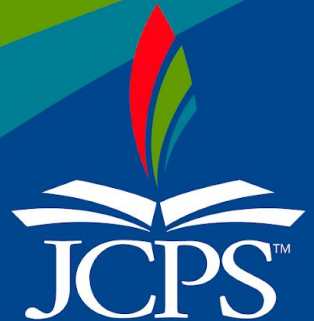




Transportation and School Start Time Considerations

- Dr. Tyler Shearon - Executive Administrator, Operations
- Bradford Daniel - Assistant Director Routing
- Marcus Dobbs - Exec Administrator Transportation
- Dr. Amy Stokes-Levine - Director, Operations Procedural Development

Consistency drives excellence—
improved working conditions, new
routing software, steady progress,
minimal disruption.



HISTORICAL CONTEXT


School Year	# of Students Transported	Latest School Dismissal	# of Tiers	Run Type	Maximum # of Routes per Tier	Typical PM clear time
2021-2022	58,655	3:45 PM	2	Double & Triple	784	6:05 PM
2022-2023	62,702	3:45 PM	2	Double & Triple	740	6:15 PM
2023-2024	62,000	4:20 PM	3	Single	568	7:04 PM
2024-2025	45,800	4:20 PM	3	Single	526	5:41 PM
2025-2026	46,000	4:20 PM	3	Single	595	5:40 PM

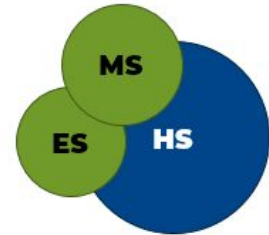
For 2 tiers next year, a minimum of 990 drivers would be needed to cover the increased routes.

SCENARIO PROJECTION

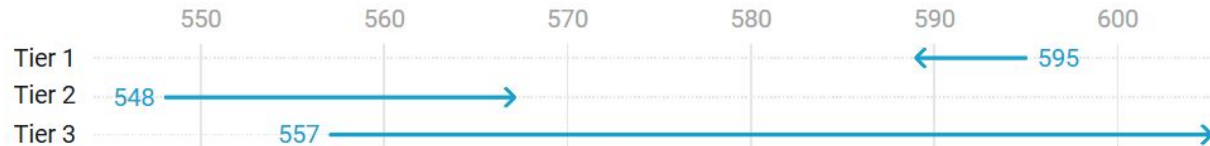
School Year	7:30-2:10	8:40-3:20 8:30-3:10	9:40-4:20	Max # of Routes:	Typical PM clear time
Current State 2025-2026	E: 26 M: 9 H: 12 SP: 7	E: 11 M: 14 H: 13 SP: 4	E: 51 M: 0 H: 0 SP: 1	595 on Tier 1	5:40 PM
# of Schools	54	42	52		
# of Depots	8	0	0		
Scenario: Late HS & Ramsey MS	E: 51 M: 7 H: 0 SP: 4	E: 37 M: 15 H: 2 SP: 1	E: 0 M: 1 H: 23 SP: 7	685 on Tier 3	≈6:45 PM
# of Schools	62	55	31		
# of Depots	0	0	9		

BALANCING TIERS for OPTIMAL SERVICE

-  Keeping the final peak as low as possible allows for time to be recovered through call-ins, traffic conditions, or unforeseen delays—while still arriving on time.
- High schools require more routes and buses than elementary and middle schools.
- The proposed final tier would have the highest route count among the three tiers, including depot routes—creating more opportunities for delays.



Late HS Proposal Increases # of Bus Routes on Tier 3



TAKEAWAYS

Consistency for the Community

- New routing software for Gen. Ed. begins in 2026-27; changing start times at the same time would be a repeat of 2023-24.
 - **Recommend evaluating options for 2027-28 or later.**
- Would require a full re-route of the district again.
- Traffic patterns based on current bell times would need to be reevaluated.

Drivers

- Based on current information, this scenario would require expanding the bus driver pool to a minimum of 715 drivers before implementation.

Option 1 - Retain Current State

PRO

- New routing software for Gen. Ed. begins in 2026-27; keeps us from repeating 2023-24.
- Offers consistency to community.
 - Chronic absenteeism has improved under current start times.
- Requires fewer drivers.
- More opportunity for secondary students to engage in athletics, gain work experience, and help with family responsibilities, like sibling care.

CON

- Does not follow research that later start times are associated with improved adolescent sleep and behavioral health
- Administrators of Tier 3 schools experience burnout from ongoing demands.

Option 2 - Late HS & Ramsey MS

PRO

- Later start times are generally associated with improved sleep and behavioral health in adolescents
- While stakeholder opinions vary, nationally representative survey found 51% of parents support later start times
- Relief for Elementary Administrators currently on Tier 3.

CON

- Would require a full re-route of the district again.
- Traffic patterns would need to be reevaluated.
- Requires a minimum of 715 bus drivers.
- Provides challenges to secondary students for athletic participation and employment.