

Public Q&A Building/Grade Changes 2/11/19

** Synopsis's—we are in a position to be able to move some kids based on enrollment

7- 6 period and changing the 8th graders to MS and 5th graders to Robert Kerr

- Challenges of 8th graders assimilating at the HS--- 5th graders are better suited as elementary students—not MS students – based on emotional readiness/research and our experiences
- Main rationale for changing the from 7-6 period—instruction is only for 50-51 minutes--- test scores at the secondary levels is rather “disenchanted” —58-60 minutes will be the change. Which increases instructional time- work time and time for students to work with their teachers.
- Gives them the traditional setting for one more year—tier two roundups every day. Social and emotional aspect is just as important
- Positive thing—behavior concerns that people see make us for it.
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1. Have you have thought of the idea of block scheduling? *price tag is the reason why we haven't done that—teachers etc.*
2. MS—teacher size would be the same, (don't know which teachers are going to be where)—developmentally where 8th graders are. Lunch sizes--- would change. Kids won't be losing electives at the MS. 6hour day- ELA, science, social studies, math--- either gym, band, chorus—then woodshop—**reading and writing would be together—**
3. If your child is in a stem class—*the class would be a 6th grade class and honors for 7th and 8th grade--- rather than the self-contained class. Same curriculum and same concepts. 8th graders would have electives—Spanish maybe? No elective lost. But deciding about working to bring electives down to MS.*
4. 5th grade at the MS has choir and band—would they have it at Robert Kerr. *Exploring that option—5th grade electives would be in AM--- have the band director come to school might be an option.*

5. Robert Kerr seems packed--- where will we put these kids? *4 classes per grade level--- stars, box car, special ed etc.—6 classrooms that are being used for other things--- Box car would then move to another school not necessarily being at RK . We have 6 additional classrooms to work with*
6. What about the 4th lunch in Robert Kerr—if 5th grade electives are in am—wouldn't have to change either BN or RK. ? Recess and lunch would be separate: dispelling the rumor that lunches would be combined for 4th and 5th grade.
7. Do we have funding to pay the lunch staff—yes we do—have the funding for paying extra 30 minutes. We will be looking at all avenues that will be affected—including food service, parapro's and just like we always do—adjust numbers to best fit at each building.
8. If you're eliminating a computer lab---stars etc.--- what happens to those programs? *Chrome carts will be utilized in classrooms—(which eliminates disruption to be in the same classroom) Star pull out is in the afternoon—tier 3- nothing would be cut. /One extra year of traditional M step prep. STARS would also continue.*
9. Are bussing schedules going to remain the same? *As it stands right now—we will keep the elementary and MS the same.*
10. Pickup at Robert Kerr—*it's difficult--- there are some options being explored regarding this--- moving the bus pick up line versus having it where it is—to adjust lines like we are doing now.*
11. Things seem up in the air--- when do we expect things to be finalized?

We wanted people to ask questions and address those concerns- one of the goals tonight is to address something we haven't thought about. We are still in the mode to make sure we are doing the right thing—the momentum is

good—if there are concerns as to why we shouldn't – then we want to know that as well.

12. Locker situation at RK? Kids would have to double up—wouldn't have to install any additional lockers. There have been some extra lockers not being used—we would utilize those.
13. Box car gets taken up? Box car kids are our kids—we are looking at opportunities at MS, BN and HS--- access to the facilities, track, etc.—concerns related to going to the HS—a great opportunity to even incorporate our HS kids to help with these programs
14. If the boxcar is at the MS--- yes, they would be bussed to RK
15. Was there any thought in moving 2nd grade back to BN--- due to GSRP- and preschool , head start also leases a space, Kindergarten, Stars/special ed and 1st grade---- all rooms are utilized—it's a great transition from preschool to kindergarten and 1st grade.
16. Would box car still open at 6am—yes and up to 7th grade. Age out at 14. New licensing would be done etc. as appropriate.
17. Teachers who would have to move from HS to MS--- it's all based on certification for secondary levels.

**Certification k-6 some are k-12--- those specifics will determine how we change teachers

18. Are we going to combine 5th grade? Or will the class sizes mimic what is happening in RK—funding is based on enrollment—simply a function of birth rate—we are considering a reduction of 3-4 5th grade classrooms. We ideally want elementary at 20-22- 5th grade numbers may look larger depending on numbers.

19. Thought and planning already--- August 2019- is this going to happen? *We haven't officially said YES—but the next steps would be with the school board, admin etc. the positives are here—to move forward, there are questions related to losing electives,*
20. Will the start times the same? Generally yes, we might consider passing time etc.—and ending time—all of these things have different scenarios we are considering.
21. Just remember that back at RK before—the switch is with 5 grade classrooms—having one teacher and reading roundup etc.

** Overall lots of great, positive comments

- My voice has always been heard from all team members, principals, teachers, superintendent—A parent
- I appreciate the communication and forethought in planning this to better our kids/district- a parent
- Thank you for always putting our kids first – a parent
- Developmentally our kids aren't ready to be in the high school as 8th graders, as a parent of a current 7th grader--- I thank you for considering this change- a parent
- As a parent, I want the teachers to have a voice—it's important as we have such amazing teachers—a parent