

CONSIDERATIONS

*Almost half of our elementary students are at school 15-50 minutes before school or 30 to 65 minutes after school.

* A long day: 7:40-3:30 or 8:15-4:20 for almost half of our elementary students. (This doesn't include bus ride time)

*Some of our students eat lunch at 10:55. They do not arrive home until 4:30 or 5:00 and they are starving! Eating is prohibited on the bus. The school does not have funds to provide a daily snack for students. Some students bring a snack from home, which is tough for those kids whose parents do not send one.

*The late bus route busses arrive at the building anytime between 3:55 and 4:20. In an effort to load students quickly to keep the busses on time, students are not able to be actively engaged in activities for the last 15-25 minutes and often are simply waiting for a bus to arrive. This is a very long time for children to sit and do nothing and can increase behavior problems.

*The last office staff member leaves at 4:00. The principal is often in meetings during this time. There is generally no back-up support in the event of a medical or behavioral emergency. When 2-3 supervisors are required to provide intense attention to such issues, the supervision ratio raises to an uncomfortably high level.

***Middle School specifically-**

-When there is inclement weather, i.e. rain or extreme cold, we have to hold an excessive number of students in the cafeteria because we have practices occurring in the gyms. Our cafeteria seats around 330 and the middle school enrollment is close to 1,000 students.

-Also during that time, students are trying to eat breakfast in this environment and due to the time the buses come in, they do not have time or space to get something to eat. If they are a 7th grader, they will not eat until between 12:40 - 1:00 PM.