

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
6-12/9-12	
What will the transition process look like?	If 6-12 is approved we will start recruiting 6th and 7th graders starting in January/February to get ready for the March Lottery. If we decide to become 9-12 then we will mainly recruit 9th-12th grade students. Our current 7th and 8th graders will remain with us until they graduate.
How will we maintain the in-charge-learner approach that is at the heart of Steller?	Steller will continue to be true to its philosophy and maintaining our core value of self-directed, in-charge-learner will be incorporated into any grade level we have.
If we are 9-12, what ASD middle school will provide continuity of educational philosophy between Chugach Optional and Steller?	If we become 9-12 there will not be an open optional Middle School available.
If we are 6-12, how many new class offerings will we need to accommodate the lower grade?	We will have to offer all the 4 core classes, Language Arts, Social Studies, Math, Science as well as the electives, PE, World Language, Band and Orchestra. That won't change. But we will also incorporate a Steller 101 mandated elective for all incoming 6th graders and new 7th graders.
If we are 6-12 and feeder schools like Chugach remain K-6, what approach will we take to accommodate incoming 7th graders from those similar-philosophy schools?	Depending on how many seats would be open for 7th graders within in the lottery will dictate how many new 7th graders we are able to accommodate. We will integrate the 7th graders like we do now and mandating they take Steller 101 class to help them in their transition.
What is the preference of the teachers?	We are still in discussions, but we are having the same conversations students and families are.
What are the pros and cons of 6th grade moving to Steller, specifically?... not just the benefits to the 6th graders.	This is part of the discussion we are currently having. This data has not been compiled.
What will Steller need to do in order to bring 6th grade In?...are more teachers possible? more classrooms?	To bring in 6th grade we would need additional teachers and the reconnection of Relocatables. We will also need to adjust our Master Schedule to accommodate academic requirements.
Can Steller separate middle school (6, 7, & 8) from high school for things like P.E. and Advisories?	We would not have that luxury as we would not have enough staff to provide some electives only for Middle School and some only for High School. The electives will have to be mixed grades.
Can you provide an example of how Steller would look?	There are many factors to this and it would be hard to answer in this format.
Do we have to include 6th grade?	We will be voting as a community as to whether we would like to incorporate 6th grade or be a 9th-12th grade program only.
Do we have the space/staffing for that? (including 6th grade)	To bring in 6th grade we would need additional teachers and the reconnection of Relocatables. We will also need to adjust our Master Schedule to accommodate academic requirements.

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Will there be a 7th period for students to meet with teachers under the new model?	Our goal will be to keep 7th hour or a version of it. Once we decide whether we are 6-12/9-12 we will be looking at how to best accommodate the academic needs of our students first and how to accommodate the district school start changes. Based on those decisions we will incorporate 7th hour.
What is the likelihood of getting a bigger building? I think Steller needs more space regardless	Currently it is not very likely. But we have asked that this be reviewed.
Do we have enough room for another grade level? how many additional students would it potentially be?	To bring in 6th grade we would need additional teachers and the reconnection of Relocatables. We will also need to adjust our Master Schedule to accommodate academic requirements.
Why can't the school district have middle school be 7-8?	The School Board made the decision to move 6th grade into Middle School. You can review more specific information within the ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/Page/14054
My 7th grade student is under the impression that students are doing a vote to decide, he's deeply worried about getting "voted off the island". What can/should I share with him?	Our current 7th and 8th graders will remain with us until they graduate. No one will be "voted off the island". There will be a transition period to ensure our current students are supported through these changes.
If 6th is incorporated and with Stellar being a lottery school, to keep numbers down will established students be cut? Specifically seniors?	No one will be cut. All of our current students will remain with us until they graduate.
Has Steller thought about partnering with or splitting off a middle school to follow the Steller philosophy so that the number of children that could experience it could go up rather than diminish if the school expands from 6 to 7 grades?	This idea has been proposed but unfortunately it is not able to be accommodated at this time.
What about families that may not be here for whatever reason on the day of the vote to decide what to do? Can they still vote?	The voting for our proposal that will take place on November 2nd per our Steller by-laws does require a quorum with people present.
As a charter, do we not have the autonomy to continue as is?	Steller is not a Charter School, we are an ASD Alternative Secondary School.
What would that mean doe steller if we become 6-12?	To bring in 6th grade we would need additional teachers and the reconnection of Relocatables. We will also need to adjust our Master Schedule to accommodate academic requirements.
Is there any realistic scenario where Steller has enough teachers and space to make the 6-12 and academy model work?	To bring in 6th grade we would need additional teachers and the reconnection of Relocatables. We will also need to adjust our Master Schedule to accommodate academic requirements.
If Steller moves to 6-12 and we reach school student capacity, how many additional teachers will Steller gain?	It truly depends on the number of students we have. Currently we have 250 students, while our capacity is 300. Depending on the Pupil/Teacher ratio which drives our FTE (full-time employment), that will determine how many teachers we will get. A minimum of 2 additional teachers will be needed, but this again will depend on the number of students who enroll.

