

Timberlane Regional School District

Comments from the Online Parent Survey Regarding Combining Middle and High School Buses

February 2019

Where is there value added by combining high school with middle school? Does it eliminate bus(es) this saving district monies?

The MS bus comes by our house 10 mins earlier in the morning than the HS bus, at 6:40 am, and we live 3 miles from the school. There has to be a more efficient process, and if combining the buses helps with that, I fully support it.

I do not think high school and middle school students should be bused together, high school students are much more mature in many ways and there behavior is much different than that if a middle school child. These differences alone should be considered when making the decision to integrate the children, the middle schoolers will be learning things and seeing behavior that they need not to just to save money. We pay plenty of taxes in the town.

Thanks

The routes in the morning should be the same as in the afternoon - currently we are one of the families who are supposed to notify the bus company whether my children will need the bus or not in the mornings, which is very impractical. I drive them instead.

Combining the buses would be ok as long as there aren't over crowding issues. Even 6th graders are not small enough to be 3 to a seat.

I currently drive my high schooler and middle schooler to school. They both take buses home.

Will combining Middle and HS change pick up times in the AM drastically? These kids get up early enough already!

I have 2 high schoolers that take the bus and based on the horrific things that happen on the HS bus, I strongly suggest keeping the middle schoolers separate.

Would probably generally favor this idea, as it seems like a sensible resource management plan. We have one high schooler and one middle schooler, and their afternoon buses usually arrive within minutes of each other. If the routes are combined, it may be prudent to have additional bus monitors or driver assistants. Thanks.

Keep the buses separate, thanks.

No

I sympathize with efforts to control costs, I am just concerned with the age difference with a middle school student versus a high school student.

The brakes (abnormally loud)seem to be an issue on bus 107 (worse with the old bus. Still occurring with the new bus)

Putting High School kids and Middle School kids on same bus is a horrible idea.. it just invites unnecessary issues.

This Board needs to get training. They have lost the public's trust.

I think there is a huge age gap on the bus you'll have 6 th graders on with seniors and all those buses at the same time might be a traffic night mare .the kids are already 3 to a seat also

It is utterly inappropriate to have young CHILDREN intermingled on a bus with young ADULTS! Sounds like a good idea until there's a 12 year old little girl that's coerced and taken advantage of by an 18 year old young man. I wouldn't want that guilt to ride on my shoulders for the remainder of my life. The desparity of knowledge between a teenager and a child that has just left elementary school is vast. This decision would not be in the best interest of the children, but rather in the best interest of the bottom line on the districts budget. You can tell a lot about a community by the decisions they make on behalf of children and seniors.

This survey stinks! If buses pick up Middle and high school together the other option is for you to say you will take your child to school. How about asking if you dont like this idea please tell why! How about Bullying, How about having NOOOOOO parking for all students who can drive to schools! How about a 6th grader sitting in front of a senior who is talking in a way that could be consider defensive. How about a 6th grade girl sitting in the same seat a senior boy with raging hormones. And that 6th grade girl who looks like she is much older than she is feeling unforgettable? Put kids together that are not of the same mind set and there will be problems!

I feel it would be extremely intimidating and uncomfortable for the middle school kids to ride with the high school kids.

We're having a major problem with the bus company suddenly changing the pickup arrangement for our Autistic son from his school, without warning us. This is causing him major stress and disrupting his home and school life. We are getting no help from the bus company, which is very disconcerting.

I do not agree with middle school students riding the bus with high school students.

I don't want my 6 grader sitting or hearing the things that high school kids say and do. I am truly against the middle and high school sharing a bus

I feel there is too much of a age gap for a 6th grader to be on a bus with high school students.

The dispatch staff at durham school services is terrible. I had an issue with my sons preschool bus to TLC and nothing gets accomplished unless you talk to a supervisor, took 2 months to get an issue sorted out.

There is already to much peer pressure and bullying that the children have to deal with. Let's not add more time for that to happen

Keep up the good work

My son is 11 years old I do not think he should be riding the bus with 17 year olds he is nervous about middle school as it is

Our bus driver Mrs. Sandy bus #130 is amazing!

The combining of both schools on routes potentially leaves small, very young 6th graders with high school seniors. This can be extremely intimidating and hard for the young ones, especially when older kids tend to swear or speak at a higher level of maturity. Overall, the buses are already crowded, especially the middle school buses. It would really be a large downfall to combine the two buses, and really, would it save money? No.

Please combine buses and save taxpayers money while being more effective.

Why is this survey open to people who don't have children in the district? Your results will be invalid.

If that change were to take place I would suggest having the kids separated on the bus though. For example the high school kids in the back in a little school kids in the front.

I agree to combining buses. However I have one kid in Middle school and one in High school and the buses are very full.

Dad says... middle school and high school are separated for a reason(s), maturity wise etc. 2) Girls mature faster than boys looking a lot like High Schoolers... wouldn't want a sophomore thinking a 13 or 14 year old is mature enough to date them. 3) A lot happened on buses when were kids. Learning about life, playing dare games, etc etc all thing Middle Schoolers don't need to be exposed to yet. Not to mention what will the kids do during the free time before and after school?

Combining MS and HS does not seem appropriate, my sixth grader still believes in Santa and does not need to hear what high school students have to say about sex, drugs etc. I think it is an awful option.

Interested in the specific benefits to combining , ex: proposed bus times.

6th graders are not mature enough to be on same bus as 12th graders.

n/a

I am not opposed to the combination of the two, considering that the problems that are concerning as a parent still seem to be an issue even without the high school kids. The bus driver is great the students on the bus are not they are rude and don't follow rules. By combining the buses at some point it would be nice to have my two kids together.

I don't have a choice of driving my student to school if students are combined - I strongly disagree with putting them together

Have a problem that the bus usually doesn't stop if my child is not at the end of the driveway. They should come to a complete stop and count to 10. On cold days my kid doesn't have time to get across the lawn and the bus is gone!

Keep the middle school children separate from the high school kids!

I am happy with this change because my neighbor who is a junior, will keep an eye out for my son

I think combining the Middle and High School a great idea considering both schools buses are not even full. This will save the district and the bus company money. I know parents of the middle schoolers are worried about age spread, is it any different from putting your preschooler on the bus with a 5th grader???

It makes perfect sense to combine the MS & HS buses

I think this was tried previously and didn't work. Combining 12 year olds and 17 year olds is not a good idea in my book.

I think middle school is tough enough without additional older influences.

Our elementary school bus driver is consistently early, and on some days so early we've missed the bus' arrival in the morning and in the afternoon.

When I was in 6th grade, I learned how babies were made by a highschool student on the bus. Among other things.....Strongly disagree with mixing the 2 age groups.

I have no problems with the idea of combining the two, thanks for the survey. Our bus drivers are great, and always on time. thanks!

In response to #5, me driving the kids to school is not an option. Also, having grown up in this district when the Middle and High School took the same bus was not a good experience at all! I'm so glad my kids have separate buses.

I don't like the idea of 6th graders being on the same bus as high school students. I also worry about the pick-up and drop-off procedure if both schools were starting and ending at the same time.

combine the buses. the routes are inefficient

My child is older and will be driving next yer

I would like students to not have to cross a street to get on the bus

Shorter bus ride is most important to me. Plaistow

We have a middle school student and a high school student. The middle school bus is always on time and never drives past our stop. The high school bus is very inconsistent, and drives past the stop regularly, causing our student to have to run to the next stop in the morning (300' up the road) or having to walk back a fairly busy road in the afternoon. Hearing about some of the behavior on the HS bus, (vaping, cursing, explicit music, roughhousing, etc.) I would now want my MS student riding on it until they are a few years older and are more mentally and physically prepared for that type of behavior. Installing more cameras on the bus will likely not solve any of these issues. Also, having my kids get on the bus at \approx 6:15 AM and \approx 6:30 AM is insane - school should start at a later time.

