

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, November 27, 2018
Madison Park Technical Vocational High School
75 Malcolm X Boulevard, Boston MA 02120

Welcome from METCO Parent:

On behalf of the METCO families, Ms. Carla Sheffield welcomed the Superintendent and School Committee members to Boston.

Call to Order and Welcome: 7:00 pm

Chair Eileen Jay called the meeting to order and introduced committee members .

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Eileen Jay, Chairperson
Kate Colburn, Vice-Chairperson
Kathleen Lenihan, Clerk
Alessandro Alessandrini

NOT PRESENT

Deepika Sawhney

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Dr. Julie Hackett, Superintendent
Peter Rowe, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Dr. Christine Lyons, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Learning

The minutes were taken by Kristen Cronin, Executive Assistant to the School Committee and Administrative Assistant to Superintendent

Superintendent Hackett addressed the families and expressed her appreciation to the families for having their children be part of the METCO program with Lexington.

Presentation: METCO - A Historical Summary by Barbara Hamilton

Ms. Hamilton thanked the Executive Parent METCO Board for helping to organize tonight's event and extended her gratitude and thanks to the METCO staff.

Ms. Hamilton provided the School Committee with an overview of growth, some continued challenges, and hopefully a vision for moving forward as a program in Lexington. A few of the highlights are provided below:

- Lexington Public Schools have participated in the program since 1968. The program provides Lexington students and staff an opportunity to interact with many urban students of color.
- The METCO Program is a voluntary program; did not need assistance from the legislation or the government
- The Lexington METCO Program is the 3rd largest program in METCO
- Changing Mindsets
 - Everyone benefits from the METCO Program
 - It is an educational opportunity for all students, administrators, teachers, and staff
 - METCO helps to prepare global citizens for a multicultural society
- METCO SERVICES: Elementary
 - Conduct Efficacy, Pretty Brown Girls, and Young Kings workshops
 - Make community referrals to programs and resources in Boston
 - Provide Family and Friends Program support
 - Coordinate JUMP START Summer Program for entering students
- METCO SERVICES: Middle School
 - Conduct Efficacy workshops
 - Make community referrals to programs and resources in Boston
- METCO SERVICES: High School
 - AAL Scholars (Grades 10-12)
 - Tuesday and Thursday Homework Club
 - Grade 9 Summer Transition Program
 - METCO Academic Support Teacher
 - Crisis intervention as needed
 - Address issues of equity
 - Consult and collaborate Deans, Teachers and Administrators to ensure academic achievement

Community Speaks

None

Possible Impact of Later Start on the METCO Program

Superintendent Hackett provided a brief history of the School Start Time Task Force and reasoning for a later start time for the high school as well as proposed bus routes if Lexington was to vote for a later start. See below for a copy of proposed bus routes:

Lexington METCO Proposed Routes

PROPOSED
OPTION 1
(Shorten MS Day 10 Min.)

A.M.					P.M.		
ROUTE	DESCRIPTION	START	END	TIME	START	END	TIME
142	CLARKE MS	6:30	7:50	1:20	2:45	5:25	2:40
142	HIGH SCHOOL	6:30	8:00	1:30	3:15	5:25	2:40
143	DIAMOND MS	6:30	7:50	1:20	2:45	5:25	2:40
143	HIGH SCHOOL	6:30	8:00	1:30	3:15	5:25	2:40
146	ELEMENTARY (HS TRANSFERS)	7:05	8:50	1:45	3:35	4:55	1:20
144	ELEMENTARY (HS TRANSFERS)	7:05	8:50	1:45	3:35	5:05	1:30
145	ELEMENTARY (HS TRANSFERS)	7:05	8:50	1:45	3:35	4:55	1:20

PROPOSED
OPTION 1
(Shorten MS Day 10 Min.)
ADD 6TH BUS

A.M.					P.M.		
ROUTE	DESCRIPTION	START	END	TIME	START	END	TIME
142	CLARKE MS	6:30	7:40	1:20	2:45	4:15	1:30
142	DIAMOND MS	6:30	7:50	1:20	2:55	4:15	1:20
143	HIGH SCHOOL	7:00	8:20	1:20	3:15	4:35	1:20
146	ELEMENTARY (HS TRANSFERS)	7:05	8:50	1:45	3:35	5:20	1:45
144	ELEMENTARY (HS TRANSFERS)	7:05	8:50	1:45	3:35	5:20	1:45
145	ELEMENTARY (HS TRANSFERS)	7:05	8:50	1:45	3:35	5:20	1:45

*Times are based on METCO Director and Transportation Consultant and are subject to change due to continued review of Later School Start Times at Lexington High School.

Community Speaks

Many families and some students expressed concerns for the later start due to increase traffic in both Lexington and Boston and the time students will be getting home at the end of the day. Elementary parents noted that after school programs would not accept their children into the program due to the lateness of their arrival, causing families to not have after school care. While other families commented on their children not having enough time to integrate back into their neighborhood activities.

Motion was made to adjourn and seconded at 8:33 pm (Approved 4-0)