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How will choosing between a 6-12 and a 9-12 effect the ability of Steller to continue operating?	Both have their pros and cons. Steller will continue to operate and serve its community.
The orchestra is already put wherever you can fit them. Where will they go when the classroom they're currently in, is needed for a core subject or a new 6th grade math class?	To bring in 6th grade we would need additional teachers and the reconnection of Relocatables. We will also need to adjust our Master Schedule to accommodate academic requirements. We would potentially move Orchestra into one of the Relocatable classrooms.
If alternative elementary schools are able to keep 6th grade can Steller remain 7-12? Much like language immersion elementary schools are feeder schools into certain junior high and high schools can Steller be the school that receives 7th graders from the alternative elementary schools? This is in my opinion the win/win we need for Steller.	Steller remaining 7-12 is not an option at the moment.
It looks like Chugach, Denali and Aquarian are being allowed to keep their 6th graders, can we choose to remain 7 - 12th with these schools being natural feeders into our alternative program?	Steller remaining 7-12 is not an option at the moment.
If we can't remain 7-12, and we have to accept 6th graders, can we accept less 6th graders than 7th graders so spots remain available to the 7th graders leaving these elementary schools?	It will be difficult to do this as we are a lottery school that is funded by enrollment numbers. In order for us to reach our capacity we have to try to fill the positions we have available. There is room for discussion should some other alternative schools/programs choose to keep their 6th graders. But it is not a guarantee.
Will we vote at the November meeting on whether we want to add 6th graders to Steller? Or are the only options 6-12th or 9-12th grades for Steller?	Our only current options are 6th-12th or 9th-12th.
College/Career/Life Ready	
How will Steller accommodate more teachers with limited building size and only two modules available? Teachers need (and deserve) adequate classrooms with a professional workspace.	The only option for us is to have the Relocatables. We would need an additional Relocatable to accommodate the changes.
What about the current student conceived/taught courses-will the academy structure allow for this?	Yes the academy model would allow for us to have peer taught courses as these are always electives.

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How does the academy model affect AP classes?	We currently don't offer any AP classes withing Steller. The academy model will not affect AP classes, these classes will still be taught within ASD. "In addition to the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program at West High School and Alaska Middle College School, the academies will offer honors, Advanced Placement, and dual enrollment opportunities. The goal is to increase the number of students taking advanced courses by increasing relevance and rigor in instructional practices."- CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl
How will the academy model offerings meet the Yale, Harvard, Cornell requirements?	Please enter your question within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . Please keep in mind CCL will not have any affect on any college requirements, the goal would be to enhance student opportunities.
How is any of this possible with a \$48 million (not sure if this number is correct, they keep adjusting it) projected ASD budget deficit next year?	The district is committed to the CCL work and they are currently looking for various grants to support this process. One grant of 15 million dollars was just awarded.
Will intensives and passages go away?	Steller would have the choice to incorporate aspects of CCL and align it to our existing philosophy. Keeping intensives and passages. We will also the opportunity to propose that we do not incorporate CCL at all.
Can Steller check all the Academy pathway boxes creatively with what/how they already do things? Passages and intensives seem to cover these areas already. I would like our school to NOT be boxed in w academies. I'd like Steller to opt out.	Steller would have the choice to incorporate aspects of CCL and align it to our existing philosophy. Keeping intensives and passages. We will also the opportunity to propose that we do not incorporate CCL at all.
As far as the CCL Academies, if we add in extra curriculum to meet the districts requirements, what would that be at the expense of?	Limited curriculum options outside of an academy.
Is it age appropriate to have such a strong career focused education?	This is more of a philosophical question that would be difficult to answer within this format.
How does this support educating the whole person?	Please enter your question within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . The goal is, "Academies are small learning communities that empower students through college and career exposure so they can make timely, informed decisions and discover their true passions while earning early college credit and nationally recognized industry certifications. General education content is taught through the lens of their academy while business and community partners provide authentic experiential learning opportunities at every level." CCL ASD Website