Q5 is absurd. We pay HIGH taxes & individual buses for diff aged students is NOT UNREASONABLE. The school sys has diff bldg/areas for diff grades (which must be based on educational&educated reasons) Busing should not be any different. We do not need our children to be influenced by older students; who are at a diff development stage. Besides, the buses are crowded now w/all the bags, backpacks, instruments, etc the student needs to take to school. Also, We don't need our children to wake up any earlier than they do now. SEPARATE BUSES ARE A MUST!!

N/A

Schools are separate so busses should be separate as well.

I have both a middle school student and a high school student. If these routes are combined and my middle schooler is uncomfortable I will transport my middle school student. However, I believe combining the routes is appropriate.

These Board members need training...no idea what they are doing.

The issue isn't combining. There are very few systems that put 18 year old kids on the same bus as 12 year olds. We just happen to have both schools on the same property. This will cause more people to drive their kids and create what is already a horrible pick up process and traffic jam. For busses we need to stop the silliness of dropping at every house and have combined bus stops again. This is the issue with the crazy 1 hour bus rides our kids endure. These days are no less safe than they were in the 80s or 50s we just hear about the bad stuff more because of social media.

My children are young yet, and my opinions may change as they grow... Personally, I grew up taking public transportation to middle and high school in Boston. My view is that a responsible middle schooler would be fine on a bus with high school students.

My concern is having younger kids on the same bus as high school students. Kids already grow up way too fast and this would expose the middle school kids to things they may not be ready for by mixing them in with older kids.

Why not combine the two schools on the same bus. They are essentially going to the same location. Currently both busses come thru my neighborhood within seconds of each other and it's usually only my son and maybe on a good day one other kid total between the two busses, really pointless to have both.

Na

My daughter will be 11 and weighs about 55 lbs. You want to put her on a bus with 16/17 year olds. That is insane! The things my son tells me happens in the middle school bus make me fearful for his safety. Now you want to double the danger by exposing them to bigger students who the bus drivers can't control. This just goes to show you do not care at all about the safety of the students in your district. You should be ashamed of yourselves.

The routes are to long. I live 5 mins from the school and my middle schooler gets picked up at 640. Too early to be helpful

The bus company has gotten better. I'm VERY thankful there are no more bus back up plans. It made the kids feel unsettled. If they do combine the grades they should be separated on the bus. Maybe have a chaperone on each bus. I don't want my 13 year old being persuaded to do something with a 12th grader. The seats are too high for the cameras to see everything. We can not rely on them.

I think the safety of the middle school students will be jeopardized if the two buses are combined. I am very against this change and will not allow my child to ride the bus should this change occur.

More information on this issue should have been provided prior to this survey being sent. It would be great to know the motivations behind the possible changes. It would also be great to know if this would help save the district money.

My child was assaulted on the bus and the bus driver took no action. My children will never again ride the bus in this school district.

If this does not cut transportation cost I am not for it

I don't currently have a child in middle school(or high school) yet and am not familiar with all the reasoning behind considering the consolidation. That said I will have a middle school aged child in 2 years and do have some concerns with the idea of combining the middle school and high school buses. I would hope to hear more about the rationale and also have a chance for parents to relay their concerns before any change is instituted.

The age range between 6th graders and 12th graders seems very high for a single bus. I have heard of bullying and other behavior problems on a bus and I am concerned at how this would be with such a large age range.

Bad idea putting middle school kids as young as 11 with HS kids in my opinion. It doesn't promote good future behavior for our kids (mine is a 6th grader)

Sometimes I feel as my sons bus driver drives way to fast coming into the park where we live.

My bus driver drives very fast and often stops more quickly than necessary when pulling up to my house. I have had several negative/unsatisfactory phone conversations with the bus company office staff.

I'll have a junior so the change doesn't really apply to me but for 20 years I always wondered why they didn't do this before since the schools are on the same grounds, start at almost the same time, and the district is so widespread. It seems for the most part the younger kids will be riding with older kids that live in their general area and most likely either know them or have siblings that do so hopefully that will help avoid any older/younger kid issues on the bus for the drivers. The only potential issue I see is the traffic at the school could be worse. Currently there's a few minutes break with the amount of cars going in and out so if the schools start and end at the same time, there will be more cars & busses trying to get on school grounds at the same time. Definitely will need another crossing guard at the school entrance because that gets way too jammed up with cars trying to take a left into the school. I wish the SRO at both schools would be out at the car drop-offs telling people to pull forward at the High School or, at the Middle School, they wait until their car is at the door

I am not sure if this occurs on all buses, but there has been a great number of inappropriate comments from MS boys towards the girls. Sexual jokes, racial jokes, etc. Maybe combining with HS will stop this behavior as I can't see 8th grade boys acting like that in front of older students.

A middle school age child should not be exposed to the grown up things highschool kids are doing and saying.

I don't want my sixth grader riding the bus with high schoolers.

The buses have functioned very well and the drivers care for the kids. Thank you

Don't combine MS and HS buses. Not worth the few extra minutes in may save.

None at this time

Middle school students are one of the most influential ages of their lives, putting them in close quarters with students at vastly different developmental and maturity ages is a mistake. There is not enough supervision on busses to keep this a safe situation.

Make no sense to have middle school kids with high school

middle school and high school should stay separated we do not want any drama

This could possibly cause bullying issues. Although it has the capacity to give some young students great mentors if done right

From what I'm told by several 6th graders .. the bus is filled with bullying, disrespectful behavior and profanity (and I'm sure other things) adding more kids especially older kids I believe will only fuel the problem . My child has exposed to more negativity in middle school and on the bus . So much for the positive teachings of elementary school (respect , no bullying) I also would prefer that my 12 year old not be on a bus with a 16-17 year old .

It's not a great idea, age gaps are too great. I strongly disagree with combined buses.

This Board needs to wake up and go to training. We can't afford all of their mistakes!

Incredibly bad idea. Let's trim the Administrative staff/ salary and get rid of Achive 3000 before combining HS and MS students in busses. Shameful budgeting!

Please do not combine the middle school and high school students. It's not fair to the middle school kids to be subjected to the high school kids' antics.

My son prefers to walk to school because it's great exercise.

Mixing the different age groups would not benefit the younger middle school children as they would be exposed to the high school shenanigans

Can this Board make any more ridiculous decisions? This is insane!

Middle & HS need be separate, as a past district driver there is issues with kids being picked on (bullied), sex & drug conversations. Middle schoolers are adapting to the change of attending classes with 3 towns, adding HS to mix makes it more overwhelming for MS. The SAU have the "responsibilities" to ensure the well being of all students. Our society has drastically changed, due to social media, smart phones, & the drug epidemic. As a tax payer I DO NOT want HS's with my MS child.

I feel the busses have been working well this way for at least 20 years. Going by my eldest, who had own bus for MS and hS. I feel that the age difference can cause several problems

I wouldn't support the combination however I don't have the flexibility to not use the bus daily.

I drive my kids whenever possible to avoid the bus. My kids complain about how loud kids are on the bus and all the bad language.

School Board - listen to the people who put you there and do not do this!

They always used to ride together, makes no sense why that ever changed.

