24    | 84       | 49     | 58%     |

*Table 1 – High School Load Counts by Route*

### 3.1 Option 1 – Walk Radius from 2 miles down to 1.75 miles

Moving the high school walk zone distance from 2 miles down to 1.75 miles increases potential ridership for new bus riders to 100 students. As of the 2020-21 school year, the school district implemented new bus service for high school students south of interstate 95. This would require one more additional bus to service these added riders.

Eighteen of these high school students are north and northwest of the high school and could go onto existing routes. This is according to actual load counts that have been reviewed in this area. 82 of these students are found to be south of the freeway (I-95). Some of these 82 students may already be riding the new bus for 2020-21 school year.

### 3.2 Option 2 – Walk Radius from 2 miles down to 1.5 miles

Moving the high school walk zone distance from 2 miles down to 1.5 mile increases potential ridership to 180 students. Twenty-one of the students live north of the high school and could go onto existing routes. Fifty-two of the students reside southwest of the high school. This area would need one additional bus. One hundred and seven students reside south of Interstate 95. This area would require 2 buses. As of the 2020-21 school year, the district put into service one bus in this area already.

No high school student south of the freeway would have to walk along Noroton Ave to get to school. Group stops (hub stops) could be placed at parks to allow easier access for students to catch the bus.



### 3.3 Option 3 – Walk Radius from 2 Miles down to 1 mile

Moving the high school walk zone distance from 2 miles down to 1 mile increases potential ridership to 495 students. This would require 7 additional buses to service these students.

- 61 students are north of the high school
- 161 students are west of the high school
- 273 students are south of the high school

No high school student south of the freeway would have to walk along Noroton Ave to get to school. Group stops (hub stops) could be placed at parks to allow easier access for students to catch the bus.

### 3.4 Option 4 – Bell Time Changes- Elementary

Other possible solutions to offer high school students bus service without changing current policy by reducing the 2-mile walk zone distance was to review possible bell time changes at some elementary schools. Moving some or all elementary bell times to a later start could potentially add more buses for high school students without increasing cost.

#### ***3.4.1 Royle Elementary Bell Change***

Adding bus service for high school students residing between 2 miles and 1.5 miles from the high school would require 3 buses. Moving Royle Elementary bell time from an 8:25am start to a 9:00am start would allow two high school bus routes to provide “express” routes. An “express” route is bus service that services one stop, such as a park to and from the high school. This allows for quick service so that the bus can return to the high school to take more students home.

The two new high school buses would need to drop first at 7:10-15 in the AM to go back out and pick up a 2<sup>nd</sup> bus run in the morning. These three buses would provide a double run in the morning. This would only work if Royle Elementary moved to a later start time of 9:00am.

In the afternoon, the two buses would run a 1<sup>st</sup> bus run to proposed new express stops and return back to the high school 25-30 minutes later to do three high school routes. Issue with this option is that students would be waiting at the school 25-30 minutes after the bell to get a ride home on the 2<sup>nd</sup> bus run.

In earlier discussions with the district it was decided that having students wait 25-30 minutes for the 2<sup>nd</sup> bus run was not going to be an option. Therefore there is no need to move Royle elementary school to a later start time.

#### ***3.4.2 Moving all Elementary Schools to the same tier***

Currently, most of the elementary routes have low ridership and this is because there is not enough time to load up the buses to full capacity because of time needed between school bells. If all the elementary schools started at 9:00am this would allow more time to service more students on buses for the elementary schools.



*For this report, a bus run is a segment or leg of a route. A route is a compilation of bus runs (morning & afternoon) that make up the entire route for the day for a driver and bus.*

Currently the district operates a three tier bell system. First bus runs are for the high school and middle school. The 2<sup>nd</sup> bus run services Hindley, Royle and Tokeneke Elementary schools. The last segment of the routes are for Holmes and Ox Ridge Elementary schools. As of the 2020-21 school year the district operates 25 bus routes.