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<p>If Steller follows along with the district in implementing this plan, are we still really providing an alternative schooling option to our community?</p>	<p>That is a great philosophical question that is hard to answer in this format. Our goal is to be true to our Steller philosophy while meeting all district guidelines, policies and protocols. That is what we do now and we hope we can continue.</p>
<p>What kind of academy would/could Steller end up being?</p>	<p>If we were to choose to become an academy model, this will be a decision made by our Steller and greater community.</p>
<p>Can there be a "liberal arts" or "general" academy that allows students to take electives in art, languages, tech, and PE for those students who want a more general education?</p>	<p>If we were to choose to become an academy model, this will be a decision made by our Steller and greater community. This is a great suggestion for an academy within Steller. Please enter your question within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl .</p>
<p>Will every high school offer a college prep academy?</p>	<p>Academy model will weave the college preparation aspects throughout. For a more detailed answer: Please enter your question within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl .</p>
<p>Will Juniors be given a year to decide like freshmen get? Can they change their chosen academy in say, 11th or 12th so they will have 1 year to see if their chosen academy is a good fit? Will current juniors have to choose an academy for their senior year? Please explain how it will work for each grade level (e.g. current 9th, 10th, and 11th graders).</p>	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "Students will be able to make one change after their 10th-grade year. There will be an application process for academy changes that will consist of evaluating the best interest of the student. If a student would like to make a change, they should visit their counselor to start the process by retrieving a Change Request Form." CCL ASD Website</p>

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<p>Will students be able to choose a school outside their zoned district to attend a preferred academy? Will this be by lottery or what will the process be? If so, will bussing be offered to all high schools from all neighborhoods so students can attend the academy they choose?</p>	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "Students will still attend their neighborhood schools and will have an option to lottery into other school choice programs." "As a first step, students can contact their first-year student counselor with questions about their pathway options.</p> <p>We encourage families to keep in mind that this initiative does not lock students into a future career or college path. Instead, it is designed to provide a deep dive into a particular area that will help them make informed choices about their path after high school.</p> <p>We believe that in most cases, students will be able to identify a career pathway at their zoned school that is beneficial for them. In some cases, these pathways may provide exposure to a career field that is a good fit for that student but was previously unfamiliar to them. In other cases, the chance to visit industry leaders or participate in job shadowing may raise awareness about related career fields or opportunities.</p> <p>In addition, a student who is interested in a particular career – such as becoming an attorney – may not have a pre-law pathway available at their school. However, they may have the opportunity to job-shadow, take a field trip, or participate in an internship with the legal department of an industry partner." CCL ASD Website</p>
<p>Given that the freshmen academy is designed to have students explore themselves and their career interests with the goal of choosing an academy at the end of 9th grade for 10-12th grades, how will current high schoolers learn about these options and choose an academy?</p>	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl .</p>
<p>Will students still be able to choose electives outside of their academy, such as art, music, PE, and languages?</p>	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "Classes in the arts, music, literature, social studies, physical education and world languages will still be offered by district high schools, even if no career pathway is focused on those areas. These classes are valuable and available to all students, regardless of the academy." CCL ASD Website</p>
<p>What are the pros and cons of CCL in respect to how Steller can use it? Pros: specific resources Steller can use? / Cons: what might the cons be for Steller?</p>	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . There are a lot of pros & cons to this model. Some examples of pros: matching with industry partners, internships, job-shadowing. One example of cons: Students may feel they don't have the opportunity to do more than one academy.</p>

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<p>Can we access the supports for students who want to explore career passages without having to become an Academy? (Why or why not?).</p>	<p>Steller is in a unique space to be part of the conversation regarding CCL and Alternative Schools. There is absolutely a possibility for Steller to access supports from the CCL model but keep our philosophy in the forefront. We could continue to provide opportunities for students with or without the CCL model, and this is one of the conversations we will have as we continue this collaboration with ASD. Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl as it also provides more specific examples of how academies work.</p>
<p>Why aren't any arts organizations listed as CCL partners?</p>	<p>Please enter your question within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "Classes in the arts, music, literature, social studies, physical education and world languages will still be offered by district high schools, even if no career pathway is focused on those areas. These classes are valuable and available to all students, regardless of the academy." CCL ASD website</p>
<p>How will the arts be taken up as an actual career pathway?</p>	<p>Please enter your question within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "Classes in the arts, music, literature, social studies, physical education and world languages will still be offered by district high schools, even if no career pathway is focused on those areas. These classes are valuable and available to all students, regardless of the academy." CCL ASD website</p>
<p>What training will our teachers get to understand the academy pathway they are assigned to?</p>	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "Teachers will be provided with academy team training. The training is designed to build a solid foundation of a team of teachers, a counselor, and a principal who are equipped to work together to achieve their established goals. Teams develop a mission, team name, colors and rituals, routines, and celebrations.</p> <p>Teachers in an academy will also receive training in Project-Based Learning (PBL). Using PBL strategies helps teachers design and write transformational instructional units that help students demonstrate mastery by applying content standards to create authentic products. This inquiry-based instructional strategy requires teachers to move away from teacher-led instruction to student-led learning that incorporates real-world problems to help bring the standards to life. " CCL ASD website</p>
<p>Where will we be getting the CTE curriculum - not all curriculum are created equal.</p>	<p>Please enter your question within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl .</p>