It would be nice to have more monitoring of bad behavior on the bus. I am strongly against combining middle school and high school students due to the bad behaviors and no monitoring

The age range is too great to combine the middle and high school students on the same bus. If this must happen, an additional adult should ride each bus.

This is not an appropriate cost saving measure. The school board needs to look elsewhere to make cuts.

Do not combine the ms and hs

I strongly feel ms and hs students should not ride the same bus!

Bus is always at least 5 mins late.

N/A

This current School Board does not care about children.

I'm only doing the survey from previous years and I know what other parent's will be dealing with. Not kosher to mix both schools on the same bus, to many kids, to much influence. My daughter at this point drives herself and if not, I do. Just giving my opinion, hopefully you will be able to work it out.

Do not combined bus it's wrong

As a parent, I fear that my daughter will only be picked on by the older students. I think there is too much of an age gap between the students that it would cause issues. Not to mention that my daughter would have to get to school earlier for the high school students' start time or the high school would have to be starting later. I would just begin to leave a little earlier for work and drive her myself. This is extremely concerning to me, and I don't think this would be a good decision for our school.

Not sure why it isn't already a combined bus. Most students over the age of 16 are either driving or riding with friends to school. This has the potential to be a huge cost savings to the district and I totally support it.

With the concerns of bullying already being such a huge issue, I dont believe mixing middle schoolers and high schoolers will be the best idea.

I believe that the children should not be combined for a number of different reasons. For starters it could cause a safety issue with distractions to the driver.

No

Driving my son to school wouldn't be an option, as I need to get to work, but I wouldn't be happy with the shared bus ride at all.

This is going to cause more bullying and the high schoolers badly influencing the middle schoolers by introducing them to the drugs that they were told to stay away from, like kids listen to adults.

The buses are already crowded enough with both separate schools. Also, the schools get out at different times of the day too and changing the times will not be beneficial. The bus change can cause lower grade children to be bullied, harassed, and overall unhappy with the older students on this bus. Overall, the buses should stay the way they are currently and should NOT have a conjoined bus with the Middle School.

The thought of a 6th grader riding on the same bus with kids who are so much older than her concerns me greatly. It's bad enough some of the things middle schoolers talk about on the bus....it's a horrible idea.

Would like to see children separated on bus by grade

I think maturity levels of a middle schooler and high schooler are significantly different and therefore should decrease situations where they are together

I feel the difference in age between high school and middle School is too great, and that it is hard enough for the bus driver to keep track of the kids in the current bussing configuration.

Survey should have been sent to Middle school and high school parents - posting on Facebook allows anyone to do survey

Not at this time

Buses will be overcrowded. Younger kids may be bullied by high schoolers

No comments.

Middle school age children should not be riding with high school age young adults. I can't believe it's even being considered

I think combining middle and high school students on the same bus might increase bullying on the bus.

Bus drivers do not need to be so strict with children that are already doing what they're told. Less YELLING and screaming at kids.

I strongly disagree with this change. I definitely don't want my 6th grade daughter on the bus with high school children.

Hello We live at the end of Blackford Dr. in Atkinson. My Childs bus stop in the AM is 7:01. Sometimes the bus goes by at 6:40 sometimes it goes by at 7:15. If We are not at the stop when it goes by the bus does not stop. So He supposed to wait out in the rain and snow from 6:40 till 7:15? And the Elementary school bus never came down Blackford because "there we're not enough children on the street". Now there are a bunch of children and the elementary bus does come down Blackford but the middle school bus does not? If you could help Me and answer these questions I would greatly appreciate it! Thank You, Ken 603-489-2036

Please do not combine middle schoolers and high schoolers. 11-year-olds and high schoolers on a bus that is essentially unsupervised... it makes me really uncomfortable. I depend on the bus to transport my children to school so I can arrive to work on time. I think our driver (Stephanie) does an amazing job driving my children safely to and from the schools. I feel it's too much to ask for her to safely drive AND make sure high schoolers are acting appropriately around younger children. Would high schoolers and sixth graders have gym class together? Would high schoolers and sixth graders have study hall together? Please don't combine the buses.

I do not believe its a good idea to put middle school & hs students on the same busses

I agree to combine only if it will not mean overcrowding on the buses, of course. And the bus drivers need to have cameras to ensure good behavior from the student

It's hard enough to keep track of middle school kids and their decisions. Placing them closely with high school kids for potentially a long bus ride (45 mins or more for surrounding towns) 2 times a day is not going to help with keeping them away from behaviors they dont have any business being around.

Near adults with 12 year olds? What are you thinking.

I don't support combining, I think it will be intimidating for the middle school students. My child thinks combining will be fine and doesn't oppose.

My daughter will be entering 6th grade next year, and it concerns me to think she could be on the same bus as high school students. The age difference is significant, and the development of a 6th grader and even just a freshman (never mind a junior or senior), is considerable. The language, habits, attitude, and choices of high schoolers can be quite concerning, and I wouldn't want my child exposed to it at her age, on top of adjusting to a new school and schedule.

You do a piss poor job as it is with comucation of what happens with the students. Now you are going to have middle school children with kids much older. This is a failure on you part as a school official due to your greed and lack responsibilities to keep our kids safe.

Do not put middle school kids on the bus with high school kids!

High schoolers can be ruthless especially if there are middle schoolers are on they could be exposed to vaping and weed and possibly could be peer pressured to try it or they could even get bullied let's rethink this

Cancel School Wendsday

This is a joke, as it is now the 6th and 7th graders get pushed around by 8th graders and when high school kids take their bus they force younger kids to sit 3 and 4 to a seat while high school kids sit alone. I have lived in Sandown 2 years and have seen my taxes rise over 3000 dollars. This is a joke, it blows my mind what the people think is important. Now you want to put 6th graders with high school children, like I said people in charge are a joke.

For the taxes I pay, I should not have to be given an ultimatum on combining middle and high school students on a bus or drive the student to school myself.

N/a

Combining the MS and HS students is a bad idea!

There is a major discipline issue with the HS bus now-disrespectful language and attitudes. I feel borderline uncomfortable with my freshman daughter in that environment I can't imagine adding my daughter starting 6th grade next year to that mix. If it is unavoidable, I highly suggest adding bus monitors to patrol activities so the driver can concentrate on the road.

Middle school and high school students should not be together. Those ages are not a good combination. I would also like to see additional parking at the high school.

Unless there is significant \$\$ savings and reduction in ride times for every student, which according to the study there is not either, this action would be pointless. Furthermore it will only drive a wedge between the parents concerned for the safety of their very young children who would be potentially riding with adult students and the school board.

Combing 11 year olds with potential 17/18 year olds is a terrible idea. They lead two very different lives. I strongly suggest the school district distinguishes the age difference and social aspects between the two groups!

The buses coming from Atkinson Academy are very late for some students, leaving them waiting a long time after school for the bus to arrive. It seems the earlier bus route to another town delays them. The bus does not arrive to drop students home until 3:40/3:50 in some cases. Possibly these routes could be reassigned for a more timely arrival to the academy.

With children being kidenaped at bus stops, I'm not happy that the middle schoolers have to walk to the end of streets.

I have a HS and MS student, we should have been allowed to answer twice from both perspectives...HS is horrendous and never close to the same time...MS bus driver is SUPER and always on time. I hope the timing/gps app is still in the works, it would be very helpful!

My daughters bus driver drives way to fast for my comfort zone. I'm not the only one who notices. It's been mentioned before.

