



*COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MEETING*



MARCH 8, 2010

MILLARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Board of Education Committee of the Whole will meet on Monday, March 8, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Don Stroh Administration Center, 5606 South 147th Street.

The Public Meeting Act is posted on the Wall and Available for Public Inspection

Public Comments on agenda items - This is the proper time for public questions and comments on agenda items only. Please make sure a request form is given to the Board Vice-President before the meeting begins.

A G E N D A

1. Budget
2. Legislation
3. Instructional Time Options

Public Comments - This is the proper time for public questions and comments on any topic. Please make sure a request form is given to the Board Vice President before the meeting begins.

Board of Education Committee of the Whole Agenda Item

AGENDA ITEM: Elementary Instructional Hours

MEETING DATE: March 8, 2010

SUBMITTED BY: Mark Feldhausen, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services

TITLE AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Review of Options for Increasing Elementary Instructional Hours

ACTION DESIRED: Discussion

BACKGROUND:

The Instructional Time Comparative Matrix (attached) was created to understand the variability of total instructional time amongst the eleven school districts of the Learning Community. The matrix allows Millard Public Schools to compare itself at the three levels of instructional time (elementary, middle, and high) to individual districts and a Learning Community average. This information was provided the Millard Board of Education on February 15, 2010. Elementary instructional hours of 1080 are below the Learning Community average for elementary of 1126. Discussion of options to increase elementary hours was moved to the March 8th Committee meeting.

Discussions of options to increase Elementary Instructional Hours were held with elementary principals on Monday, February 22, 2010. The document "Elementary Instructional Day Options" summarizes the status quo and the six options discussed with elementary principals. Subsequent discussions of these options were conducted with Ken Fossen and the transportation department. These conversations resulted in the elimination of a number of options.

Consequently, there are only three options remaining (see "Elementary Instructional Day Options" document):

1. Retain Status Quo
2. Option #5 adding 15 minutes to the end of the day for M, T, Th, and F while retaining the Wednesday 2:00 pm dismissal. This is an average increase of 12 minutes per day for an increase of 36 hours per year for a total of 1116 hours.
3. Option #6 eliminates the Wednesday early release and would increase the total hours to 1125.

Of the three options Elementary principals favor Option #5.

Finally, a copy of a recent "MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER: Clarification for Meeting Minimum Hours of Instruction" is included.

AGENDA SUMMARY SHEET

AGENDA ITEM: Instructional Time Comparisons

MEETING DATE: February 15, 2010

DEPARTMENT: Educational Services

TITLE AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Matrix of Instructional Time Comparisons for the Eleven School Districts of the Learning Community

ACTION DESIRED: Information

BACKGROUND: The Instructional Time Comparative Matrix was created to understand the variability of total instructional time among the eleven school districts of the Learning Community. The matrix allows Millard Public Schools to compare itself and the three levels of instructional time (elementary, middle, and high) to individual districts and a Learning Community average.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Discussion

STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE: None

TIMELINE: N/A

RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S): Mark Feldhausen, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services

SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL: _____
(Signature)

BOARD ACTION:

Learning Community Instructional Hours Comparison 01262010

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	District	Gr. Level	Start	End	Winter Break	Spring Break	Student days	Teacher Days	Grad. Date	Hours per day	Minutes/Day	Make-up	Standard Instructional Hours/Yr	Instructional Hours/Yr with Snow Days
2	Bellevue		12-Aug	20-May	Dec 24- Jan 4 - (2 weeks)	Apr 2-5 (Fri - Mon)	179	187	15-May	E - 8:00- 3:10 M 8:30- 3:55 H - 7:50- 3:20		no make up		
3		Elem					179			6.67	400		1193.93	
4		Middle					179			6.92	415		1238.68	
5		HS					179			6.67	400		1193.93	
6		HS Srs.					175			6.67	400		1167.25	
7	Bennington		19-Aug	28-May	Dec 23- Jan 4 (8 days)	Apr 1-5 (3 days)	175		16-May	E - 8:15 - 3:06 M/H-8:10- 3:17		???		
8		Elem					175			6.35	381		1111.25	
9		Middle					175			6.62	397		1157.92	
10		HS					175			6.62	397		1157.92	
11		HS Srs.					165			6.62	397		1091.75	
12	DC West		17-Aug	21-May	Dec 23- Jan 3 (8 days)	Apr 2-5 (Fri - Mon)	174.5	187	8-May	E - 6.33 (1104.5) M- 6.58 (1148.21) H 6.85 (1195.32)		4 built in will make up 2 more at end		
13		Elem					174.5			6.33	380		1104.59	
14		Middle					174.5			6.58	395		1148.21	
15		HS					174.5			6.85	411		1195.33	
16		HS Srs.					164.5			6.85	411		1126.83	

