

Bell Math Standards

V1_4 Updated 11/12/2019

The terms “late bell” and “release bell” are typically what we use for this math. Some schools use the terms first bell, tardy bell, instruction bell and so on. The Route planning platform and all reports utilize “AM Bus Arrive Times” and “PM Bus Depart Times” and not bells. This document is to help us all standardize on these terms so we may have a chance to communicate more effectively.

Definitions of Standard Terms.

School Late Bell. This is the last bell notifying students that they are officially late to class.

AM Vehicle Arrive Time. This is the planned time a bus/sedan must be inside the proper loading zone at least 15 minutes prior to the Late Bell. School personnel union rules often preclude them from meeting the bus (van or sedan) at this time. This extra 5 minutes was added in 2017 to allow the vehicles to be late somewhere along the route, but still make the AM Vehicle Met Time.

AM Vehicle Met Time. This is the planned time a vehicle must be met by school staff to offload students at least 10 minutes prior to the Late Bell. If a vehicle shows after this time it is officially “late”.

School Release Bell. This is the bell that releases the students from class to exit the building for the day.

PM Vehicle Arrive Time. This is the time that the vehicles must be in the appropriate loading zone 5 minutes prior to the Release Bell. Typically this is a PM pickup time but may also be a midday time.

PM Vehicle Depart Time. This is the time that school staff should be releasing the vehicles to depart the loading zone. This time varies by school population age.

-Elementary students need 5 minutes.

-High School and Middle School students attend larger schools and utilize lockers so they need 10 minutes from the School Release Bell to the PM Vehicle Depart Bell.

-K-8, K-12, and Community Transitions schools are also given 10 minutes.

Examples demonstrating Bell Math.

AM Bell Math Example.

8:30 AM = School Late Bell.

8:20 AM = AM Vehicle Met Time. This is 8:30 minus 10 minutes. This is the latest a vehicle can arrive at a school and not be late. This is the time the school **must meet** the vehicles to supervise the students into the building.

8:15 AM = AM Vehicle Arrive Time. 8:20 minus an extra 5 minutes of contingency time to allow the vehicle to be late along the route. Vehicles do NOT have to be met by school staff at this time per some school union staffing rules, but many schools will be able to meet the vehicles at this time.

PM Bell Math Example.

3:00 PM = School Release bell.

2:55 PM = PM Vehicle Arrive Time. Arrive time for vehicles to show at a school to pick up students for the ride home.

3:05 PM = PM Vehicle Depart Time. The time the school loading zone supervisor releases the vehicles to depart from school loading zone. This is an Elementary school example.

3:10 PM = PM Bus Depart Time. The time the school loading zone supervisor releases the vehicles to depart from school loading zone. This is an example for school sites that are K-8, K-12, 6-8 or high school.

Graphical Early Release Wednesday Bell Math Example

Example: AM Tardy Bell = 9:00AM
PM Release Bell on Wed = 1:00PM
PM Release Bell on M, T, H, F = 3:00PM

MTWHF Arrival Time to School = 8:45 AM.

Wednesday Departure Time from School = 1:10PM

MTHF Departure Time from School

| Transportation Information | | | | | | |
|--|---------|----------|--|------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Request Information: Type:IN Status:Ride From: Home Address | | | | | | |
| Days:All | | | To: Community Transitions Center NE | | | |
| From | Time | Route | BusDays | To | Time | Package |
| Home Address | 7:52 AM | QTOCTN-A | MTWHF | COMMUNITY TRANSITIONS CTR NE | 8:45 AM | QTO |
| Request Information: Type:OUT Status:Ride From: Community Transitions Center NE | | | | | | |
| Days:W | | | To: 12600 NW Rock Creek Rd [E] | | | |
| From | Time | Route | BusDays | To | Time | Package |
| COMMUNITY TRANSITIONS CTR NE | 1:10 PM | QTOCTN-E | W | Home Address | 2:02 PM | QTO |
| Request Information: Type:OUT Status:Ride From: Community Transitions Center NE | | | | | | |
| Days:MTHF | | | To: 12600 NW Rock Creek Rd [E] [E] [E] | | | |
| From | Time | Route | BusDays | To | Time | Package |
| COMMUNITY TRANSITIONS CTR NE | 3:10 PM | QTOCTN-P | MTHF | Home Address | 4:08 PM | QTO |

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Special Education Worksite Exceptions.

A Worksite is a specialized transportation service where student are transported to a place of business (like Walgreens or PPS coffee cart) to do real world work and training. This service functions a little differently than the home-to-school model mostly described above.

AM Worksite Vehicle Arrive Time. This is the planned time a vehicle must be at the place of business at least 5 minutes prior to the Worksite Start Time. If a vehicle shows after this time it is officially “late”.

AM Worksite Vehicle Met Time. This is the planned time a vehicle is met by staff at the place of business. If a vehicle is not met by worksite staff at this time then the worksite staff is officially “late”.

PM Worksite Vehicle Arrive Time. This is the planned pickup time a vehicle must be at the place of business at least 5 minutes prior to the Worksite Release Time. If a vehicle shows after this time it is officially “late”.

PM Worksite Vehicle Met Time. This is the planned time a vehicle is met by staff at the place of business to transport the student back to the school or home. If a vehicle is not met by worksite staff at this time then the worksite staff is officially “late”.