

School Board Study Session  
Thursday, March 31, 2022 12:00 PM

District Office Conference Room, Room 164  
Austin High School  
401 3rd Ave. NW  
Austin, MN 55912

## **Agenda**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call  
**Speaker(s):** Chairperson
2. Request Approval of Revised Bell Schedule (Action)  
**Speaker(s):** Dr. Joey Page
3. Request Approval of School Board Member Employment (Action)  
**Speaker(s):** Dr. Joey Page
4. Strategic Planning  
**Speaker(s):** Dr. Joey Page and TeamWorks Consultant Dr. Sheri Allen
5. Adjournment



# AUSTIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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**DATE:** March 28, 2022

**TITLE:** 2022-23 Bell Schedule

**TYPE:** Action

**PRESENTER(S):** Dr. Joey Page

## **BACKGROUND:**

We may all remember that busing was a challenge at the beginning of the school year. Long rides, various start and end times for different schools, and other inefficiencies all added up to a big problem for us to address. We needed to get a better picture of exactly what was happening and what was going wrong to make better decisions about how to get students to and from school.

To do this, we did a Bell Time Study, which allowed us to gather information about our bus system, the challenges we face, and some recommendations on fixing the system.

## **RATIONALE:**

The Bell Study was completed this past month. This exhaustive study gave us a clear picture of our busing system and where it was falling short while offering some recommendations about how we can improve this for our students.

It's important to remember that this study was **not** a final decision **but** information that we can use to find the best transportation solution for our students.

Based on the findings of the Bell Study, we are committed to achieving the following goals:

- Clearly communicate bus routes and times to parents and caregivers
- Preserve length of the day at all district buildings/extend it to match secondary schools at IJ Holton Intermediate
- Put IJ and Ellis at the same bell times
- Keep elementary buildings on the same bell times
- Limit grade level spread per bus as much as possible
- Limit the spread between bell times as much as possible
- Shorten ride time
- Eliminate/Reduce transfers as much as possible
- Reduce traffic congestion in school areas at arrival & dismissal times
- Have a bell time that can support increases in student enrollments
- Provide a clear number of routes needed
- Minimize the amount of time students arrive before school and depart after school

The good news is that we have identified processes to make these changes that will be less disruptive for families. In fact, our new bell times will be reasonably similar to our current times now. Much of the work will be done on the back end, making operational improvements while preserving start times as much as possible.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Request approval of revised 2022-23 bell schedule.

The table below indicates current times and the proposed times.

**Current Schedule**

<b>School</b>	<b>AM Bell</b>	<b>PM Bell</b>
Woodson	8:15 AM	2:00 PM
Banfield	8:00 AM	2:30 PM
Neveln	8:00 AM	2:30 PM
Southgate	8:00 AM	2:30 PM
Sumner	8:00 AM	2:30 PM
IJ Holton	8:00 AM	2:45 PM
Ellis	8:30 AM	3:25 PM
AHS/Oakland	8:30 AM	3:15 PM

**Recommendation**

<b>School</b>	<b>AM Bell</b>	<b>PM Bell</b>
Woodson	8:15 AM	2:00 PM
Banfield	8:00 AM	2:30 PM
Neveln	8:00 AM	2:30 PM
Southgate	8:00 AM	2:30 PM
Sumner	8:00 AM	2:30 PM
IJ Holton	8:00 AM	3:00 PM
Ellis	8:00 AM	3:00 PM
AHS	8:30 AM	3:30 PM

\* CLC & Oakland Education Center will be scheduled



**DATE:** 3/31/2022

**TITLE:** School Board Member Employment

**TYPE:** Action

**PRESENTER(S):** Dr. Joey Page

**BACKGROUND:**

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 123B.195 relative to board members' right to employment with the school district, approval is being requested for the employment of School Board Members Cece Kroc and Don Leathers as substitute teachers. As outlined in the statute, income from employment will not exceed \$8,000 per fiscal year.

**RATIONALE:**

The district is in need of substitute teachers and these two retired teachers would be excellent substitute teachers for our district.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approval of their employment as substitute teachers is recommended.