

PRESS RELEASE

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

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For Immediate Release

Date: November 8, 2016

Contact: Amy Watkins, Director of Public Relations

On Monday, November 7, 2016, the Wappingers CSD Board of Education approved the change in start times of our schools beginning with the 2017-2018 school year. With this change in start times, the District will be able to improve student safety as well as reduce the number of transportation tiers from three to two. In September 2017, our Junior and Senior High Schools will have the same start time on the first transportation tier, and our Elementary Schools will all have the same start time on the second transportation tier. As a result of this change, our Junior and High School students will enter their school for the beginning of their school day at 7:25 a.m. and all elementary school students will enter their buildings at 8:25 a.m. Currently, the High School students enter the building at 7:00 a.m., the Junior High Schools and Myers Corners Elementary School enter the building at 7:50 a.m. and the remaining elementary school students enter the building at 8:50 a.m. The length of our school day will remain the same. The end time for our schools will be adjusted the same number of minutes as the morning arrival time.

The District's focus to change the start times was to improve student safety. Adjusting the start times reduces the amount of time students will be outside waiting for their bus before daylight. This change will also improve the District's ability to make weather-related delay and closing decisions, including the possibility of utilizing a three hour delay when needed. In addition, the District has the potential to realize approximately \$280,000 in cost-savings with this change.

For additional information on the change in start times please visit our website at <http://wappingersschools.org/Page/24494>. If you have questions, email wcsd.comments@wcsdny.org.