We have been EXTREMELY fortunate with our bus experience since my daughter started 1st grade at Atkinson Academy!!! Barry (Bus 118)is ABSOLUTELY AMAZING with the kids and my daughter thinks the world of him!!! He is always on time and very attentive and genuinely caring of the kids on board!! We could not be happier with our bus experience over the past 3 years!!

Something should be done about the pickup and dropoff parents taking over the road. More kids should be on the busses and not blocking the road.

Combing the ages of kids you suggest is asking for a boiling pot of trouble. Bullying is already an issue and will only escalate. Nevermind a ton of other issues. Asking parents to drive kids in takes away from work and in turn food from kids mouths. Nevermind all the expenses the school expects as is. Hard pass on combining and expecting parents to drive them in. If it's a matter of money there is already plenty being wasted in pointless ways nevermind what the superintendent is paid. Already way more than should be paid. And poorly dispersed.

I believe there is a social/emotional development gap between middle schoolers and high school students. Mixing these age groups could lead to problems with bullying, pressure to do things by older students. The list can go on. I believe we shouldn't expose the school to more liabilities

When there are issues causing the busses to be late they should be letting parents know asap

There is a drastic difference between middle school and high school students. They shouldn't be on the same bus. Most parents aren't able to drive their students to school or pick up if buses are combined.

This Board is ruining Timberlane!

Not a good idea.

My child's bus driver is the worst one I have ever experienced regarding timelines and consistency. It's very unprofessional and frankly I gave up complaining. I can't wait til my child doesn't need to ride the bus anymore.

I am happy about this change. Now my daughter who will be starting middle school can wait with my son in the Mornings. He is in high school.

1. Would there be kids on the bus from the same town or different towns. 2. We need busses for working families. 3. Younger kids hear more on the TV then on the busses.

Bus drivers drive too fast down low speed roads.

Strongly oppose putting middle and high schoolers on the same bus. This is a safer issue. And I disapprove that the Board took a vote on this prior to informing the public of this potential vote.

My child will drive to and from school next year as she will be a senior and has a car.

I have 3 kids in the high school, their bus is already too crowded. I also don't think middle schoolers belong on same busses as high school kids. Possibly 6th graders with 12th graders. Not a good idea.

I think pick up is too early. 6:24 is way too early. I think elementary school should start early and HS start later.

They should not be combined. Middle School kids should not be exposed to what the older kids are doing on the bus

I do not feel that combining the age groups is a good idea. There are already to many issues.

Combine them!

No

High school kids and middle school kids have no business being together. I'm even inclined to pull my son out of Timberlane and send to Philips Exeter. I am disgusted that this is even being considered.

My tenant's daughter is in high school. My daughter is in middle school. The bus literally comes 5 mins apart.

Middle schoolers are too in to be riding with high schoolers.

Do not combine MS and HS students on the same bus. There are plenty of issues between student already occurring. Putting 13 year olds with 18 year olds (who can't drive) is asking for disaster.

Two very different age groups. High schoolers do not want to be bothered by younger students. Parents do not want the engagement of conversations exposing younger students to topics that are not age appropriate. They are already exposed to too much in technology-driven society. But my kids report that high schoolers already ride the middle school bus some days.

I don't feel comfortable with my first grader on the bus with the 5th graders...thanks to a few gems, she knows all sorts of swears and slang words for body parts. No way do I need my 6th grader on the bus with high school kids.

I 100% disagree with combining the Ms and hs on busses. There is no need for 6, 7 and 8 graders to be exposed to hs students on a bus where they are not being watched. There are no monitors on busses and the driver has a responsibility to drive them safely. The driver can not be dealing with behaviors. Even if there are monitors on the busses, one monitor, which I'm assuming would be allotted for each bus (if any monitors at all), isn't enough to control bad behavior. I was a middle schooler on a bus with hs students and it was a mess. That was in the 80's. Anyone who thinks kids won't have bad behavior on the bus and he kids wont be inappropriate with Ms kids are sorely mistaken. I don't need my Ms child being exposed to hs behavior, bullying, intimidation, abuse and rape by high schoolers. And yes... That is all a reality. My child will learn what they need to from me, at an appropriate time and place, when they are ready, not from teens in the back of a bus. (Especially with unsupervised internet usage.)granted, Ms kids also have unsupervised internet usage. But with high school

I feel like elementary students should get home before 4pm

It's not appropriate to combine ms and hs bus students- age gap is too big and younger kids shouldn't be exposed to older kids and their dialogue on the bus.

My children are in Elementary school, so the middle school and high school changes do not affect me currently.

I totally disagree with putting middle schoolers and high schoolers together. An 11 ye old is way too young to be riding the bus with a senior in high school. Talk about nerve wracking for the 6th grader! As if transitioning to middle school isn't hard enough imagine the stress of having to ride a bus with high schoolers. Plus, the bus already comes so early would this mean that the ride times would increase? I just think it's a bad idea.

My kids are not in middle school or high school but I would not be happy if they were on a bus with kids so much older than them

I wish my bus driver was consistent in the mornings. She arrives in about a 15 minute window. I also do not think putting middle school & high school students together on a bus is a good idea.

I would be very uncomfortable with my middle school student riding the bus with high school students. I would be worried about what they could be exposed to. However It would be very difficult for my family to drop off and pick up from Plaistow considering we both work and have younger kids in other schools so I'm not even sure that would be possible.

No comment at this time

Please do not mix those ages together im sure bad things will transpire

This Board is lost. They waste time on things they have no idea about.

If there is clear separation and monitoring on the bus, then perhaps more people will support. Given the news and reporting of issues from other school systems moving to this approach, there would have to be presence on the buses to ensure younger children aren't being harassed, bullied or worse.

If the pick up time is the same, I have no problem with it.

High school kids should not be on middle schoolers bus! I was a middle schooler on a bus with HS kids growing up and the kids are too young to be exposed to those conversations

I am the parent of a junior who may be driving herself to school anyway next yr but I can say if it saves money I like the idea but I know my daughter would hate it because it would add a half hour of extra time on the bus for her because we live the furthest away. So if she were to still be on the bus I would probably drive her in the morning and she would not be happy for the ride home. We have been very happy with our bus situation.

I think it is a horrible idea to combine the high school and middle school buses. I think that the age gap is too severe and the younger kids would be exposed to things prematurely.

No

There is too big of an age difference between middle school and high school kids. At those age groups the students have totally different interests and the younger students could be exposed to something they are not ready for or that is above their age level.

I wonder if any board members have any students in lower middle school or worse a 5th grader? My 5th grader would NOT want to ride with high schoolers next year. This is a BAD idea, please think of the kids!

Please start thinking about the children you were elected to serve. This is ridiculous!

One of your Danville drivers for elementary school drives like a maniac and drives over the speed limit

Really dumb idea.

Sandy who drives Bus 130 is excellent. She is attentive and helpful.

My children do not currently ride on the bus

Don't combine buses.. there's a reason we stopped this years ago!

This Board has no clue what it is doing!

I dont think it would be a wise decision to put high school and middle school kids together

This inexperienced Board makes one bad decision after another.

Bus ride to Hemlock heights, Atkinson is too long...my kids have boycotted it for over 6 years

There are too many kids on my child's bus. 3 fifth graders in on seat is not only ridiculously crowded, it's unsafe so I drive her to school. Now you want my child who is entering will be entering sixth grade, to ride a bus with older high school kids? Absolutely not!

I grew up going to school on a bus that had a 7-12 bus, and to be honest, after grade 10 and especially 11, I rarely took the bus.

The bus is already crowded so not sure if that will work.

