

# Monday Message

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*Success...each life...each day...each hour*

November 7, 2011

CSISD Staff:

November 8, 2011, is Election Day. If you're a registered voter, please vote!

CSISD is working on its 2012-2013 budget. I anticipate CSISD will need to reduce its budget by between \$1.3 and \$2 million in order to accommodate for the reduction in revenue from the state and the opening of College Station High School. For the 2011-2012 school year, CSISD reduced its budget by \$2.7 million and accommodated for the opening of Greens Prairie Elementary. All in all, CSISD will have 9% fewer dollars from the state by the time the 2012-2013 budget is adopted.

One of the reductions CSISD is considering for the 2012-2013 school year is a three-tiered busing system. The three tiered system was first introduced to CSISD employees during the 2011-2012 school year when presentations were made to each faculty and department. Under this three tiered system, school days would like this:

- Tier One Schools: 7:25 AM – 2:40 PM
- Tier Two Schools: 8:05 AM – 3:20 PM
- Tier Three Schools: 8:45 AM – 4:00 PM

Moving to a three tiered-system would allow the district to save a significant amount of money because it would allow for the use of fewer buses and fewer employees. Depending on which school level went first, the district could save as much as \$200,000 annually and avoid spending money for new buses that would be needed if we maintained the current busing system. No transportation employees would lose their position due to the natural turnover that occurs in that department.

Here's how a three tiered-system would work. Keep in mind that any level (elementary, intermediate/middle or high school) could plug in to any of the three tiers. For tier one, the buses would pick students up and drop them off at school by approximately 7:10-7:15 AM. The same buses then would pick students up for the tier two level, and the students would be dropped off around 7:50-7:55. The same buses then would pick up students for the third tier, and students in tier three would be dropped off on campus around 8:30-8:35. The end of the day would work in the same manner.

Obviously, moving to a three tiered-system would cause a significant shift for the district. We are settled in to our current school times and our system of transportation. While a change to a three tiered-system would make CSISD more financially efficient, it would also stress the system by causing families and employees to make adjustments in their schedules. So, the questions are:

- Is the savings worth the stress on the system, the families and the community?

- If the answer to the first question is yes, what school level should be in the first tier, second tier and third tier?
- If the answer to the first question is 'no', what adjustments need to be made to the 2012-13 budget in lieu of the savings projected for three-tiered busing?

Obviously, if the district moves forward with a three-tiered busing system, we need to do so in a timely way so that employees and families have time to make adjustments for the new schedule.

CSISD is committed to planning a 2012-2013 budget that does the following: 1) Makes budget reductions in a thoughtful manner, 2) Uses resources from tax payers in efficient manner and 3) Uses the CSISD Fund Balance (savings account) in a responsible manner. Meeting the demands of the state budget reductions and the needs of our students, staff and community is challenging, and I know CSISD is up to the challenge.

Thanks for working hard to meet the needs of our students and community. As always, I appreciate hearing from you and value your feedback.

Success.



Eddie

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