



**2018-19 Katy ISD Transportation  
Questions and Answers**

**Why was the Katy ISD transportation model changed for the 2018-19 school year?**

Sustaining a safe and efficient transportation system, along with roadways and crosswalks that keep our students out of harm's way as traffic increases around schools with corresponding start times, poses great challenges in a rapid growth school district like Katy ISD. Likewise, as the District continues to grow, we also continue to face challenges with bus driver recruitment and retention, which impacts our ability to sustain transportation levels using our existing service model and bell schedules. These are challenges many fast growth school districts face across the region, state and country.

**How did the administration and Board arrive at the decision to maintain the existing transportation eligibility criteria and transition to a four-bell schedule?**

The District administered a Transportation Sustainability Survey to gather feedback from the community regarding options to address a safe and efficient transportation system. Survey invitations were emailed to parents, staff, and community members, while a public access link was also available on the Katy ISD webpage. The survey was open from January 17 to 31, 2018. The survey was completed by 20,243 individuals.

**What are the start and end times that have been established for each grade level?**

<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>AM Start Time</b>	<b>PM Dismissal Time</b>
High School	7:25	2:35
Elementary Group 1	8:00	3:20
Elementary Group 2	8:20	3:40
Junior High School	8:45	3:55

**When will elementary parents be informed of the start and dismissal time for each campus in Elementary Group 1 and Elementary Group 2?**

Information on the start and dismissal times for specific elementary schools will be presented to the Board of Trustees at the Regular Meeting on April 23, 2018.

**Will transportation eligibility change in 2018-19?**

No. Transportation eligibility will not change for the 2018-19 school year. Elementary students residing outside of a ½-mile radius of their school and secondary students outside of a 1-mile radius, will remain eligible for transportation services.

**Will junior high campuses allow for early drop off for students in the morning?**

Yes. However, specific early drop-off times for junior high campuses have yet to be established.

**Since junior high campuses will be starting school later in the day, will students be able to attend tutorials in the morning, rather than after school?**

Each campus will determine a tutorial schedule based on student needs and student involvement in other activities. Campuses will create a schedule that allows for morning activities instead of afternoon activities, when possible.

**Will junior high students who participate in private leagues and club teams be able to attend practices that may have start times that currently conflict with the updated 2018-19 dismissal time?**

Many of the private leagues and club teams based in the Katy area use district facilities and will need to adjust practice times according to the updated dismissal schedule. It is also anticipated that private leagues and club teams that have their own facilities that serve Katy ISD students will modify their practice schedules to ensure that our students are able to attend on time.

**Can a student's involvement in a non-district athletic club substitute for participation in his/her campus physical education course?**

In some cases, yes. Policy EHAC indicates that "a district shall require students in grades 6–8 to participate in moderate or vigorous daily physical activity. A district may allow an exemption for a student on a middle or junior high school campus participating in a school-related activity or an activity sponsored by a private league or club only if that activity meets each of the following requirements: **1.** The activity is based on the grade appropriate movement, physical activity and health, and social development strands of the essential knowledge and skills for physical education specified in 19 Administrative Code Chapter 116; and **2.** The activity is organized and monitored by school personnel or by appropriately trained instructors who are part of a program that has been certified by the board."

**Will students miss instructional time at the junior high school level due to participation in athletic games?**

Per UIL rules, a contest shall not begin during the school day. Our expectation of junior high athletic programs has always been to leave for scrimmages and games once the school day has ended. Our plan is to allow teams to dress, load buses and leave within 30 minutes after school ends. We are considering starting contests at 5:30pm.