High school and middle school on the same bus is a legal nightmare waiting to happen. Worst idea I've heard from educated people.

My child is still in elementary school.

Combining age groups such as 11 to 17 is not appropriate.

The proposed changes are fine. If behavioral issues arise, we have confidence the school system will handle them appropriately.

Hopefully the idea is to shorten time students are on bus.

As long as combining the middle school and high school students does not overcrowd the buses to crest a danger for students

None

If my kids were still in middle school and had to take the bus with high schoolers I would be very upset. They would be scared to ride the bus. There is a huge age difference and maturity difference between a sixth grader and a 12th grader. My children are in high school now so it doesn't matter to me now, but it would have.

If anything my son's bus is 5-8 minutes early everyday

I am happy with the bus transportation. This is my child's first year riding the bus as a freshman since he last attended TRSD as a third grade student at Sandown North. The bus driver is on time and I notice she checks while he is crossing. She seems very pleasant and the children are well behaved. Not in favor of mixing MS with HS for obvious reasons due to maturity levels unless you are convinced the MS children would be safe emotionally and physically. In asking my child who is almost 15 he feels it would not be recommended.

I disagree with the proposed combining of middle and high school children on the same bus. I will not elect to drive my child to school. As I have to work on the opposite side of NH and my husband is extremely ill, my child will have no transportation to school. Combining children of those ages on the bus is a horrible idea and will cause issues for the younger children. I cannot believe this is even being proposed or considered.

No comment

NA

I am absolutely against combining the MS and TRHS busses - the age differences are just too much. There are many reasons why they were separated in the first place. How do the bus drivers feel about this proposal? The front lines would have great insight. I do question why my child has an hour ride each way when the campus is only 7 minutes away though. Maybe routes should be looked at again? I believe I heard combining the grades would shave off 10 minutes? That isn't enough for my opinion to change. I truly hope parents will be heard on this topic. I was not impressed hearing the School Board discussing the matter because it seemed as if many had their minds made up before a full exploration of the idea. What is good for one town may not be what is best for all! Thank you!

Pick up time in the morning varies greatly. The bus has come up to four minutes early and more than ten minutes late this year. During finals last year there was one day when it NEVER came, and the phone call saying it would not be coming happened a full half hour after it was due. As a working parent, these inconsistencies cause great hardship.

I do not think it is appropriate for middle school students to be riding with high school students. I will be driving my children along with a bunch of other kids whose parents do not support this change if it should happen which would ultimately cause a burden on my household due to work commitments.

I don't think that it is a smart move putting 6,7,and 8th grades with all four grades of high school

High schoolers and middle schoolers should not be on the same bus. The differences between ages is concerning

On question 2 I left it blank because my son does not take the bus home in the afternoons. I live in Danville and this year as a 6th grader my son had to take a Sandown bus To the middle school which didn't seem fair. I would be happy for the change in the bus if we were able to accommodate him being on a Danville bus.

Very bad idea.

The maturity levels between high school and middle school students should NOT be combined. This is not a good idea.

The middle school busses are already out of control. Kids swearing, BULLYING, disrespecting drivers etc. it would be detrimental to some of the students mental health to add more bodies to these busses thus more negative behaviors. I STRONGLY disagree with combining the busses.

I have no problem with middle and high school students riding together. It seems silly that we have two buses on our street about ten minutes apart from each other going to the same campus.

Too much of bullying occurs on buses. I feel that putting this wide ranging age group together is going to exacerbate this issue.

I feel as though the age difference is too much. High schools are much more mature than middle school children. I feel that my child will have to face situations that she is not prepared for at the middle school level.

I wish the bus would come earlier. We went from an 8am bus time to 820am

There is a reason why these two age groups have been historically separated. The maturity (including awareness of the opposite or same sex) and conduct (including topics of conversation) are so varied that this could be placing the middle school students in harm and/or forcing them to mature at a rate which is already too accelerated. The short term monetary savings will not be worth the aggregation and potential lawsuits the district would be opening themselves to.

I'll listen for more information.

I am not satisfied with the busing because the bus stop is .6 miles from my house. Over a 1/2 mile. This means that I have to drive my child to the bus. That is not a service!

Given the difference in maturation between middle schoolers & high schoolers, my instincts tell me this is a terrible idea... However, I do understand there is a limited budget, etc. So I trust that you would have a plan in place to keep high schooler's and middle school or's separate on the bus.

I don't think it's appropriate to put the middle and high school kids together. Middle school kids will be exposed to so much more than they need to be if this happens.

My son gets picked up at 8:20 that's the most ridiculous time in the world who starts their day at 8:30 or 9 o'clock. Why not pick them up at 7:30 so the rest of the world can get to work by eight

Combining high school and middle school students is a terrible idea. A 14 year old shouldn't have to sit with a 17-18 year old. It's asks for trouble. I would never allow my child to be put in such a situation.

Will combining busses change the start and end times of school? If they are changing to be the same, won't parents that drive, or students that drive have a harder time getting in and out? It's already crazy there at dismissal time with staggered end times. Just a thought.....

Combining middle schoolers with high schoolers on the same bus is a bad call and will lead to problems

Please consider finding a way to get direct feedback from the kids. Perhaps one or two scheduled feedback sessions or focus groups that with parent permission. They will give some great insight on what happens on the busses and what their experience is like.

As soon as my children found alternative transportation (driving), they stopped taking the bus. Sandown Rd., Danville has one of the earliest pickup and latest drop off times. If students have any after school activities, the late bus meant an extraordinarily late return time home. The bus transportation budget is excessive and many high school students drive to school instead. Student parking is limited and there is no priority given to students who can essentially save themselves almost 2 hours per day by driving from the further parts of the district. If combining middle school and high school is a cost-saving initiative OR a time-saving initiative for students who live far from the school, I would not disagree with combining the routes. However, I do not think the span of ages combined on single busses is a good idea. How can this survey be useful when reasons for the proposed change are not explained at all? Many people would do their own cost-benefit analysis and provide better input if this survey had some accompanying background information.

My daughter attends middle school now, 6th, and my son will be a 6th grader next year. I realize combining middle school and high school will be better over all. For myself, my son has special needs and already struggles with the bus, and I feel adding high schoolers to the bus ,(for my situation), will not go well for him. For that reason I would most likely drive him and my daughter. Hope this survey will help. Thanks

Do not agree with combination I'm students but the next question with limited and says electing to drive was unfair to parents who have to work and do not have flexibility in their schedule

Absolutely should combine because most of the junior and senior kids drive and the buses are empty and waste our money. Thank you for considering this change

My child hardly ever goes on the bus, but I strongly disagree combining middle and high school as these children are in totally different phases in their life and I would not want any influences from the older children

No

I have a high schooler, and putting high school on the same bus as 6th graders would create an environment not appropriate for 11 year olds

Na

As a former Timberlane Graduate(2000) and Sandown student, I can remember taking the bus combined Middle/HS. It was packed, jam packed. It was loud and very intimidating to a shy quiet middle schooler. I survived but I dreaded/loathed/hated every bus ride I took until 11th grade. I would not recommend going back to combining those age groups.

We do wish there were bus monitors! Our bus driver is wonderful, but she is only one human. She needs someone to help her watch the students while she's driving. This is one reason why we choose to drive our kids.

Na

When I was in school the ms/hs buses were combined. There were rules and enforced. If you didn't follow you lost the privilege of riding for a certain amount of time. We are in 3rd grade now so this is a few years away for us.