Learning Community Instructional Hours Comparison 01262010

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	District	Gr. Level	Start	End	Winter Break	Spring Break	Student days	Teacher Days	Grad. Date	Hours per day	Minutes/Day	Make-up	Standard Instructional Hours/Yr	Instructional Hours/Yr with Snow Days
17	Elkhorn		20-Aug	27-May	Dec 21- Jan 1 (2weeks)	Apr1-6 (4 days)	177	189	23-May	E - 8:15- 3:06 M8:15- 3:14 H8:10- 3:15		make 2 a/2 days into full, add 1 seniors,		
18		Elem					177			6.38	383		1129.85	
19		Middle					177			6.48	389		1147.55	
20		HS					177			6.58	395		1165.25	
21		HS Srs.					173			6.58	395		1138.92	
22	Gretna		20-Aug	26-May	Dec 23- Jan 1 (8 days)	Apr 1-6 (4 days)	180	188	23-May	E - 8:10- 3:10 M8:10- 3:10 H8:10- 3:21		???		
23		Elem					180			6.5	390		1170.00	
24		Middle					180			6.50	390		1170.00	
25		HS					180			6.68	401		1203.00	
26		HS Srs.					177			6.68	401		1182.95	
27	OPS		17-Aug	21-May	Dec 21- Jan 1 (2 weeks)	Mar 22- 26	171	186	Burke - May 19 Cen - May 23	E - 8:55- 3:45 M - 7:40-2:40 H 7:45- 2:50		Adding minutes		
28		Elem					171			6.33	380		1083.00	
29		Middle					171			6.50	390		1111.50	
30		HS					171			6.58	395		1125.75	
31		HS Srs.					169			6.58	395		1112.58	

Learning Community Instructional Hours Comparison 01262010

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	District	Gr. Level	Start	End	Winter Break	Spring Break	Student days	Teacher Days	Grad. Date	Hours per day	Minutes/Day	Make-up	Standard Instructional Hours/Yr	Instructional Hours/Yr with Snow Days
32	Millard		12-Aug	2-Jun	Dec 23- Jan 5 (2 weeks)	Apr 5-9	180	194	29-May	Elementar y 6 MS 6.5 HS 6.5		add Feb 11 Mar 15 back in		
33		Elem					180			6.00	360		1080.00	
34		Middle					180			6.50	390		1170.00	
35		HS					180			6.50	390		1170.00	
36		HS Srs.					178			6.50	390		1157.00	
37	Papio/LaVista		18-Aug	28-May	Dec 21 - Jun 1 (9 days)	Mar 29- April2	172	190	16-May	E - 1118 M- 1161 hs- 1189 senior - 1112		???		
38		Elem					172			6.33	380		1089.33	
39		Middle					172			6.50	390		1118.00	
40		HS					172			6.58	395		1132.33	
41		HS Srs.					162			6.58	395		1066.50	
42	Ralston		11-Aug	26-May	Dec 23- 31 (7 days)	Apr 1 - 5	173 - elem 178 - hs	190	16-May	E - 6' 25 " M/HS - 6' 45"		extended 4 days		
43		Elem					173			6.25	375		1081.25	
44		Middle					178			6.75	405		1201.50	
45		HS					178			6.75	405		1201.50	
46		HS Srs.					170			6.75	405		1147.50	

Learning Community Instructional Hours Comparison 01262010

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	District	Gr. Level	Start	End	Winter Break	Spring Break	Student days	Teacher Days	Grad. Date	Hours per day	Minutes/Day	Make-up	Standard Instructional Hours/Yr	Instructional Hours/Yr with Snow Days
47	South Sarpy		14-Aug	21-May	Dec 21 - Jan 1 (2 weeks)	Apr 2-5 (Fri - Mon)	181	187	16-May	E - 6.45 (1102) M/H - 7 (1143)		added 2 days to seniors		
48		Elem					181			6.75	405		1221.75	
49		Middle					181			7.00	420		1267.00	
50		HS					181			7.00	420		1267.00	
51		HS Srs.					176			7.00	420		1232.00	
52	Westside		13-Aug	28-May	Dec 23- Jan 5 (2 weeks)	Apr 5-9	183	194	24th	seniors out on May 14 graduate the E - 1123.75 M-1222.5 H-1189.29		might reduce early outs for elem.		
53		Elem					183			6.13	368		1122.40	
54		Middle					183			6.67	400		1220.00	
55		HS					183			6.48	389		1186.45	
56		HS Srs.					173			6.48	389		1121.62	
57														
58	Learning Community Avgs.													
59		Elem					176.86			6.37	382.00		1126.03	
60		Middle					177.32			6.64	398.27		1177.02	
61		HS					177.32			6.66	399.82		1181.64	
62		HS Srs.					171.14			6.66	399.82		1140.44	