Below is a breakdown of actual ridership into the elementary schools.

| Current Bus Runs | School   | Actual Rider Counts | Bus Runs Needed | Runs Reduced |
|------------------|----------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 9                | Hindley  | 397                 | 7               | 2            |
| 8                | Holmes   | 330                 | 5               | 3            |
| 8                | Tokeneke | 317                 | 5               | 3            |
| 11               | Ox Ridge | 321                 | 5               | 6            |
| 7                | Royle    | 224                 | 4               | 3            |
| TOTAL 43         |          |                     | 26              | 17           |

*Table 2 – Elementary Load Counts by School*

The school district provided load counts for the elementary schools as far back as 2015. After careful review of the load counts it was discovered that some buses could be reduced from each of the schools as outlined in Table 1. Using a max load count of 60, table 1 also shows how many buses could be reduced at each school. The highest possible numbers have been used for load counts.

There are a couple of advantages of this option. One is to have all elementary schools on one tier allows for a shift in bell times for the elementary schools to be earlier by 10-15 minutes. Another advantage of this option allows for a better outcome to move high school and middle schools to a later start time such as 8:30am or 8:45am start. Further studies for both advantages would need to be conducted.

### **3.5 Option 5 – Bell Time Changes- Elementary & Moving High School Walk Zone**

This option shows moving the high school walk zone down from 2 miles to 1.5 and shifting all elementary schools to the same tier would result in the same number of buses of 27. Both options could be executed separately as outlined in options 2 & 4.

Implementing this option would require 27 buses to transport both middle and high school. The same buses are available to transport elementary students on the later tier.



## 4.0 Appendix #1

### Walk Zones

| DISTRICT NAME             | ZONES  |
|---------------------------|--|
| DARIEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS     | K-5 = 1/2 MILE; 6-8 = 1 MILE;<br>9-12 = 2 MILES  |
| WILTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS     | WALK DISTANCE TO BUS STOP:<br>K-5 = 1/2 MILE; 6-12 = 1 MILE  |
| STAMFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS   | K-5 = 1 MILE; 6-8 = 1.5 MILES;<br>9-12 = 2 MILES   |
| NEW CANAAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS | K-4 = 1/2 MILE; 5-6 = 2/3 MILE (OR .67);<br>7-12 = 1 MILE  |
| FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  | ES = 3/4 MILE; MS = 1 MILE;<br>HS = 1.5 MILES  |
| RIDGEFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS | THIS INCLUDES HOME TO STOP AND<br>HOME TO SCHOOL: K-5 = 1 MILE;<br>6-8 = 1.5 MILES; 9-12 = 2 MILES |
| WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS     | K-5 = .25 MILES;<br>MS & HS(6-12) = .50 MILES  |
| GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS  | ES = 1 MILE; MS = 1.5 MILES;<br>HS = 2 MILES   |





# DARIEN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

## HIGH SCHOOL WALK ZONE RADIUS ANALYSIS

SCHOOL BUS LOGISTICS

**Date:** December 8 , 2020

**Presented by Rob Jacobus**

**Darien**  
Public School District



## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Impacts of moving the high school walk zone from 2 miles down to a 1.75-mile walk radius
- Impacts of moving the high school walk zone from 2 miles down to a 1.5-mile walk radius
- Impacts of moving the high school walk zone from 2 miles down to a 1-mile walk radius

Scenario was evaluated for the following:

- How many buses needed to add additional high school riders for all three options
- Impact of Bell Time Changes



## RECENT PROJECTS



**Jeffco Schools-Golden, CO**  
**Cherry Creek Schools- Greenwood Village, CO**  
**Boulder Valley- Boulder, CO**  
**Tahoe Truckee Unified- Tahoe, CA**  
**West County Transit- Santa Rosa, CA**  
**Fremont Unified- Fremont, CA**  
**Littleton Public- Littleton, CO**  
**Cumberland Schools- Cumberland, RI**  
**Holyoke Public Schools- Holyoke, MA**  
**New Canaan Public Schools, CT**



**Current bell structure allows school buses  
to be used multiple times- best possible outcome**



A run is a segment or leg of a route. A route is a compilation of runs (morning & afternoon) that make up the entire route for the day for a particular driver and bus

Currently the district operates a three-tier bell system. First bus runs are for the high school and middle school. The 2<sup>nd</sup> bus run services Hindley, Royle and Tokeneke Elementary schools. The last segment of the routes are for Holmes and Ox Ridge Elementary schools. As of the 2020-21 school year the district operates 25 bus routes.



