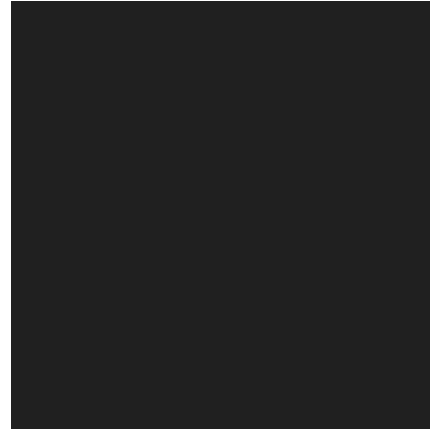




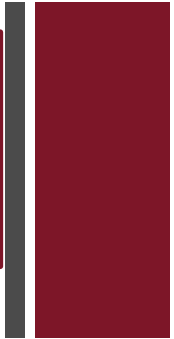
BELL SCHEDULE TASK FORCE FINDINGS

Board of Education

October 25, 2016



Committee Members



Susan Taylor - PTA

Colleen Olifiers - Parent

Dawn Susca – PTA

Kathy Cucchiarella - Parent

Christine Spencer - Parent

Kelly Sullivan - PTA

Becky Williams - PTA

Chris Lieberman - SYSO

Erik Tetro – SIS Teacher

Stacey Elconin – SIS Principal

Katie Winter – Primrose Principal

Phil Campbell – SHS AP

Kevin Guidotti – SHS AP

Roman Catalino – Dir. Of Athletics

Norma Zeller – Dir. Food Services

Jeff Getman – SMS Principal

Kenneth Crowley – Asst. Supt. for Business

Joseph Bernardi – Transp. /Safety

Goal of Committee

- To identify the feasibility of changing the Bell Schedule of the Schools within the Somers CSD to allow for a later start time at Somers High School.

CURRENT BELL SCHEDULE FOR SOMERS SCHOOLS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|
| ■ PRIMROSE ELEMENTARY | 8:10am | 2:25pm |
| ■ SOMERS INTERMEDIATE | 9:00am | 3:20pm |
| ■ SOMERS MIDDLE | 8:25am | 3:00pm |
| ■ SOMERS HIGH | 7:35am | 2:00pm |

Meeting Dates and Topics

April 26, 2016 4:30pm – 6:00pm

- Reviewed article from American Academy of Pediatrics “School Start Times for Adolescents”

Advantages (1 hr. or more later start)

less daytime sleepiness
decreased tardiness
improved academics
safer driving

Disadvantages (later time less significant due to)

excessive homework
extracurricular activities
after school employment
social networking / social media

It is documented that a start time less than 1 hour later does improve sleepiness but academic scoring was much less significant

Also noted was that a later start time would only work if the disadvantages were addressed in conjunction with that later time

It was also noted that the time for after school academic help would be shortened or not available with the later start and could also effect sports practices and games if surrounding Districts did not adopt the same type schedule.

Meeting Dates and Topics

June 16, 2016 4:30pm – 6:00pm

- After reviewing minutes from April meeting, Members broke down into three groups.
- Each group was given task to review the current Bell Schedule and compare it to 4 other proposed schedules.
- Members were advised that approximately one hour is needed between each set of bus runs.
- They were also reminded that the arrival and dismissal from SIS and SMS had to stagger approximately 20-25 minutes to allow bus loading and dismissing of buses.



Current Schedule

	Start	End
Somers High School	7:35	2:00
Somers Middle School	8:25	3:00
Somers Intermediate School	9:00	3:20
Primrose Elementary	8:10	2:25

Proposed Schedules

Proposal 1	Start	End	Proposal 2	Start	End
Somers High School	7:45	2:10	Somers High School	8:00	2:25
Somers Middle School	8:40	3:15	Somers Middle School	8:55	3:30
Somers Intermed. School	9:05	3:25	Somers Intermed. School	9:15	3:35
Primrose Elementary	8:15	2:30	Primrose Elementary	8:15	2:30
Proposal 3	Start	End	Proposal 4	Start	End
Somers High School	8:05	2:30	Somers High School	8:10	2:35
Somers Middle School	8:55	3:30	Somers Middle School	8:00	2:25
Somers Intermed. School	8:45	3:05	Somers Intermed. School	9:00	3:20
Primrose Elementary	7:45	2:00	Primrose Elementary	9:00	3:20

Pros and/or Cons of proposed schedules

PROPOSAL 1		PROPOSAL 2	
Pros	Cons	Pros	Cons
SHS – 10 min. later	SIS – 5 min. later	SHS – 25 min. later	SIS – 15 min. later
- Not a significant enough change to make a difference - SIS/SMS – 5 min. between dismissal			

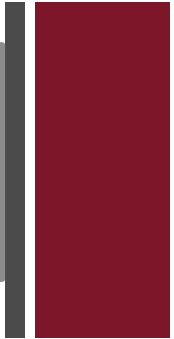
PROPOSAL 3		PROPOSAL 4	
Pros	Cons	Pros	Cons
SHS – 30 min. later	SMS – 20 min. later	SHS – 35 min. later	SIS/PES – same start
SIS – 15 min. earlier	SIS/SMS – arrival too close		
- Confusion at stops. - Bottom line: none offer the 1 hour later time for SHS that would be a significant factor in the overall increased academic scoring. - Team members also established other proposed schedules during our group session but those did not meet the requirements needed to be viable solutions.			

High School Bell Times of Neighboring Districts

	START	END
BEDFORD CSD	7:45	2:20
BREWSTER CSD	7:50	2:20
BRIARCLIFF CSD	7:45	2:18
CARMEL CSD	7:10	1:50
CHAPPAQUA CSD (HORACE GREELEY)	7:45	2:35
HALDANE CSD	7:33	2:14
KATONAH LEWISBORO	8:15	2:53
LAKELAND CSD	7:33	2:00
MAHOPAC CSD	7:40	1:53
NORTH SALEM CSD	7:30	2:20
OSSINING UFSD	7:45	2:26
PEEKSKILL CITY SD	8:10	2:40
PUTNAM VALLEY CSD	7:10	1:50
SOMERS CSD	7:35	2:00
YORKTOWN CSD	7:19	2:17



Recommendation to Superintendent



- At our final meeting on October 05, 2016, the team confirmed a recommendation to the Superintendent to remain with the current schedule with the possibility of revisiting this over the next few years. There is a chance that a three-tier system would work in the future as determined by the forecasted decrease in enrollment. This would allow the District to review bus routes and perhaps decrease the number of vehicles being used, allowing SIS and SMS to maintain a comparable bell schedule. Both schools would be able to travel together on the same buses to and from the same campus. This could result in a later start time for Somers High School.