I went to Timberlane MS and HS '95-'02 ... we went on combined busses. We were just fine. These parents losing their mind over it are so out of touch with reality. Our middle schoolers have the same pressures (I.e. drugs, smoking, sex related issues, etc.) that the high schoolers have. My kids are in 5th, 7th and 11th.

There is no reason for an 11 year old 6th grader to be on a school bus with 17 year old teenagers. In Sandown the bus ride is 1 HOUR EACH WAY even with combining MS & HS and it reduced that in half (which it would not) that is still too much time for a middle school CHILD to be listening in and learning habits from 17 or 18 year teenagers / adults. There is absolutely no reason for it. My 6th grader is already nervous that this might happen because it's just too much. Let the KIDS be KIDS, why put them in situations to hear adult conversations and learn all about vaping and the things these older kids are doing? These kids have enough to worry about they do not need to be intimidated at 6:20am with high school students. With all the funds Sandown gives to the school there has got to be another way. I completely disagree with this.

The older kids can sit in the back of the bus and the younger ones in the front. I believe parents should teach their children how to behave rather than separate them. I have 4 buses that come through my neighborhood, seems like a waste of money.

As far as combining the busses if it lowers my property taxes sure, otherwise it's pointless.

I went to Timberlane when MS and HS rode the bus together. It was crowded but fine.

I don't feel my middle school daughters would feel as safe with high school kids on the same bus.

I don't think combining the high school students and middle school students is the best option... I wouldn't want my child on the bus with high schoolers they are still young. Not all of us parents have the flexibility to drive our children to school either so we rely on the bus and the safety of our children..

It doesn't make sense to have such a wide age and maturity level on the same bus. Would you provide an adult monitor not including the bus driver?

6th graders have no business being on a bus with high schoolers .

My children only occasionally use buses now in the afternoons but I do not support this change for anyone's children and expect it to cause more issues than it solves.

I do not think that combining middle school and high school buses is a great idea due to the bullying and drug issues that we are already facing today. The maturity level of middle and high schools are really different and I think they need to be separated.

No

Combining 11 year olds with 18+ is a very poor consideration and should not be considered as a viable choice. I would expect problems, therefore would be forced to drive my middle school child(ren) to school.

Bus stops closer to home would be nice.

My son has never taken the bus

We live on holts pt rd in Sandown and I think it absolutely absurd to have the bus stop over a mile away.

No

My kids will be driving in the next year. Have been pleased with bussing

I would support combining bus routes if it would allow for later bus pickups. Our morning bus is 6:20 am at the end of the street. Driving my kids allows them an extra 30 minutes of sleep.

Middle and High 100% should NOT be combined

We do not want the buses combined, Middle & High School . They are crowded as is...also there is a reason the school keeps ages separated therefore buses should also be!

A 6th or 7th grader should never be on the same bus as a high schooler. There is too much of an age difference and drugs is a huge concern.

Old philosophy, if it's not broken, don't fix it. The only thing that is challenging is the early pick up times, but with four towns to pickup someones got to be early. No changes needed.

I think it might be too much anxiety for the younger kids to be put with the older kids.

Way too much happens on the bus without being seen by school admin. Combining buses will cause bigger issues. Will there be monitors? The drivers need to drive the bus safely, not monitor all the happenings being quickly hidden from the adult eye.

Good luck.

How will this effect school dismissal times and length of routes. Also, the maturity level between grades are going to cause problems that will overflow onto school admission as well as superintendent office.

I should not have to drive my student to school due to combining the middle school and high school students. My tax money pays for their transportation. The high school busses have enough inappropriate activity for high school students. Not ready to have a 12 year old witness this.

As a long time resident and timberland alumni I myself rode the bus with the high schoolers as a middle school student and with the middle school students as a high schooler. If this shortens bus routes, frees up time and saves the taxpayers money there is no reason it should not be implemented

My son is now in High School and when he was in Middle School I would not have wanted him to be on the same bus as the High School students. That being said, it has been combined a few times and my son reports that he didn't see any issues at all.

We would prefer to keep our middle schooler away from older influences for as long as possible.

Buss 100 Needs to slow down in my neighborhood, shes definitely exceeding the speed limit dropping off elementary students in the afternoon... 2/11/19

We were combined when I attended timberlane and didn't seem to have any issues. I know times have changed but I would still put my children on the bus if this change happens.

I can not drive my student to or from school because of my work schedule. I do not like the idea of or want the middle school students riding with high school students. Can you show us that this is going to be a saving? If not then I am not sure why there is any time being spent looking into this option.

I don't feel they should be mixed, the High School students will introduce an even stronger awareness of certain things to the middle School students.

Our driver (bus 138 - Sandown is wonderful) Strongly oppose middle schoolers and high schoolers on same buses

None

My daughter currently does not take the bus at Atkinson Academy, but she will next year in Middle school.

I do not object to having high school and middle children riding together

I understand trying to curb costs, but I worry about exposing middle school children to conversations of the high school kids which may be inappropriate.

Combine buses and child changes district; moves.

We live approx 4 miles from the school yet it takes 50 minutes for them to get home in the afternoon. The middle school bus drops off kids before their bus arrives. Kids from Sandown and Danville get home before them. That's pretty ridiculous! Also, hearing our superintendent requested new buses in the new contract which is crazy since our taxes are already through the roof! Last note, kids are dropped off in the am and take the bus in the afternoon about 2 days per week - mainly because of the crappy route the bus takes.

My only concern with the combining of the buses would be overcrowding. Last year and the year before there was a case of my sons bus being overcrowded and three kids to his seat and that was too much. As long as there's not a need for three kids to a Seat on a bus I don't see it an issue.

Unless there is greater supervision on the buses (bus monitors) the age differential would be too big and a greater opportunity for inappropriate behavior, language and bullying.

I am totally supportive of combining middle and high school. It is financially and environmentally sensible to do so. It is the way it was done when I went to Timberlane as well.

Some of the drivers need better training with student management as well as driving the bus in a professional manner and not have the issues swept under the rug!

Busses are already crowded. My daughter is last on the bus and half the time there isn't a seat for her.

I support combining MS & HS bus routes if it provides shorter bus rides for students and/or saves the district money. I am far more likely to end up driving my kids to school if I think they are riding on the bus for too long. Also, I think the late bus should run after sports practices and not just after clubs/activities end.

My daughter says the buses for the middle school are currently crowded and that she doesn't like a proposal that will make the situation worse.

As parents, we feel that there is a significant difference between 17 & 18 year old students vs 12 years +. I will not allow my child on a bus with high school students

Since there is no budget impact and we still need to carry the same amount of buses I don't see the need for this change. I do think by combining the students you are going to see longer ride times as there will be more frequent stops. You may also see an increase in behavior issues. If the students are combined I won't change a thing, my children will still ride the bus regardless. Fortunately the ride time for my children is relatively short considering our proximity to the schools.

I feel a bus monitor is needed if we combine the MS and HS. There are many behaviors and bullying that takes place on the buses. The bus drivers have enough to deal with with driving without having to deal with all the bus issues. I feel it would be a safety issue. My children have often told me in previous years how rude the students are on the bus to the drivers and others. The question about driving my children needs another answer. Some people would like to but can't because of work if this were to take place.

I honestly feel it's not a good idea to have these wide range of ages on one bus. Trouble

If monitors ride the bus that would be less concerning to combine them but it still makes me uncomfortable.

Regarding combining middle and high school, I would strongly enforce divided sections for placement of seats.

