

Ministik School Public Meeting

Ministik School

Feb. 7, 2017

7:00 p.m. to 7:25 p.m.

Session: 1

Topic: Transportation

Recorder: Colleen

Questions Asked:

- As a former bus driver, we are adding miles for every child. Because this is a community school, we used to have to ride 2.5 hours per day for rides on the east end. Because this is a community school, we were able to agree to reverse the route so that the ride at night was shorter. To summarize, your concern is that the ability to share that ride time is gone when we attend Fultonvale.

(Answers have been inserted in italics when possible) When you reverse routes, in the morning you can start at one end and work towards the school. Generally, this is not possible for the last point on the route.

- What is the maximum ride time that the board allows for a K - gr 3; 3 -gr. 6?
Does the board have a specific guideline for this?

The board does not have any specific time for grade / age level of students. EIPS buses lots of students to programs of choice. We use transfer sites. Capping the ride would not allow us to do this.

- What time does the school start?

School will still start at 8:00

- I have concerns about the school start time and what time they get on the bus?
- The first stop at Fultonvale is at 3:08. My pre-schooler is picked up when the bus are supposed to leave. (After 3:10) These times cannot be realistic? These times need to be revisited and we need to have better answers than what we have provided.

Buses will dismiss and students will leave at 3:00 on the proposed timetable.

- As an elementary student I rode the bus for 5 minutes. In junior high it was longer. The bus rides are too long for the younger (K) students.

We plan and use software to create routes. One route is built in planned time. Then we compare it with real travel time. All of our routes are planned within 5 minutes. We attempt to make the routes as accurate as possible. Inclement weather as well as stops may change

the time somewhat. For each stop, we calculate the time for the route based on numbers at each stop (plus 5 seconds per child)

- Ride to Fultonvale is 45 minutes or longer in the dark; winter. Not suitable for younger students.
- The perception is that we are going to add an hour of additional travel time for the bus ride. Is this realistic?
- How many students will be on each route? How many kids per bus?
- Do we have any child care in plans? Is there an after school plan in place for parents who work later?
- Currently Ministik has a PAT score of 88%. Having to extend this travel time by an hour each way, will this not have an effect on on their retention and knowledge. Will longer bus rides affect a child's learning?
- Other activities are also a concern. If they do not get off the bus until 4:30 (Plus an additional hour) this is too much. Will the extended bus ride affect their after school activities? Homework and other activities?
- Looking at the new bus routes, we have 225 students going to fultonvale on six buses and then 106 Ministik kids coming after on four buses. (double bussing that is very expensive)
- This makes a total of 331 students. When I look at the new routes, to cut bus time, we are going from 10 buses to 8 buses, we are travelling further, the totals do not add up - they add up to 225? There is a decrease in the afternoon. I just want to make sure that we are accounting for all of the students in the Ministik area.
- If Trina Boymook is concerned about the carbon tax, I am concerned about the routes. Will we decrease buses? We are missing large numbers of students. If we are doing this for money, how much does this involve?
- Why is only Fultonvale an option? Why not other schools?
- Adding an hour of travel time is too much, even a half an hour is too much to add to the bus route.