



# COOPERATIVE STRATEGIES

COMPLETE FINANCIAL & DEMOGRAPHIC PLANNING FOR EDUCATION

## NORFOLK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Facility Master Plan 2018-19  
Community Dialogue 1  
October 1 & 2, 2018

RESULTS REPORT



# COOPERATIVE STRATEGIES

COMPLETE FINANCIAL & DEMOGRAPHIC PLANNING FOR EDUCATION

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## INTRODUCTION

On October 1 & 2, 2018, a Community Dialogue was held to discuss and collect feedback from the community regarding a facility master plan update. Items discussed included enrollment, facility maintenance, bus routes, and school start times, among others.

Participants were asked to fill out both an individual questionnaire and to participate in group open dialogue and discussion. There were a total of **37 questionnaires** received both on paper and online. The questionnaire was made available online for 3 weeks so that community members who could not attend the meetings could provide feedback.

Cooperative Strategies would like to thank the students, staff, Board of Education, Facilities Steering Committee, and the community of the Norfolk Public Schools for their commitment and dedication to the planning process.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### **Division Leadership:**

Dr. Melinda J. Boone, Superintendent

### **School Board Members:**

Dr. Noelle M Gabriel, Chair  
Mr. Carlos Clanton, Vice Chair  
Ms. Tanya K. Bhasin  
Ms. Lauren D. Campsen, Member  
Mr. Rodney A. Jordan, Member  
Ms. Adale M. Martin, Member  
Ms. Christine Smith, Member  
Mr. Jaelin Mitchell, Student Representative

### **Cooperative Strategies:**

Mr. Tracy Richter, REFP, Cooperative Strategies; President  
Mr. Matt Sachs, Cooperative Strategies; Associate Director

## RESULTS

### Division Questions

#### Q1. Which meeting did you attend?

#	%	
18	48.6%	October 1, 2018 @ Granby HS
11	29.7%	October 2, 2018 @ Richard Bowling ES
2	5.4%	Both
6	16.2%	I did not attend a meeting

#### Q2. Based on the start times presented, rate your level of support for the Division moving forward with a similar time schedule.

#	%	
13	38.2%	High Support
7	20.6%	Support
6	17.6%	Some Support
7	20.6%	No Support
1	2.9%	No Opinion

*The size of a school building can factor into the number of programs that can be offered to students. Smaller school buildings, with limited space, provide a closer learning community focused on core academics while larger buildings have more space, more students, and the flexibility to offer additional diverse programming.*

#### Q3. On the scale below, which do you prefer more: smaller buildings (smaller learning communities) or larger buildings (more program offerings) for each grade level?

	Smaller		<--->		<--->		<--->		Larger Buildings	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Elementary Schools	15	41.7%	10	27.8%	9	25.0%	0	0.0%	2	5.6%
Middle Schools	1	2.8%	6	16.7%	19	52.8%	4	11.1%	6	16.7%
High Schools	0	0.0%	2	5.6%	9	25.0%	11	30.6%	14	38.9%

**Q4. Before any recommendation on school start time can be made, it is important for the Division to understand the community's opinion on how each of these topics affects them. Listed below are topics of discussion that arise when presenting changes to school start times. Please indicate your level of concern, if any, regarding each topic.**

**1 = No Concern, 5 = High Concern**

	1 = No Concern		2		3		4		5 = High Concern		No Opinion	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Amount of sleep	1	2.7%	4	10.8%	1	2.7%	7	18.9%	24	64.9%	0	0.0%
Before and after school extra-curriculars	1	2.9%	2	5.7%	3	8.6%	10	28.6%	19	54.3%	0	0.0%
Bus route	4	11.1%	4	11.1%	9	25.0%	8	22.2%	9	25.0%	2	5.6%
Child care	6	16.7%	3	8.3%	6	16.7%	6	16.7%	15	41.7%	0	0.0%
Parents with students at different grade level buildings	3	8.3%	3	8.3%	9	25.0%	7	19.4%	12	33.3%	2	5.6%
Ride time (to and from school)	2	5.6%	4	11.1%	9	25.0%	7	19.4%	13	36.1%	1	2.8%
Time for family activities	1	2.9%	4	11.4%	2	5.7%	9	25.7%	19	54.3%	0	0.0%
Other, please specify												