Save money somewhere

My children will NOT take bus 102 this year as they bus driver yells And that is not how they like to start There day .. They loved when on bus 103 but were switched this year due to many kids but the bus this year is so full Bus 103 is not full .. my children used to love the bus until this year

I would like the elementary school bus to drop off at my home address not on the main road

I honestly don't see how this proposed change will benefit the district. We wouldn't be reducing the number of buses as we would still be transporting the same number of students. I would also not be in favor of Middle School bus students having to arrive earlier than necessary in order to accommodate the High School schedule (and holding HS students in the afternoon to accommodate the Middle School schedule. And placing both schools on the same schedule would create a traffic nightmare around the Greenough Road campus.

*

My student drives himself, but if he were younger I would want to make sure there was someone on the bus other than the driver to make sure that all students respected each other and that nothing could happen to the younger student

Thank you for asking for community input on this very important topic!!!! My middle school student is already exposed to inappropriate language, physical contact, and vaping on separate buses. I can't even imagine what she would be exposed to on the same bus as HS students. If this change happens, bus monitors are a must, and I highly doubt you will be able to find people to do that job! Combining buses would also create massive amounts of traffic in the Greenough Road area and dangerous situations since all busses and car riders would be arriving at nearly the same time! I am curious as to why this is being explored and totally against the change. We need to put the physical and emotional safety of our children first. Combining MS and HS buses is NOT in the best interest of Timberlane students.

My son is going into middle school and I have no problem with him riding with the high school kids especially if it saves tax dollars.

There is no way a sixth grader should be on the same bus as high school student every day. This will also create a traffic log jam at the schools with all students arriving at the same time.

My children are still in A.A... but the idea of a 10 yo on the same bus as a 17yo makes me very uneasy.. especially when we have enough issues with just the younger kids.

The Sandown North buses are very inconsistent in the AM. It makes getting to work on time very difficult.

No

I am in favor of the middle school and high school students combining buses if it will save the students time in the morning or save money for the district. I have students in elementary, middle and high school. Only issues is with elementary bus.

Bus 132 (high school) is never consistent, the driver has been pulled over by police, pulled over by a concerned citizen and has been 10 minutes early and as much as 20 min late. I prefer to drive my HS child on that bus. Middle school bus 138 is so good and the driver Jamie is the BEST.

Save money and combine them. Not sure why this hasn't always been the way.

We live in a different world than 20-30 years ago. Various and difficult issues reside in our culture. Too many young people behave in a way that is unfitting for children. While it is not a fail-safe, it is safer for children to travel with others of like age.

Do not combine busses

Terrible idea to combine middle and high schoolers who on same bus! The age difference is too great. Please don't do this!

Difficult to answer 4 & 5 because we have questions regarding monitoring behavior and consequences if buses were combined.

My daughters greatly dislike the bus driver on 119.

1. The current location of the stop for the middle school bus is extremely unsafe. It should be moved. There is no house or drive way that it stops at but at an extremely fast corner right side turn off main st. Matter of time before one of the kids is hit by a car taking the right turn!! 2. I do not agree with younger kids riding with other kids. They are exposed to way too much. This includes vaping, language and drugs.

I do not believe middle school and high school students should be bused together . Furthermore, not all parents are available to be there to drive children to school if this becomes protocol and they do not agree

I just dont want my sons bus to come earlier than it does if bus routes are changed.

No

Change school starting times. Use less busses, longer route for HS students.

Combing middle and HS students on the same bus is not a good idea. One the language two other things I know have happened on the bus and aren't appropriate for the middle school children

Combining the bus routes will innevitably lengthen transportation time to and from school.

Look into later start time for middle and high school.

6th graders should not be with high school children.

I drive my child to school everyday. I was not pleased with the busing from prior years. There have been many incidents happening on the buses and do not want my child a part of it. Maybe you should think about monitoring on the buses.

I think it is absolutely ridiculous to put middle school and high school aged kids on the same buses. Not to mention that the buses are way overcrowded on the middle school buses already!!!! No monitors either to see what is going on and the bus driver cannot drive and pay attention to what's going on behind him! It infuriates me that this is even being discussed considering the amount of taxes I pay every year and they keep going up and up supposedly due to the schools and I do not see anything changing. My taxes are sky high and now you want to put kids that are 15-18 on a bus with kids that are 10-14. No way. Too big of an age gap! Strongly disapprove!!!!

I already try to have my middle schooler NOT take the bus due to mischief in the bus, high schoolers would only make that much worse

I will elect to drive my students if the buses are NOT combined

I do not want to see the buses combined, there is a huge difference between a 6th grader and 12th grader especially their life experiences, language etc. Plus they are already squished let alone combining all the grades. Will there be a significant cost saving?

My son is in K. First time on the bus. He's on 132 and we have been very, very pleased.

Its a lot to ask middle schoolers, especially 6th graders) to be on a bus with kids much older than they are. I'd really worry about older kids picking on the younger ones. They are at totally different developmental stages.it has a lot of potential for disaster.

My concern is the drugs on the bus. Combining busses could allow easier access/expose MS students. Monitoring should not be left to the driver as their eyes should be on the road.

The school board needs to get their collective heads out of their asses. How much cash is this going to save? 1 bus? whoopeedeedoo. whats that 19k? Totally worth it to get the bullying problem BACK on the buses. Idiots. While we are at it what dumbass thought a bus contract should go out to bid in this area? Someone who did 0 research on bus companies? Im willing to bet we would have saved money by renegotiating the contract. Will this result in another study? One that wont cost anything? Hah! P.S. Cant wait for a 20-30 year bond for Maintenance!

I've always thought it was a waste having one bus pick up the hs children then 10 minutes later the middle school. I understand wanting to keep the ages separated has there is a big difference from 12 years old and 18 years old but I feel that can be worked around with reminders to the children how we act and how we don't act one on the bus. Combined is how timberlane did it for many years. It worked then and I'm sure it will work again.

I think there will be a student safety issue is you combine middle school and high school students on a bus. If it is a cost issue, maybe you could cut some money from the athletic budget.

It has proven to not work in the past. Also I believe the middles schooler should be pick up at there house just like the high schoolers are.

Focus on securing our schools from shooting incedents!!!

I would like to have access to a GPS tracker and an APP to see where the bus is at any given time on the route, to see how far away it is, how far behind the driver is running, if it forgot to pick my child up, etc. Londonderry School District has implemented this for their parents/students, I think Timberlane should do the same! It would make things much easier. Thanks

the Middleschool Bus for Bulling is just AWFUL at the moment. If it isn't bulling...it's the language and topic of conversations. I can only imagine what it's like being around highschool kids. Younger kids are going to want to be like the older kids...so I would prefer my 6th grader not to see how the older kids talk/dress/act for as long as possible. Also, the older kids have something to prove...and would torment the younger ones. This is NOT on the driver to monitor. the driver must DRIVE the bus. Money saved on combining buses will only go to added cost with a possible bus monitor.

Middle School students are not old enough to be subjected to the topics High School students talk about.
Example: Dating, sleeping with another person, swearing etc.

6th graders are too young to be riding the bus with high school age kids. They need to be kept separate. I understand that there are less highschool age kids taking the bus, but there must be other solutions.

If I was the parent of a 6th grader (I'm not), I would seriously consider alternative school transportation if they were riding the bus with seniors. There is a huge difference in maturity, behavior, physical stature between a 12 year old and an 18 year old. My biggest complaint about school busing (having nothing to do with combined routes) is that there are not late buses on Monday or Friday.

I think it would depend on information provided by the transportation admins on what the impact would be. What are the pros and cons.