# Sample Fleet Schedule



| Scheduled Routes (137) |     |     |     |      |      |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 6am                    | 7am | 8am | 9am | 10am | 11am | 12pm | 1pm | 2pm | 3pm | 4pm | 5pm | 6pm |
|                        |     |     |     |      |      |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|                        | DRS | H   | HL  |      |      |      |     | DRS | HI  | HL  |     |     |
|                        | DRS | HI  | HL  |      |      |      |     | DRS | HI  | HL  |     |     |
|                        | DRS | TOK | OX  |      |      |      |     | DRS | TOK | OX  |     |     |
|                        | DRS | TOK | OX  |      |      |      |     | DRS | TOK | OX  |     |     |
|                        | DRS | RO  | OX  |      |      |      |     | DRS | RO  | OX  |     |     |
|                        | DRS | RO  | OX  |      |      |      |     | DRS | RO  | OX  |     |     |
|                        | MSM | TOK |     |      |      |      |     | MS  | TOK |     |     |     |
|                        | MSM | TOK | OX  |      |      |      |     | MS  | TOK | OX  |     |     |
|                        | MSM | H   | HL  |      |      |      |     | MSM | HI  | HL  |     |     |
|                        | MSM | TOK | OX  |      |      |      |     | MSM | TOK | OX  |     |     |
|                        | M   | HN  | OX  |      |      |      |     | MS  | HIN | OX  |     |     |
|                        | MSM | TOK |     |      |      |      |     | MSM | TOK |     |     |     |
|                        | M   | HI  | HL  |      |      |      |     | M   | HI  | HL  |     |     |
|                        | MSM | TOK | HLN |      |      |      |     | MS  | TOK | HL  |     |     |
|                        | MSM | RO  | OX  |      |      |      |     | MSM | RO  | OX  |     |     |
|                        | MSM | RO  | OX  |      |      |      |     | MSM | RO  | OX  |     |     |
|                        | MS  | TOK |     |      |      |      |     | MSM | TOK |     |     |     |
|                        | DRS | HI  | OX  |      |      |      |     | DRS | HI  | OX  |     |     |
|                        | MSM | ROY | HL  |      |      |      |     | MSM | ROY | HL  |     |     |
|                        | MSM | RO  | HLN |      |      |      |     | MSM | RO  | HL  |     |     |
|                        | MSM | ROY |     |      |      |      |     | MSM | ROY |     |     |     |
|                        | MSM | H   | HL  |      |      |      |     | MS  | H   | HL  |     |     |
|                        | MSM | H   | OX  |      |      |      |     | MSM | H   | OX  |     |     |
|                        | DRS | HI  |     |      |      |      |     | DRS | HI  |     |     |     |

## Darien High School Students Bus Eligible vs. Actual Riders

| Route | Eligible | Actual | Percent |
|-------|----------|--------|---------|
| 01    | 116      | 61     | 52%     |
| 02    | 108      | 69     | 63%     |
| 03    | 88       | 27     | 30%     |
| 04    | 100      | 35     | 35%     |
| 05    | 76       | 29     | 38%     |
| 06    | 74       | 58     | 78%     |
| 18    | 64       | 22     | 34%     |
| 24    | 84       | 49     | 58%     |

*Table 1 – High School Load Counts by Route*

*\*snapshot of data from November 2019*



### **Option 1 – Walk Radius from 2 miles down to 1.75 miles**

- Option 1- Moving walk zone distance down to 1.75 miles increases 1 full bus route
- 100 new eligible high school riders

### **Option 2 – Walk Radius from 2 miles down to 1.5 miles**

- Option 2- Moving walk zone distance down to 1.5 miles increases to 2 full bus routes
- 180 new eligible high school riders

### **Option 3 – Walk Radius from 2 Miles down to 1 mile**

- Option 3- Moving walk zone distances down to 1-mile increases to 7 full bus routes
- 495 new eligible high school riders

*\*assumption that not all eligible riders take the bus- percentage is used for each area*