- All studies show high school should start later
- Are there later start times for all schools so that the earliest time is closer to 8am and not 7:30?
- Keep it the same. High School aged students and teachers are most suited for the early stagger.
- No home family care
- Older siblings take care of younger ones
- Parents at elementary already can't afford after care. Cost will go up. Could be offset by lower before care?  
leave in dark, return in dark. after school activities.
- Primary Grade PK-2 children should not be at the bus stops in the pre-dawn before light hours unsupervised where high school aged students have higher responsibility levels.
- Survey teachers and staff for potential hardships due to change in start time. Increase in teacher shortage.
- The experts say flip HS and ES start times, but getting it done is hard

**Q5. Rate your level of support for a feeder pattern system in which 100% of ALL elementary students attend the same middle school and 100% of ALL middle school**

#	%	
7	20.0%	High Support
7	20.0%	Support
13	37.1%	Some Support
8	22.9%	No Support
0	0.0%	No Opinion

**Q6. Please use the space below to provide any additional thoughts or ideas you feel the Division should consider throughout this process regarding the items discussed today.**

- After school programs for ES and MS on school site until 6:30pm M-F. Utilize TA's or substitute teachers as resources for the aforementioned.
- Any special programs should be in the central part of the city.
- High Schools could use HRT to service the schools (e.g. Freedom pass). Madison should be re-located. I suggest that it be the same facility as central admin to take advantage of the wealth of teaching experience working with our most "at risk" students.
- How much does ample work time for school bus drivers to make a decent living contributes. Flex school times.
- I highly support a preschool in Fairlawn Elementary School as well as many other residents that live behind and around Fairlawn Elementary School.
- I like clear pathways but with choice. Not 100% either way. High support for early start time with elementary school. Times more in line with parent work schedules; not leaving younger kids home unsupervised, reduce before and after school care cost to maybe after care only. Not in support of combined bus routes/start time. Safety concerns with elementary and pre-k riding with high schoolers.
- I think for this feeder process to work; middle schools need to have a specialty program to support the students forward movement into a specialty programs in middle school will allow these students to become distracted by positive interest in their field of interest.



- I think that a later start time for high school is good. I do think you should look at options for sports practices and extra-curriculars to happen before school. One school I know in NoVA starts at 9:15, but cross-country practice is a 7am. For some teens, this could mean early bus vs. late bus. I also believe Norfolk is behind in the use of online classes offered by the commonwealth. I think Norfolk needs to increase those offerings.
- If a choice must be made between program choices for students compared to students going to school with their neighborhood friends I would more easily support a change that makes choices more available to all students regardless of zip code.
- it bothers me that CTE has been changed or suggested change to the BTW location. No matter how much redevelopment, I would still not send my child there for CTE education, not the school but the neighborhood's condition and the roads, the flooding and over all problems. Even if you come from the LTHS direction, you still have questionable neighborhoods and roads that I do not find safe. I don't think the BTW site is even big enough to have a school like you are talking. Ever since my daughter was in elementary school CTE was to be at LTHS. Why the change? Might be a longer commute but I think it is safer.
- Justanste - District choice programs should be centrally located to reduce bus times. ADL - good, Easton, Willoughby - not so good. Elementary kids are in sports practices until 8-9 currently, too. Only if we can show effort in city that we care reading square footage so that they increase funding for main teachers.
- Need more buses! Until the city prioritizes education, the way it does tourism development, these conversations are unproductive. I do believe some fears might be placed on redesigning current city real estate and re-purpose the facilities. Move to yearlong scheduling.
- Older students must get home first. I don't think K-8 schools are the best way. I think K-5 works better.
- Open planning for more learning communities with positive intervention. Planning to develop a new community. Focus on outdated feeder patterns. Fear of voucher. Closing more facilities. Loss of good usage space. Transportation-where can HR in getting students to school - offer free pass up to 177.
- Specialty program schools; how will they be included in choice schools if it requires application? Also, will students be able to change schools after they begin the 9th grade?
- Strongly support flipping HS and ES start time.
- Tech school

