

BELMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUSING PROGRAM

School Committee

March 27, 2018

Busing Our Students

- Annual evaluation to identify areas of improvement considering key factors:
 - Enrollment figures
 - Current ridership
 - Resource availability
 - Vehicle traffic
 - Pick-up/Arrival times
 - Student safety
- New Busing Program (based on the following):
 - Year-over-year increase in enrollment
 - Increased demand for bus service

Sample: Current Busing Route

Wellington School – Bus 6 (am only)

- Stop 1: 523 School Street
- Stop 2: 9 Newton
- Stop 3: 48 Newton
- Stop 4: Fairview & Worcester
- Stop 5: Fairview & Springfield
- Stop 6: 56 Falmouth
- Stop 7: 2 Park
- Stop 8: 14 Park
- Stop 9: Park & Unity
- Stop 10: Fairview & Berwick
- Stop 11: Fairview & Dartmouth
- Stop 12: 45 Dartmouth
- Stop 13: 68 Dartmouth
- Stop 14: 34 Unity
- Stop 15: Unity & Marlboro
- Stop 16: 65 Marlboro
- Stop 17: 37 Oxford
- Stop 18: 181 Belmont Street
- Stop 19: Oxford & Belmont
- Stop 20: Grove & Marion
- Stop 21: Grove & Unity
- Stop 22: Fairview & Foster



Sample: New Busing Route

Wellington School – Bus 6 (am only)

- Stop 1: 523 School Street
- Stop 2: Fairview & Newton
- Stop 3: Fairview & Springfield
- Stop 4: Unity & Park
- Stop 5: Fairview & Berwick
- Stop 6: Dartmouth & Unity
- Stop 7: Marlboro & Unity
- Stop 8: Oxford & Belmont
- Stop 9: Belmont & Marion
- Stop 10: Grove & Marion
- Stop 11: Fairview & Foster



What Does This Mean for Students and Parents?

Current Facts

- There are routes with an excess of 40 stops which increases travel time both in the morning and afternoon and prolongs ride times for students
- Students are consistently late for classes for the first two weeks of school due to the current routes and number of stops
- Routes are reconfigured each year, stop by stop, in order to accommodate individual addresses which delays arrival times at each of the six district schools

Future Benefits

- Decreasing travel time in town by way of fewer stops per route; in some cases the number of stops has decreased by more than 50% than the 2017-2018 bus routes
- Prompt morning and afternoon delivery times
- Minimal annual changes to routes which promotes consistency and ease of understanding as well as ease in planning for parents and students

Timeline of New Plan Rollout

- Final review and establishment of new centralized bus stops was completed in January, 2018.
- Changes for the BPS website are drafted and currently under review. Final changes will be posted to the website no later than Friday, March 30th.
- A letter introducing the new busing program will be mailed out to all parents of bus students on Friday, March 30th, including parents of all current fourth graders who will be transitioning to the Middle School and may require busing for the first time.
- Bus registration will open for the 2018-2019 school year on Monday, June 4th