

Adjustments to Lengthened School Day

Dear Parents,

This morning I explained to the attendees of the Booster Club Parent Connect Coffee the saga of the addition of 10 minutes per day to our school day. This solution is in response to a change in calculating the length of a Texas public education school year by *minutes* (75,000ish) rather than *days* (180ish). The change was signed into law during the summer but Texas schools did not receive operational guidance from TEA until September, well after the beginning of the school year. In reviewing all the rules (can we count Late Start day minutes? What about Early Release Days? Parent Conferences?, etc.) it turns out we were out of compliance and we chose to apply a retroactive fix. Rather than add extra school days to capture them, we are adding minutes to each school day for this semester. District direction and communication to you was that five minutes would be added in the morning and five in the afternoon. Confusing was all Bridge Point minutes were added in the morning.

So....beginning Tuesday, January 19, the Bridge Point school hours will be 7:45 AM – 2:55 PM. For bus riders there will still be no change in pick-up times in the morning. In the afternoon, the bus schedule will be FIVE minutes later. More precisely, the revised schedule for all students will be as follows:

7:40 AM	First Bell (school and assembly begin in five minutes)
7:45 AM	Second Bell (Morning Assembly and official School Day begin)
2:50 PM	Begin dismissal
2:55 PM	End of School Day

Important Notes:

-Though the day begins 5 minutes earlier, we are unable to open the Bus Zone for drop-off five minutes earlier. As mentioned above, there is no change in morning bus routes. **The Bus Zone remains available for drop-off beginning 7:30 AM.** Please use the traffic circle before then.

-Tardies: For arrivers prior to 8:00 AM, we will provide a few weeks of tardy “moratorium” as our community adjusts to the new arrival time.

Let’s try it again Tuesday! Thanks for your understanding as we continue our efforts to get this right.