*\*opt-in transportation is best used for planning purposes*



#### **Option 4 – Bell Time Changes- Elementary**

- Option 4- Moving ALL elementary schools to the same tier increases to 2 full bus routes
- Getting Creative with Bell Times- Royle Elementary
- Express Routes for High School  
buses would run a 1<sup>st</sup> bus run to proposed new express stops and return back to the high school 25-30 minutes later to take home more high school students

#### **Option 5 – Bell Time Changes- Elementary & Moving High School Walk Zone**

- Moves High School walk zone down to 1.5 miles radius
- Moves ALL elementary schools to the same bell schedule
- Increases 2 full bus routes





## Evaluating Load Counts for Elementary Schools

| Current Bus Runs | School   | Actual Rider Counts | Bus Runs Needed | Runs Reduced |
|------------------|----------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 9                | Hindley  | 397                 | 7               | 2            |
| 8                | Holmes   | 330                 | 5               | 3            |
| 8                | Tokeneke | 317                 | 5               | 3            |
| 11               | Ox Ridge | 321                 | 5               | 6            |
| 7                | Royle    | 224                 | 4               | 3            |
| TOTAL 43         |          |                     | 26              | 17           |

*Table 2 – Elementary Load Counts by School*

- Why 43 buses needed now
- Why 26 buses needed if only one tier



## Walk Zones

| DISTRICT NAME             | ZONES  |
|---------------------------|--|
| DARIEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS     | K-5 = 1/2 MILE; 6-8 = 1 MILE;<br>9-12 = 2 MILES  |
| WILTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS     | WALK DISTANCE TO BUS STOP:<br>K-5 = 1/2 MILE; 6-12 = 1 MILE  |
| STAMFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS   | K-5 = 1 MILE; 6-8 = 1.5 MILES;<br>9-12 = 2 MILES   |
| NEW CANAAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS | K-4 = 1/2 MILE; 5-6 = 2/3 MILE (OR .67);<br>7-12 = 1 MILE  |
| FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  | ES = 3/4 MILE; MS = 1 MILE;<br>HS = 1.5 MILES  |
| RIDGEFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS | THIS INCLUDES HOME TO STOP AND<br>HOME TO SCHOOL: K-5 = 1 MILE;<br>6-8 = 1.5 MILES; 9-12 = 2 MILES |
| WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS     | K-5 = .25 MILES;<br>MS & HS(6-12) = .50 MILES  |
| GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS  | ES = 1 MILE; MS = 1.5 MILES;<br>HS = 2 MILES   |



# QUESTIONS?



**P R O P O S E D**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MASTER AGENDA**  
**FEBRUARY 2021 THROUGH AUGUST 2021**

**February 9th**

- Further Discussion and Approval of Proposed Board of Education 2021-2022 Budget
- Further Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed New Courses for Darien High School for the 2021-2022 School Year

**February 23rd**

- Update on Kindergarten Enrollment for 2021-2022
- Continued Review, Revision and Update of Board of Education Policies
- Discussion on January 2020-21 Financial Report and Possible Action on Proposed Budget Transfers
- Update on Strategic Planning

**March 10th, Wednesday**

- Presentation and Discussion on Darien High School Second Semester Enrollment Distribution Report – or March 23
- Update on Kindergarten Enrollment for 2021-2022
- Interim Progress Report on 2020-2021 Goals and Objectives

**March 23rd**

- Presentation and Discussion on Darien High School Second Semester Enrollment Distribution Report – or March 10
- Discussion and Possible Action on Elementary Parent Conference Days for 2021-22 School Year – or April 27
- Discussion on February 2020-21 Financial Report and Possible Action on Proposed Budget Transfers
- Discussion and Possible Action on Establishing a date for Graduation

**April 7th (Wednesday)**

- Further Discussion and Action on Establishing 2021 Darien High School Graduation Date

#### **April 7th, cont.**

- Update on Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle School and High School Enrollment for 2021-2022
- Action on Non-Renewal of Certified Staff Working under One-Year Contracts and Long Term Substitutes – or April 27

