

## Inter-Lakes School District Changes to Start & End Times Frequently Asked Questions

### **Why are we changing school start and end times?**

This will help us to have a school schedule which better meets the developmental needs of our high school students; one that supports their growth and learning. Research on the benefits of a later school start time for adolescents can be found on our homepage at [www.interlakes.org](http://www.interlakes.org) under Universal Start/End Times. Additionally, it will provide us greater flexibility with our resources and allow us to more effectively provide for students' instructional needs. As we continue to implement competency-based learning PK - 12, having more options for learning is essential. Furthermore, as a School District we value collaboration amongst our team of educators. These changes to our start and end times, allow for more opportunities for professional dialogue and learning across grade-levels.

### **What time will school start and end?**

Please find below our new times including when students can be dropped off in the morning.

School Start/End Times 2017/2018								
School	AM Drop Off Begins	School Schedule	School	AM Drop Off Begins	School Schedule	School	AM Drop Off Begins	School Schedule
SCS	7:40 a.m.	7:55 a.m. – 2:40 p.m.	ILES/ ILMT (5,6)	8:00 a.m.	8:15 a.m.* – 3:00 p.m.	ILMT (7,8)/ ILHS	7:30 a.m.**	8:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

\*ILES (K – 6) – 8:15 a.m. arrival/first bell; 8:30 a.m. tardy bell

\*\*Students in grades 7 - 12 will go to the library between 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

### **How will the K – 12 Single Tier Bus Routes work?**

Bus routes will have elementary, middle-tier and high school students riding together. After an open bid process for school bus transportation, *First Student*, the only contractor to submit a proposal, has been selected as our school bus transportation provider. We are working closely with *First Student* to refine and improve our transportation system. This includes improvements to our bus routes based on the transportation survey information provided by families this past spring. ***If you did not complete a survey and plan to use the school bus, please contact our office at 279 – 7947, so that we can plan accordingly.*** Our new bus routes will be posted on our website at [www.interlakes.org](http://www.interlakes.org) on August 15th. However, we recognize that some families may need estimated bus arrival times to plan childcare. Therefore, if you contact our office at 279 – 7947, we can provide an approximate time at this stage. ***Please note:*** adjustments will still be made until the beginning of August and that the information shared will be subject to change. Additionally, once the school year is underway bus routes may need to adapt based on the needs of the actual ridership. Thank you for your understanding as we continue to make the necessary changes to improve the bus experience for our students.

### **What measures will be in place to transition to K – 12 students riding the same bus?**

With our new bus contract with *First Student*, we are adding cameras to our school buses for the start of the school year. Additionally, we will have two school bus monitors who will rotate between routes, as needed. Students will be seated as follows: K - 6 students, 9 - 12 students and 7 - 8 students. Also, the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent will be riding each bus at least once throughout the next school year to monitor our transportation system and the transition to a K - 12 single tiered bus system. Regular meetings will take place between *First Student* Management, the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent to ensure quality of service.

### **What is the new traffic pattern at the Inter-Lakes Campus?**

The new traffic pattern can be found on our website at [www.interlakes.org](http://www.interlakes.org) under Universal Start/End Times. Our Administrative Team will be assisting by directing traffic at the start of the year while we transition to this new flow of traffic. Thank you in advance for your patience as our school community adapts to this change.

### ***What measures are being taken to address the volume of cars on the Inter-Lakes Campus?***

The traffic pattern has been designed to try and move a larger volume of traffic from Route 25 to the campus. To start, two Meredith Police Officers will be available to assist with entering and exiting the campus. Additionally, students in grades 7 – 12 can be dropped off starting at 7:30 a.m.

### ***How will the change impact athletics and co-curricular activities?***

There will be an increase in the number of dismissals for athletics in grades 9 - 12. In order to mitigate this concern, C and D block will rotate *as necessary* to minimize the impact. Additionally, Office Hours will provide an opportunity for students to seek support for the missed class time. Many efforts were made to keep dismissals to thirty (30) minutes or less. However, there are exceptions to this constraint due to the nature of certain sports. An overview of athletic dismissals can be found at [www.interlakes.org](http://www.interlakes.org) under Universal Start/End Times/June 13<sup>th</sup> Presentation to the Inter-Lakes School Board. As we move forward to future years, we will continue to build an athletic schedule that minimizes the impact on instructional time. Also, future lighting of the Turf Field will allow for more practice time and game options during shorter daylight times.

Some school districts that have shifted start and end times place Office Hours at the end of the day to lessen the impact of early dismissals. This was examined, but Office Hours is the only time that the full high school band and chorus are able to meet, which is for thirty-six (36) minutes. Approximately, ninety-eight percent (98%) of the students in band and chorus are involved in athletics, therefore, an early dismissal of thirty (30) minutes would have a significant impact on these programs, which is why the decision was made to not move Office Hours.

### ***What other impacts are anticipated with the change in school start and end times?***

The change does eliminate the ability for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to take an early bus to school and for 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students to take a late route bus home. A decision still needs to be made about the before school band program for students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade; it will either be moved to the advisory time during the school day, which is similar to the high school use of Office Hours; or parent(s)/guardian(s) will need to transport to a before school band program similar to Inter-Lakes Elementary School.

Another area impacted is the before school reading program for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students; however, we have struggled to have all students needing this program access it prior to their school day. Therefore, this reading program will be incorporated into the school day during English Language Arts time. The benefit of this change is that all students needing this support will be able to access it.

Approximately sixteen (16) students on average from the high school level typically accessed the K – 8 bus routes for a late ride home from school. In order to mitigate this change, we will have a late bus for students in grades 7 – 12 which will drop students off at “central” locations within each community. Final locations will be shared and posted on our website in mid-August.

### ***Who should I contact with questions regarding these changes?***

<b>School Specific Questions</b>	
Mr. Jeremy Hillger Sandwich Central School Principal <a href="mailto:jeremy.hillger@interlakes.org">jeremy.hillger@interlakes.org</a> 284 - 7712	Mrs. Jennifer Wrath Inter-Lakes Elementary School Principal <a href="mailto:jen.wrath@interlakes.org">jen.wrath@interlakes.org</a> 279 – 7968
Mr. Everett Bennett Inter-Lakes Middle Tier School Principal <a href="mailto:everett.bennett@interlakes.org">everett.bennett@interlakes.org</a> 279 – 7968 (5/6); 279 – 5312 (7/8)	Mrs. Patricia Murphy Inter-Lakes High School Principal <a href="mailto:patti.murphy@interlakes.org">patti.murphy@interlakes.org</a> 279 – 6162
<b>Bus Transportation Questions</b>	
Ms. Trish Temperino Assistant Superintendent <a href="mailto:trish.temperino@interlakes.org">trish.temperino@interlakes.org</a> 279 -7947	
<b>Additional Questions</b>	
Mrs. Mary Moriarty Superintendent <a href="mailto:mary.moriarty@interlakes.org">mary.moriarty@interlakes.org</a> 279 – 7947	