



FAIR HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION

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~Important Information Regarding Change in Length of School Day for 2017-18~

Dear Fair Haven Families,

I am writing to share what I think you will agree is exciting news. The Fair Haven Education Association and the Fair Haven Board of Education have negotiated an additional 15 minutes of instructional time to be added to the school day commencing with the 2017-2018 school year.

I am excited for the shared commitment to improve student outcomes and thank all involved for joining in this mission and vision. I have been extremely impressed with the dedication to our students exhibited by our staff throughout this year, and this additional instructional time is another example of our staff doing their best for our children.

After much discussion, the decision has been made to place the additional time at the end of the school day for both schools. Research has shown that students do not do as well cognitively with early morning starts, so we quickly decided to move away from any consideration of beginning the school day earlier than the current schedule allows.

This extension of the day results in the following adjustments to next year's dismissal times:

2017 - 2018 Fair Haven Schools Dismissal Times	
Sickles School (grades 1-3): Student Dismissal Time 2:55pm	Knollwood School: Student Dismissal Time 3:15pm

We do not anticipate a change in dismissal time to our preschool or kindergarten programs for the 2017-2018 school year at this time.

While I am thankful for all parties involved, I would be remiss if I did not specifically thank our FHEA President, Ms. Betty Crowley, and our Board President, Mr. Bruce Padula, for their leadership on this important achievement. This is outstanding news for our students and I thank you both for your efforts.

I hope you find this news to be as exciting as I do as we continue to strive to provide the best education possible for your children.

Sincerely,

Sean McNeil
Superintendent