#### **April 27th**

- Action on Non-Renewal of Certified Staff Working under One-Year Contracts and Long Term Substitutes – or April 7
- Discussion on March 2020-21 Financial Report and Possible Action on Proposed Budget Transfers
- Update on Elementary Enrollment for 2021-2022 School Year
- Discussion and Possible Action on Elementary Parent Conference Days for 2021-22 School Year – or March 23

#### **May 11th**

- Update and Discussion on Extended School Year Program
- Verbal Update on High School and Middle School Scheduling – or June 8

#### **May 25th**

- First Reading and Discussion on 2022-2023 Darien School Calendar
- Discussion on April 2020-21 Financial Report and Possible Action on Proposed Budget Transfers
- Update on Enrollment for the 2021-2022 School Year
- Discussion and Possible Action on Revision of the FY2021-2022 Budget to Meet the Reduction Approved by the Board of Finance and the RTM – or June 8

#### **June 8th**

- Superintendent's Citizenship Awards
- Recognition of DPS Retirees
- Report on High School College Acceptances and Awards; Profile on High School Class of 2021 and Post High School Plans
- Report on Senior Internship Project at Darien High School
- Update on District Enrollment for 2021-2022 School Year
- Report on DAEG Barbara Harrington Fund Awards
- Verbal Update on High School and Middle School Scheduling – or May 11

### **June 8th, cont.**

- Discussion and Possible Action on Revision of the FY2021-2022 Budget to Meet the Reduction Approved by the Board of Finance and the RTM – or May 25
- Further Discussion and Possible Action on 2022-2023 District School Calendar

### **June 22nd**

- Annual Progress Report on 2020-2021 Goals and Objectives
- Annual Report on Donations
- Update Master Agenda – February through August 2021 – or July 27
- Discussion on May 2020-21 Financial Report and Possible Action on Proposed Budget Transfers
- Update on Strategic Planning
- First Reading and Discussion on Proposed Schedule of 2021-2022 Regular Board of Education Meetings and Subcommittee Meetings

### **July , Special Meeting (date TBD)**

- Board Self-Evaluation
- Renewal of Superintendent's Contract

### **July 27th**

- First Reading and Discussion on Proposed District Goals for 2021-2022
- Further Discussion and Action on Proposed Schedule of 2021-2022 Regular Board of Education Meetings and Subcommittee Meetings
- Update on Enrollment for the 2021-22 School Year and Possible Action on Utilization of Budget Control
- Update Master Agenda – February through August 2021 – or June 22
- Discussion on June 2020-21 Financial Report and Possible Action on Proposed Budget Transfers - or August 24
- Update on the Fall Opening of Schools

## August 24th

- Verbal Update on Regular and Special Education Staffing for 2021-2022
- Discussion and Action on 2020-2021 Final Year End Financial Report – or September 14, 2021
- Discussion on June 2020-21 Financial Report and Possible Action on Proposed Budget Transfers – or July 27
- First Reading of Board Master Agenda for August 2021-January 2022 – or September 14, 2021
- Action on District Goals and Objectives for 2021-2022
- Update on Summer Facilities Projects
- Presentation and Possible Approval of Revised Facilities Use Fee Schedule
- Appointment of an Impartial Hearing Officer for Student Disciplinary Matters for the 2021-2022 School Year, as they arise
- Action Item – to Delegate to its Appointed Hearing Officer Responsibility for Hearing Expulsion Expungement Requests and for Hearing School Accommodations Appeals, including Transportation Appeals as provided by Statute

nv  
1/6/21

Working Draft

PERSONNEL ACTION REPORT

January 12, 2021

| Item  | Name          | Action      | Location/Position                                  | Effective Date |          | Tenure Area | Certification Class/Step |
|---|---------------|-------------|--|----------------|----------|-------------|--------------------------|
|   |               |             |  | From           | To       |             |                          |
| Resignations and Retirements (Informational Only) |               |             |  |                |          |             |                          |
| 1   | Cory Gillette | Resignation | Central Services/Elementary Curriculum Coordinator |                | 2/5/2021 |             |                          |
| 2   | Pete Caporal  | Retirement  | DHS/Custodian                                      |                | 3/5/2021 |             |                          |