- There will be a lot of traffic on major roadways such as Military Hwy with the new proposed options. If a student misses their bus then the parents will have to struggle between work schedules and the new school schedules additional traffic, to bring the child to school safely. My children already struggle to wake at their current times even with early bedtime. There is also a concern of safety with so many schools starting earlier, the amount of people heading to work and the roadways being more active at the same times, children may or may not be fully awake, there might be a higher risk of accidents.
- We all have seen research on how buildings and maintaining relationships is beneficial in the life of a child. The healthier and longer these relationships can be maintained, the more beneficial to the whole child, not only academic outcomes. To that end, I believe moving to K-8 programs will help us build stronger students and communities.
- We are currently zoned for Lindenwood ES and it's not accredited and not in a good neighborhood. If out of district transfers go away we will have to move. Moving is not a go-to alternative just to make sure my children get a good education. 2. Childcare at elementary school would work for us. 3. Also don't want my son to be a minority in the school we are zoned for.
- We need to continue work with the city to replace aging buildings and provide more funding for resources through cost savings for utilities and staffing.

## RESULTS

### Demographic Questions (Optional)

#### Q7. Which school(s) are you affiliated with?

Please mark all that apply.

#	%		#	%	
3	8.3%	All	0	0.0%	Madison Alternative Center
1	2.8%	None	7	19.4%	Maury High
3	8.3%	Academy for Discovery @ Lakewood	1	2.8%	Monroe Elementary
0	0.0%	Academy of International Studies @ Rosemont	0	0.0%	NET Academy
0	0.0%	Azalea Gardens Middle	0	0.0%	Norfolk Technical Center
3	8.3%	B. T. Washington High	2	5.6%	Northside Middle
0	0.0%	Bay View Elementary	0	0.0%	Norview Elementary
0	0.0%	Berkeley/Campostella ECC	5	13.9%	Norview High
3	8.3%	Blair Middle	1	2.8%	Norview Middle
1	2.8%	Calcott Elementary	0	0.0%	Ocean View Elementary
0	0.0%	Camp Allen Elementary	0	0.0%	Oceanair Elementary
0	0.0%	Camp Young	0	0.0%	Open Campus
0	0.0%	Chesterfield Academy	0	0.0%	PB Young Senior Elementary
3	8.3%	Coleman Place Elementary	3	8.3%	Poplar Halls Elementary

### Q7. Which school(s) are you affiliated with?

Please mark all that apply.

#	%		#	%	
0	0.0%	Crossroads School	2	5.6%	Richard Bowling Elementary
0	0.0%	Easton Preschool	0	0.0%	Ruffner Academy
2	5.6%	Fairlawn Elementary	0	0.0%	Sewells Point Elementary
2	5.6%	Ghent School	0	0.0%	Sherwood Forest Elementary
3	8.3%	Granby Elementary	1	2.8%	St. Helena Elementary
4	11.1%	Granby High	2	5.6%	STEM Academy @ Campostella
0	0.0%	Hospital School Program @ CHKD	0	0.0%	Suburban Park Elementary
1	2.8%	Ingleside Elementary	3	8.3%	Tanners Creek Elementary
2	5.6%	Jacox Elementary	2	5.6%	Tarrallton Elementary
2	5.6%	Lake Taylor High	0	0.0%	Taylor Elementary
3	8.3%	Lake Taylor Middle	2	5.6%	Tidewater Park Elementary
2	5.6%	Larchmont Elementary	2	5.6%	Willard Elementary
0	0.0%	Larrymore Elementary	0	0.0%	Willoughby Early Childhood Center
1	2.8%	Lindenwood Elementary	0	0.0%	Other
0	0.0%	Little Creek Elementary			

Please specify other

- Central office
- Specialty program