



*MISSION - The Maple Run Unified School District is where inquiring minds, compassionate hearts, creative expression, healthy lives and service to the community develop so all can learn, achieve and succeed.*

### **Early Release time for teacher collaboration**

June 17, 2019

Dear Maple Run Families,

The Maple Run Unified School District continues to grow and we are focusing on enhancing and coordinating our work on educational opportunities, curriculum coordination, and collaboration on instructional practices and supports for our students. The PK-8 schools are in need for additional time for teacher collaboration in order to coordinate efforts for improved student performance.

As most families might be aware, the high school currently has time built into the weekly schedule for teachers to collaborate when students arrive 40 minutes later on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The PK-8 schools are looking at scheduling an early release one day a week (on Fridays) starting during the 2019-2020 school year. We are researching details and how this will impact Fairfield high school busing. This change, once finalized, would mean all PK-8 students would be released and buses run one hour early every Friday (except for Fairfield preschool, which will dismiss at its usual 1:15).

Many other area school districts are currently using an early release program to improve collaboration and increase student achievement. The Essex Westford School District, the Champlain Valley School District and the Burlington School District have early release days scheduled weekly throughout the school year. Franklin West has recently added a number of half-days for next year for the same purpose.

This time will provide teachers an opportunity to look at student performance data using district-wide data protocols, and assist us with time for planning, implementing, reflecting on, and sharing instructional strategies to ensure success for all students.

You will receive individual communication from your school once this change has been confirmed and we will then share the details about times and other logistics.

We appreciate the support from our parents and community.

Kevin Dirth, Superintendent of Schools  
Joan Cavallo, St. Albans City School Principal  
Sean O'Dell, Fairfield Center School Principal  
Chris Mosca, Bellows Free Academy - St. Albans Principal  
Angela Stebbins, St. Albans Town Educational Center Principal  
Leeann Wright, Northwest Technical Center Director