I strongly disagree with combining the HS and MS students.

Thanks for all you do

I have two children. The middle school bus is on time without fail, the HS is hardly ever on time. I am STRONGLY AGAINST combining the MS and HS busses.

If it saves significant money I can see doing this, but if it's about schedules, I have never seen an issue.

It makes no sense for my children to have to be on the bus for over 45 minutes when we live 2.8 miles away. The bus picks up my Middle School children at 6:34. The bus for the High School comes all the way down to the end of my cul de sac, to the exact same bus stop at 6:50. High School starts earlier than Middle School, right? Help me understand that logic!!! Children need sleep!! Keep the same number of buses, and reduce all the length of the routes to reduce overall bus riding time.

Understanding the efficiency of the 1 bus, however concerned that there will be 18year old students riding with 11 year olds. Difficult transition from elementary to middle without adding angst of old kids with young students. Would expect an additional adult as well as assigned seats to avoid bullying and exposure of our young children to older behavior.

Elementary bus comes a lot earlier than time posted online. Also buses should, whenever possible, allow kids to get off bus so they do not have to cross street in front of bus...too many cars do not follow the bus light signals. Safety issue!

I'm okay with my son riding the bus with high school students.

The questions regarding middle schoolers and high schoolers does not apply to me, as I have a kindergartner.

I don't think children ages 11 or 12 should be on a bus with 17 or 18 years old. Way too much of an age gap. Bad idea...

The bus is always inconsistent on time and sometimes comes early making so my child misses the bus in the morning.

I love our current bus driver and think she is doing a great job.

I am satisfied with my bus schedule and driver, I don't mind combining the middle school students with the high school students.

I have daughters going into 6th and 8th grade next year and do not mind if they ride the bus with high schoolers.

combining busses was in place many years ago at Timberlane.... times have changed and I am not a huge fan of my middle schooler being around certain high school aged dynamics/conversations..... HOWEVER, I also see how empty some of these busses look going past my house on Main Street. If the move to combine yields considerable savings that can be used towards other more pressing issues like improving our facilities then by all means, please do so! I do not envy the School Board being faced with this change, however I support their efforts to address concerns and seek input regarding change. Thank you all!

I asked my child and she feels very strongly about not wanting to ride the bus with high school students. I also don't like the idea. They are growing up too fast already and this will add to things they dont need to deal with.

I am extremely against combining the grades. My daughter suffers from severe anxiety and this would be very detrimental effect on her and I'm sure she is not the only one!

Watching the half empty buses follow each other around drives me nuts

I think that the buses should stay as they currently are. Combining high school and middle school will be over crowded.

Bus times are generally good but during times of inclement weather the buses are understandably late. But, as a result, this is when kids are left waiting the longest. Inclusion of a bus tracking App, such as SafeStop.com, would be HUGELY beneficial. I suspect this would DRAMATICALLY reduce the number of calls the company needs to field.

No

Does this change lengthen it shorten the routes? My kids are in the bus for almost an hour at this point and we do not live far from the school. What precautions will you take for the middle schoolers if high schoolers are on the bus?

How does a driver consistently and entirely miss stops and still have a job?

Do not combine

6th graders are too young to be riding a bus with high schoolers.

Hs student says the Danville MS bus is always full and the Hs'ers have to stand when they are on it. Hs'ers that have to get to work for lack of parking and too long of a bus route is a problem.

Some working parents are unable to drive their children to school due to schedule conflicts. However, combining middle with high school students poses a safety issue due to the age gap.

I do not want my 6th grader unnecessarily and prematurely exposed to spending 40 minutes each day with children who are not their peers. This would be unacceptable and not within the scope of what transportation services should provide.

I understand the reservation from parents about combining, but I grew up with a combined middle/high school (Pentucket) & there were never any issues that I was aware of. Honestly, the older kids didn't ride the bus all that much & stayed very much away from middle school. As long as they're somewhat separate, I don't see an issue.

There is already a problem on the middle school buses with behavior etc -- adding older kids to the mix will only increase that issue. Working parents are not in a position to take their kids to school as a work around to this and puts an unfair burden on them.

Time on the bus ride itself seems to be a little long for my elementary student to Sandown North.

In my opinion, due to the age difference of the middle and high- school students, i think it may cause bullying issues.

I am not pleased with the behavior I'm hearing about on the buses already. I would drive her to school but the lines there aren't advantageous either. There is a HUGE maturity difference between an 11 year old and 18 year old. I can only see behavior getting worse with the younger kids as a result. I'm not comfortable with this change at all.

some of the buses already have 3 pupils to a seat. How are you going to combined them?

Do not combine middle school with high school student transportation. That could potentially cause safety and security issues. Plus, think of things high schoolers talk about on buses. Do you think that would be appropriate for a middle schooler to hear or learn about...?

While my son will be a freshman bus rider during the 2019-2020 school year, I STRONGLY feel that combining the MS with HS students on bus runs is a bad, developmentally inappropriate idea. Nothing good will come from combining older with younger. In fact, I foresee a decline the number of bus riders if forced to ride together. Poor, poor choice.....

I don't believe that have the two schools combine would be beneficial to student due to the age gap it will expose younger kids to more adult situations and thing they don't need to know about yet and possibly bullying by the older kids

None.

6th graders and seniors do not belong on the same bus unless you want to put a bus monitor person on every bus.

My daughter is going into 6th grade and she does not belong on a bus with 9-12th graders. She would be afraid and intimidated. Thank you!

Bus # 135 first student bus driver seems to have quite a few issues! I think she writes kids up for ridiculous reasons. Considering they are 5 yrs old.

My child is going to CCHS next year somall bus decisions do not affect us.

The bus times for Some Kids for middle school Is too early! They need to shorten the routes to make it not an hour bus ride to school

My child currently does not take the bus and we don't anticipate any change to bussing to affect us.

I hugely disagree with combining Middle and High School buses! I answered neutral to whether I would drive my child if that happened only because I do not feel that is a fair or even relevant question as it's simply not an option for everyone. My 11 year old should most definitely not be on the same bus as 18 year olds.

We have had multiple bus drivers who bring their small children on the bus with them. Is this allowed? I'm concerned with it being an added distraction to the driver - especially when these children are screaming during the ride.

We have had a different driver on Bus 103 and she has been very much on time in the morning and afternoon, parents have been very happy not having to wait in the cold - however there has been a male driver that has filled in a few times and one boy on the bus tells him to drive by the bus stop as all the parents are waiting and drop the kids off in front of his house instead which parents are unhappy that the driver is listening to the boy and making parents walk to get their kids who all live much further from the stop then where this boy lives. Maybe there could be three stops on Dalton Street one at the beginning, middle and end to accommodate the distance for all (?)

I am strongly against combining MS and HS, the few minutes we may save are not worth the potential congestion and confusion loading and unloading buses each day safely.

I think when the buses pick up and drop off the the kids, they should block both sides of street from cars. This way the children remain safe when crossing the street.

Doesn't make sense to change it as you will still need the same # of busses....

Too wide an age gap. They should not be together.

Not developmentally appropriate to have 6th graders with 11th and 12th graders!

My child is currently in elementary and won't be affected for another 4 years if combined so I put neutral.

I think it would be helpful to have a monitor on the elementary buses given the ages of the children.

No

No

Don't have a middle school aged child yet...

If there are no cost benefits to combining the children on the same bus then we should leave it as it. There is no need to have 6 graders ride on a bus with Juniors and Seniors. The age gap and the knowledge that these children have should not influence the younger ages.