



TO: Westport Board of Education and Dr. David Abbey, Interim Superintendent of Schools
FROM: Dr. Anthony Buono, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning
SUBJECT: Middle School Scenario Planning 2020-2021
DATE: April 13, 2020

Middle School Scenario Planning for the 2020-2021 School Year

Scenario I:

CMS Opens "On Time" September 1, 2020

Structural Components

- CMS and BMS students attend their respective schools
- 4 teacher teams at all grade levels
- 9 period schedule; 41 minute periods
- 4 teacher teams, 15 teams total, 9 at BMS, 6 at CMS
- double period once a week for each class

Pros

- 4 teacher team model; 15 teams
- two smaller middle schools
- elimination of overcrowding

Cons

- may not be able to offer equitable before/after school opportunities at each school
- In some grades, class sizes may be discrepant

Staffing Implications

- 6 additional core teachers will be needed

Scenario II:

Delayed Opening for CMS - Opens between September 1 – December 15, 2020

Structural Components

- CMS and BMS students will be placed on separate teams - 15 teams total
 - CMS opens a few weeks after the start of year
- all grades will have five 4-teacher teaching teams
- some specials teachers will not have permanent classrooms during the transition period
- 9 period schedule; 41 minute periods
- double period once a week for each class

Pros

- 4-teacher teaming model; 15 teams
- students will remain with core teachers for entire year

Cons

- Major space issues: during this transition many classes may have to be assigned to the library and other non-traditional locations
- Some encore teachers will teach in non-traditional locations like LMC and Cafeteria and/or may have to travel from room to room
- specials teachers will likely change for all students once move to CMS takes place

Staffing Implications

- 6 additional core teachers will be needed

Scenario III:

Construction of CMS is Delayed Beyond December 15, 2020 – All Middle School Students Attend BMS for 2020-2021 School Year - Current Middle School Model

Structural Components

- CMS and BMS students are fully integrated (repeat of the 2019-2020 school year)
 - CMS will not open sooner than mid-year; BMS for full 2020-21 academic year
- 9 period schedule, 41 minute periods
- 4 and 6 teacher teams; 13.5 teams
- double period once a week for each class

Pros

- teaming model
- each class assigned appropriate and consistent instructional space
- Efficiency and frequency of department collaboration
- scheduling of high school level math classes

Cons

- 6 and 8 teacher teams make team communication and supporting and tracking students challenging
- larger teams lose some of the social/emotional benefits of teaming

Staffing Implications

- addition of a school psychologist and social worker
- 6 additional core teachers would not be required