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Will Steller still be able to keep our passages and intensives when we switch to the CCLR model?	Steller would have the choice to incorporate aspects of CCL and align it to our existing philosophy. Keeping intensives and passages. We will also the opportunity to propose that we do not incorporate CCL at all.
How will an academy model work in a school that is very small like Steller?	Steller is in a unique space to be part of the conversation regarding CCL and Alternative Schools. There is absolutely a possibility for Steller to access supports from the CCL model but keep our philosophy in the forefront. We could continue to provide opportunities for students with or without the CCL model, and this is one of the conversations we will have as we continue this collaboration with ASD. Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl as it also provides more specific examples of how academies work.
Will there be limited options for topics?	Not sure of the full question here. Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl .
Will students need to take classes at other schools, and how will this be accomplished without transportation?	If Steller incorporates the Academy model, students would take all their classes within Steller. We also always provide the option for students to take classes outside of Steller for classes we don't offer. Example is Calculus BC, some of our current students go to a different high school to take that. No transportation will be provided in this instance.
Will students be able to switch academies if they change their mind?	Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "Students will be able to make one change after their 10th-grade year. There will be an application process for academy changes that will consist of evaluating the best interest of the student. If a student would like to make a change, they should visit their counselor to start the process by retrieving a Change Request Form." CCL ASD Website

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<p>What will happen during 9th grade to expose kids to different options in order for them to make an informed choice?</p>	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "The primary strategy for achieving transformation will be the creation of career-themed academies in our local high schools. The academies will provide students with planned elective pathways within each high school beginning with an orientation experience or Freshman Academy during their 9th-grade year.</p> <p>Students will choose an academy pathway within one of the available career-themed academies at the end of their freshman year. The academy pathway is made up of a sequence of at least three elective courses aligned to a viable college, trade school and / or career pathway that are completed during the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades.</p> <p>The progression of courses will be coupled with learning experiences that bring businesses and college / trade school partners into the school setting and send students out to college / trade school campuses and into the workplace to explore and apply what they are learning in high school at a deeper level." CCL ASD Website</p>
<p>Will there still be time for kids to be exposed to non-academy themed electives so they can continue to explore options?</p>	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "Classes in the arts, music, literature, social studies, physical education and world languages will still be offered by district high schools, even if no career pathway is focused on those areas. These classes are valuable and available to all students, regardless of the academy." CCL ASD Website</p>
<p>Does Steller have to participate in this, or can they modify and use the passages structure?</p>	<p>Steller is in a unique space to be part of the conversation regarding CCL and Alternative Schools. There is absolutely a possibility for Steller to access supports from the CCL model but keep our philosophy in the forefront. We could continue to provide opportunities for students with or without the CCL model, and this is one of the conversations we will have as we continue this collaboration with ASD. Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl as it also provides more specific examples of how academies work.</p>

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<p>Will each school be required to find its own business partners?</p>	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "Anchorage School District and the community will create a leadership and support structure that incorporates business engagement designed to support the work of the academies. There are tiered levels of support that have led to increased community involvement and support. Business, industry, and postsecondary education and training partners will serve on school-based academy advisory boards, district-wide industry partnership councils, and district-level CEO champions.</p> <p>In addition, each high school will employ an academy coach to work directly with the academies in their building and the community. They are responsible for all contact with the business and community partners, bringing them through the school, and setting up whatever is needed while they are interacting with the students and faculty." CCL ASD website</p>
<p>Would this be limiting for a small school like Steller?</p>	<p>Steller is in a unique space to be part of the conversation regarding CCL and Alternative Schools. There is absolutely a possibility for Steller to access supports from the CCL model but keep our philosophy in the forefront. We could continue to provide opportunities for students with or without the CCL model, and this is one of the conversations we will have as we continue this collaboration with ASD. Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl as it also provides more specific examples of how academies work.</p>
<p>I'm wondering how will the specific career paths be determined for Steller?</p>	<p>If we were to choose to become an academy model, this will be a decision made by our Steller and greater community.</p>
<p>When they mention studies showing student using this model have been more successful than their peers, were those studies done where students had a choice, or in a setting where all students participated as they are suggesting?</p>	<p>Please enter your question within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl .</p>