Elementary Instructional Day Options

March 8, 2010

	Start Time for Students	End Time for Students	Additional Minutes	Hours/Day (minus 30 min. for lunch)	Total Hours for 180 Days	Concerns/Issues	Teacher Day
Current Schedule	Elem: 8:45 M, T, W, Th, F M.S. 7:45	Elem: 3:30 M, T, Th, F 2:00 W M.S. 2:45		6.0	1080	Transportation: 32 of 37 buses are double routed requiring at least 45 minutes (prefer one hour) between the middle school and elementary start and end times. To single route would cost additional \$1.44 million	8:00 – 4:15 Wed. until 5:00
Option #1	8:30 M, T, W, Th, F	3:30 M, T, Th, F 2:00 W	15 min (.25 hrs.)	6.25	1125	Transportation— insufficient time to double route	7:45 – 4:15 Wed. until 5:00
Option #2	8:30 M, T, W, Th, F	3:45 M, T, Th, F 2:15 W	30 min (.50 hrs.)	6.5	1170	Transportation— insufficient time to double route	7:45 – 4:30 Wed. until 5:00
Option #3	8:15 M, T, W, Th, F	3:30 M, T, Th, F 2:00 W	30 min (.50 hrs.)	6.5	1170	Transportation— insufficient time to double route	7:30 – 4:15 Wed. until 5:00
Option #4	8:15 M, T, W, Th, F	3:15 M, T, Th, F 2:00 W	15 min (.25 hrs.)	6.25	1125	Transportation— insufficient time to double route	7:30 – 4:00 Wed. until 5:00
Option #5	8:45 M, T, W, Th, F	3:45 M, T, Th, F 2:00 W	12 min (.20)	6.20	1116	No Transportation Issues	8:00 – 4:30 Wed. until 5:00

Elementary Instructional Day Options

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Option #6	8:45 M, T, W, Th, F	3:30 M, T, W, Th, F Eliminate Wed. early out	15 min (.25 hrs.)	6.25	1125	No Transportation issues Loss of Planning and Collaboration time Problems in larger Elem. Providing planning times	8:00 – 4:15 Wed. until 5:00
LC Avg.					1126.03		

Mark Feldhausen - Fwd: MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER: Clarification for Meeting MinimumHours of Instruction

From: Keith Lutz
To: executive committee
Date: 3/1/2010 11:20 AM
Subject: Fwd: MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER: Clarification for Meeting MinimumHours of Instruction

>>> "Breed, Roger" <roger.breed@nebraska.gov> 3/1/2010 10:36 AM >>>

We have been fielding a number of calls from schools concerning the need to meet the minimum hours of instruction as a result of all the inclement weather over the past two to three months. In addition, the impact of early release of graduating seniors has added to the concern of meeting minimum instructional hours for many school systems. This memo is intended to clarify issues specific to instructional hours for accreditation purposes and the instruction time allowance for state aid.

A. Meeting Minimum Hours of Instruction

Statute 79-211, reflected in Rule 10, Section 003.06, dictates the minimum instructional hours of education that must be provided to meet accreditation requirements. Section 003.06 states:

003.06 School Year. Each school system shall provide at least the following instruction annually between July 1 and June 30 for the grades it offers: (a) for grades up through grade eight, the time equivalent to **1,032** hours, (b) for grades nine through twelve, the time equivalent to **1,080** hours; and (c) for kindergarten, the time equivalent to **400** hours. When a school is dismissed for any reason such as tournaments or contests, parent/teacher conferences, funerals, parades, and school picnics, time shall not be counted in meeting the 400/1,032/1,080 hour school year requirement. Time scheduled for the school lunch period shall not be counted in meeting the school year requirements. [However] Pursuant to the provisions of 79-213 R.R.S., school systems unable to meet the minimums for instructional hours due to epidemic sickness, severe storm conditions, or destruction of the school house may request permission from the Board to offer fewer than the minimum hours by submitting an affidavit sworn to by the secretary of the school board and explaining the circumstances resulting in the request.

The affidavit form is located at <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/APAC/ReportsandForms.htm> (Affidavit of School Closing) and would be due 10 days after the end of the school year with the expectation that every effort was made to make up instructional hours missed because of the severe weather. If a school district does not meet the minimum hours of instruction as detailed in Rule 10 and does not get a waiver then the school district will not receive TEEOSA Aid in 2011-12. State statute 79-213 states:

No school district shall receive **any portion** of state funds pursuant to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act unless school has been actually taught in the district by a legally certificated teacher for the length of time required by law or unless the pupils residing in the district have attended school in another district for the length of time required by law.

B. Passing Time

For purposes of accreditation, passing time may be counted in the 1080 instructional hours. However, when computing instructional units for course offerings, passing time is not included. This is because instructional units are based upon the amount of time a particular class is actually in session.

C. Early Dismissal of Graduating Seniors

For purposes of accreditation, legislation and rule do not require each student to have 1080 hours of classroom instruction – only that the instruction is offered and available. Consequently, dismissing senior level students prior to the last day of school will not affect the 1080 instructional hours as long as school is open and teachers and classes are available. However, early dismissal of seniors may affect average daily membership and may have an impact on a district's state aid.

D. Instruction Time Allowance for the State Aid Formula

For State Aid purposes we use an “average of the averages.” To determine this figure, we calculate the average instructional time by grade level and then average the 13 grades. To qualify for the Instructional Time allowance, the calculated instructional time for your district must be higher than the statewide average instructional time. So, the loss of actual instructional time due to inclement weather or dismissing senior level students prior to the last day of school may have an impact on your instructional time allowance and your total State Aid.

If you have questions, please contact Russ Inbody at 402-471-4320 or Freida Lange at 402-471-2444.