

Transportation Budget Letter

Included in this budget are the transportation costs to accommodate more efficient routing in the 2006-07 school year. The expenditure is dependent upon changing the two earliest elementary school to a later starting time (Nokomis and Tecumseh). The current school times for these two schools are 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The 2006-07 school times for these two schools will be 8:55 a.m. to 2:55 p.m. with the two elementary schools that currently start at 8:45 a.m. (Grundy, Hiawatha) would be ten minutes later also starting at 8:55 a.m. and ending at 2:55 p.m. The other eight elementary schools (Cayuga, Chippewa, Gatelot, Lynwood, Merrimac, Tamarac, Waverly, and Wenonah) would start 10 minutes later. They currently go from 9:20 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. and next year would go from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The district will still be able to maintain the seven athletic buses at no added cost enabling the athletic program to provide the same services for teams while saving \$200,000.00 as a result of not having to contract for seven buses again this year.

The school hours in the 2005-06 school year would be as follows:

At the high school level all classes would start 5 minutes earlier with zero period beginning at 7:00 a.m. for students primarily in grades 9 and 10 (if these students are in the extended programs), and first period beginning at 7:47 a.m. The high school day would conclude at 2:07 p.m.

All middle schools would start 10 minutes later with zero period beginning at 7:53 a.m. and 1st period beginning at 8:38 a.m. The middle schools will conclude at 2:58 p.m.

Elementary Schools. Grundy, Hiawatha, Nokomis and Tecumseh would begin at 8:55 a.m. and end at 2:55 a.m. The other elementary schools (Cayuga, Chippewa, Gatelot, Lynwood, Merrimac, Tamarac, Waverly, and Wenonah) would begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m.

The zero period buses at the later eight elementary schools (Cayuga, Chippewa, Gatelot, Lynwood, Merrimac, Tamarac, Waverly, and Wenonah) would be reduced to two days a week as would the club buses at the four earlier elementary schools (Grundy, Hiawatha, Nokomis and Tecumseh).

The revised school times for these twelve elementary schools will enable enough flexibility to district-wide bus routing so that buses will arrive and depart to and from school in a timely manner. This new schedule for the elementary zero period buses will allow the district to reduce the number of buses needed by 10 complete packages. This can only be accomplished by increasing the time between the p.m. high school dismissal and the p.m. middle school dismissal to allow the district to best utilize all of the buses for every time slot.