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Does this model support our existing teaching staff?	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "Teachers will be provided with academy team training. The training is designed to build a solid foundation of a team of teachers, a counselor, and a principal who are equipped to work together to achieve their established goals. Teams develop a mission, team name, colors and rituals, routines, and celebrations.</p> <p>Teachers in an academy will also receive training in Project-Based Learning (PBL). Using PBL strategies helps teachers design and write transformational instructional units that help students demonstrate mastery by applying content standards to create authentic products. This inquiry-based instructional strategy requires teachers to move away from teacher-led instruction to student-led learning that incorporates real-world problems to help bring the standards to life. " CCL ASD website</p>
How many "academies" will each big 8 high school have?	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "Resources, such as funding, staffing, and industry participation, are limited, and each school will work to offer pathways that would have broad interest and reach. Additionally, schools will use a variety of data sources to determine the pathways that embody the broadest scope of student engagement, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student interest surveys a history of course requests teacher certifications available community resources state, regional, and local labor market data <p>The district is also focused on ensuring that career pathways offered in our Academies foster transferable skills that will provide career opportunities after graduation." CCL ASD website</p>
What will the other alternative high schools - for example, Benny benson, look like?	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . Steller and the other Alternative Schools are in a unique situation and have an opportunity to help figure out what CCL would look like in all of our different settings. We will be part of the Task Force working to figure out what CCL will look like in our alternative sites.</p>
What is supposed to happen for CCL in middle schools?	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . We would be working to figure that out if Steller chooses to incorporate CCL. But there are career explorations and teachings that can start to happen in Middle School to help students prepare for the decisions they will be making in High School.</p>

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<p>What are the various types/categories of "Academy" and how much input do schools get as to what they can offer?</p>	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "A variety of stakeholders will work together on the master plan, including teachers, students, parents, district leadership, union leaders, high school leadership, business and community leaders and representatives of colleges and trade schools.</p> <p>These leaders will also participate in task forces focused on a variety of topics and develop detailed plans for implementation." CCL ASD website</p>
<p>What is the role of community partners/businesses in the academy model?</p>	<p>Please review the Q&A within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "A variety of stakeholders will work together on the master plan, including teachers, students, parents, district leadership, union leaders, high school leadership, business and community leaders and representatives of colleges and trade schools.</p> <p>These leaders will also participate in task forces focused on a variety of topics and develop detailed plans for implementation." CCL ASD website</p>
<p>Is there a metric for number of students/number of staff minimum to support an Academy - in other words how many Academies can a school of 2,000 students support vs. a school of 200?</p>	<p>Please enter your question within our CCL ASD website: https://www.asdk12.org/ccl . "Resources, such as funding, staffing, and industry participation, are limited, and each school will work to offer pathways that would have broad interest and reach. Additionally, schools will use a variety of data sources to determine the pathways that embody the broadest scope of student engagement, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student interest surveys a history of course requests teacher certifications available community resources state, regional, and local labor market data <p>The district is also focused on ensuring that career pathways offered in our Academies foster transferable skills that will provide career opportunities after graduation." CCL ASD website</p>
<p>How will the academy model affect class offerings for upper class students (like senior's that need particular classes to graduate in the next couple years) if a freshman academy class will require dedicated teachers to make it work?</p>	<p>If Steller incorporates the Academy model, we would still ensure that our existing students have a robust learning experience. We would have to adjust our schedule and acquire additional resources but we would not affect the trajectory of our existing students.</p>
OTHER	

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
Will we vote at the November meeting on school start times, or are we required to follow the ASD new start times for 2024-2025?	Steller will align with the new start times for 2024/2025 school year. We will not be voting on this topic.
With Steller being dependent on parents to drive students, what option are there in terms of how early students can arrive on Mondays with the 9:45 start time?	Steller will be following the districts PLCs Monday schedule. Unfortunately we will not have supervision available before 9:00am. The only way to remedy this, would be to have parent volunteers willing to supervise students within the school setting.