

---

## District Planning Update 11-30-18

---

Westport School District Outreach Message <Connect-ED@westportps.org>  
Reply-To: Connect-ED@westportps.org

Fri, Nov 30, 2018 at 4:04 PM



WESTPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dear Families of Westport Students,

A few more Q&A for you:

### **Is there a newly developed option that evolved in the last day?**

Option 6 of all 6-8 in BMS became more feasible as we worked with Dr. Michael Rettig, a national scheduling consultant all day Wednesday, November 28. The current BMS schedule is 8 periods, each 42 minutes, 30-minute lunch, and a 12-minute homeroom. Dr. Rettig designed a schedule of 9 periods, each 41 minutes, a 41-minute lunch, and a 9-minute homeroom (same length of school day).

With the adjusted schedule and using 6 modular classrooms, all 1,300 students could be housed at BMS with the following: (we would be using all teaching spaces 9 times a day instead of 8.)

- students would be in teams clustered in rooms close together,
- lunch would be 41 minutes for students,
- all core and encore classes would be run in rooms designed to support instruction,
- there would be no classes in the library or cafeteria,
- students would all have the same time for their school day - start and end at same time (no staggered),
- there would be no 15-minute reading time,
- teachers would not travel between buildings, and
- homeroom would be at the start of every school day, 9 minutes instead of 12 minutes.

The challenge would be that all 1,300 students and the faculty and staff would be housed in BMS together for the entire school day. We would need to manage hallway traffic and students moving through the building at key times of the school day.

### **What is the name of the realtor representing the school District?**

Through a RFP process, the District entered into an agreement with Avison Young, and the District required a confidentiality agreement as part of the RFP awarded.

### **Can we fit K-6 in LLS?**

Yes, but it would require shifting some interior functions such as nurse to other spaces. The nurse is currently in a full classroom space and could be moved to the main office suite where she had been located in years gone by. Art, Spanish, and some other encore would not have specific classrooms, but be delivered in the regular classroom space. We are fairly confident at least one portable could be added to the school, and several other areas are being explored as possible sites. It would not be easy, but we feel that we could house K-6 in LLS if that option were selected with some modifications to how we deliver some curricular areas.

**When will you know about redistricting possibilities?**

The demographer will have feedback to us next week on select scenarios before the BoE meeting on December 10.

**Do you have the "cheat sheet" for the list of options you handed out at the parent session?**

Yes, it is attached to this message.

**Will you have another parent feedback session next week after the CAC and you provide your feedback to the BoE?**

Yes, we are in the process of scheduling it.

Sincerely,  
Colleen Palmer

--

Colleen A. Palmer, Ph.D.  
Westport Public Schools  
Superintendent of Schools  
[110 Myrtle Avenue](#)  
Westport, CT 06880  
[cpalmer@westportps.org](mailto:cpalmer@westportps.org)  
[www.westportps.org](http://www.westportps.org)  
[Twitter @WestportSuper](#)

**File attachments:**

[Options Short List.pdf](#)