June 16, 2022

Dear Arlington Community,

School Start and End Times
Last fall, the administration began conversations about school start and dismissal times due to issues the District has experienced related to transportation.

We discovered some discrepancies in school start and end times between our two middle schools and among our elementary schools. At some of our elementary schools, this has created problems with buses arriving and departing later than expected. This also led to an inconsistency in the amount of instructional minutes that students receive across our middle and elementary schools.

Beginning in the 2022/2023 school year, school start and end times will be standardized as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Level</th>
<th>School Start Times</th>
<th>School Dismissal Times</th>
<th>Bus Departure Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>2:15</td>
<td>2:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>2:10</td>
<td>2:20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary (Grades K-5)</td>
<td>8:45</td>
<td>3:15</td>
<td>3:30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transportation needs an hour of transition time between secondary and elementary routes. This is currently not the case at all schools, which has created service issues for families. This schedule will allow for at least one hour between the secondary and elementary bus runs. A standardized schedule will also ensure that students across the district receive the same number of instructional minutes each day.

Board Approves New Middle School Principals
I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Education recently approved the appointments of new principals for Union Vale and LaGrange Middle Schools.

On Tuesday, May 24, the Board of Education appointed Lisa Roloson as the Principal of Union Vale Middle School. Ms. Roloson has a deep commitment to Arlington and has stepped up in each of the last two years to serve as the interim principal at Union Vale. During that time, she has demonstrated her capabilities to effectively lead the school. I am confident that she will continue to step up to the challenge of charting a path to the future for our students and community. She is a learner, and I respect a leader who can model the importance of lifelong learning for students and staff.

In 2017, Ms. Roloson was appointed as an Assistant Principal at Union Vale Middle School. She served as the acting principal from November 2020 to June 2021 and again stepped up to that role in April 2022.
On Tuesday, June 14, the Board appointed Todd Richard as the Principal of LaGrange Middle School. Mr. Richard has been serving as the interim principal at LMS since April. He is an experienced administrator who has established himself with the staff in his interim role in a short period of time. He is a stabilizing influence and an honest, authentic person and leader. I am excited about his thoughts related to innovation, and I believe in his ability to make connections with students and our families. I am also excited about his ability to contribute to refining and improving cohesive 6-12 programming and services in Arlington.

Prior to assuming the role of LMS Interim Principal, Mr. Richard has served as the Arlington High School House Principal for the Class of 2022 since 2018.

Lisa Roloson and Todd Richard will begin in their new roles on July 1. [Click here to learn more about their professional and educational backgrounds.]

**Board Approves Curriculum Resources**

The Board of Education recently approved new elementary resources for literacy, science, and instructional belonging.

The District surveyed all elementary teachers in order to choose new literacy resources for phonics and phonemic awareness. ([Click here for a better understanding of these terms](#)). We then convened a literacy committee that included one teacher from each elementary school, as well as district and building administrators. Dr. Rodriguez presented the recommendations to the Board on May 10.

On May 24, the Board approved the [Wilson Fundations](#) phonics program for students in grades K-3 and [Heggerty](#) for phonemic awareness. The Board also approved [Science 21](#) for grades K-5. Science 21 is an inquiry-based elementary school science program that is aligned with the NYS P12Science Learning Standards.

On May 24, Dr. Rodriguez presented a series of curriculum resources to promote instructional belonging in grades K-5. [Please click here for a copy of the presentation/list of resources that the Board approved on June 14.](#)

I wish you the best for the waning days of the 21/22 school year and look forward to wishing you a good summer next week.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dave Moyer