Superintendent's Report

Syosset Central School District April 11, 2022 Board of Education Meeting

High School Start Time Study

- Why reconsider start times?
 - The American Academy of Pediatrics (<u>AAP</u>) and the Center for Disease Control (<u>CDC</u>) recommend a later high school start time;
 - Research indicates a lack of sleep among high school students is associated with several health risks and lower academic performance.
 - In light of pandemic-related stresses on students, revisiting this issue is timely.

Overview of Process to Date

School Start Time Webpage

- October 2016 Board of Education initiates exploration
- March 2017 Community Forum held
- April 2018 Start time <u>planning process</u> outlined
- October 2018 Start time <u>update</u> shared with public
- December 2018 Busing consultant delivers <u>first draft</u>
- March 2019 Busing consultant delivers <u>final draft</u>
- Fall 2019 <u>Public survey</u> on options via ThoughtExchange
- February 2020 Survey <u>results</u> released.
- March 2020 Pandemic begins, initiative placed on "hold"

High-Level Overview

- Implications for student after-school activities (athletics, clubs, babysitting, employment, music lessons, internships, etc.);
- Busing logistics make it impossible to change SHS start time in isolation;
 - Could affect either elementary school or middle school or both;
 - Independent runs for SHS not cost-effective (estimated cost: \$4 million), current driver shortage makes impossible anyway.
- Nassau County HS start times range from 7:25 am to 9:00 am.

Current Status

- To restart the process to do list:
 - Need to update the busing study;
 - Need to do a new survey of parents and staff;
 - Need to explore some new ideas developed in the last year;

Timeline

- Initiate public engagement prior to the end of the school year.
- Take feedback and survey data in Fall 2022;
- Develop options for consideration in Winter 2023;
- Decision point in early Spring 2023 if any changes are to be implemented in Fall 2023.

State Budget Highlights

- Adopted Saturday (about a week overdue)
- Significant increase in Foundation Aid (\$4.465 million) offsets inflationary increases in:
 - Health insurance costs (\$3.135 million)
 - TRS Retirement contributions (\$0.85 million)
- Additional new allocation of \$421,000 for Universal Pre-K
 - Waiting to see how many new "seats" have been allocated.
- All buses purchased after 2027 must be zero-emission
 - Whole fleet must be converted by 2035.

Other Items of Note

- Schools will be closed on May 26th and 27th.
- Seeking update to enrollment projection study conducted in 2020.
- SHS will have an in-person, indoor graduation ceremony at Hofstra on June 22, 2022.
- Moving up ceremonies for other schools have been scheduled.
- COVID case counts in Nassau have risen from 7.0 to 25.1 daily cases per 100K people in the last 6 weeks.
 - Is beginning to impact District staffing again.

Solar Panel Installation

- Part of Energy Performance Contract
- Includes real-time dashboard to evaluate energy savings.
- Baylis and Robbins Lane done
- HBT and SHS upcoming

