The Boston Public School Challenge

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\$100-120M each year

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The challenge !!!

- Boston public school is committed to providing free of cost transportation facility to its students.
- BPS spends about \$100-120M each year just for transportation which is a whole 10% of their annual budget
- The transportation cost per pupil is second highest in the nation.
- Routing done manually.

Client Benefits

Before:

- Might not be the shortest path
- Manually calculating the route
- Hard to make change to current scenario

After:

- Calculate route automatically
- Considering both cost-efficient factor and school preferences
- Flexible in add/delete data input for future

Scenario

- Cost Efficient System
- Maximizing Satisfaction
- Your proposed optimal solution

Cost Efficient System

- Schedule start times for schools, considering factors such as total number of students in the bus, time taken for travel, etc.
- Assign bell times to school based on the bus-stops nearby.

- Group schools and stops based on location.
- Main focus on reducing deadhead time.
- Greedy approach for selecting stops.

The outcome

- Reduce the number of buses used.
- Reduce deadhead time.
- Bell times padded with extra cushion time.
- Automated routing.

From: Boston College Campus

Start Time 07:30:00.000

- ** SAVIN HILL AVE@SYDNEY ST@S SYDNEY ST
- ** MASSACHUSETTS AVE@PIERSON ST
- ** MASSACHUSETTS AVE@TREMONT ST
- ** MASSACHUSETTS AVE@SHAWMUT AVE

To: Boston Collegiate

End Time 07:53:30.000

New BellTime 08:08:30.000

From: Boston Collegiate

Start Time 08:30:00.000

- ** COLUMBIA RD@POND ST
- ** 10 Elder St
- ** COLUMBIA RD @ ANNABELLE ST
- ** MASSACHUSETTS AVE@TREMONT ST

To: Clap ES

End Time 08:56:57.000

New BellTime 09:11:57.000

Max Satisfaction System

- 1. Throw out schools with non-adjustable start times
- 2. Merge school data among family of schools
- 3. Preference weighting:
 - \circ Family 2/3
 - Other + Teacher 1/3

- 4. Account for small sample size
- 5. Weight each school's preference data by enrollment size
- 6. Calculate weighted average across the system

Client Benefits

Before:

 Satisfaction scores not accounted for in current bell times

After:

- Calculate satisfaction scores at school and system level
- Reads data from excel file for easy, familiar use
- Platform that can be quickly scaled for increased functionality

The outcome

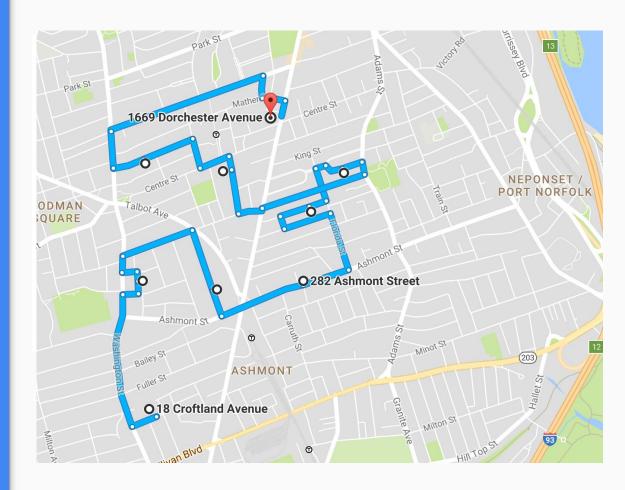
- Obtained solution to make everyone happy.
- Increases cost beyond feasibility.

See bell time table

```
school address: 18 Croftland Ave Boston MA 02124
time: 07:00:00.000
school address: 1669 Dorchester Ave Boston MA 02124
time: 08:20:45.000
school address: 1 Worrell St Dorchester
                                        MA 02122
time: 07:00:00.000
school address: 1 Parish St Dorchester
                                       MA 02122
time: 08:18:27.000
school address: 85 Olney St Dorchester MA 02121
time: 07:00:00.000
school address: 40 School St Boston MA 02124
time: 08:14:52.000
```

The outcome

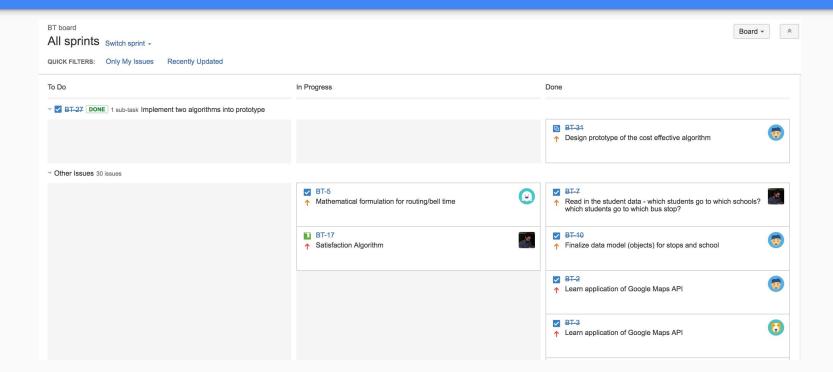
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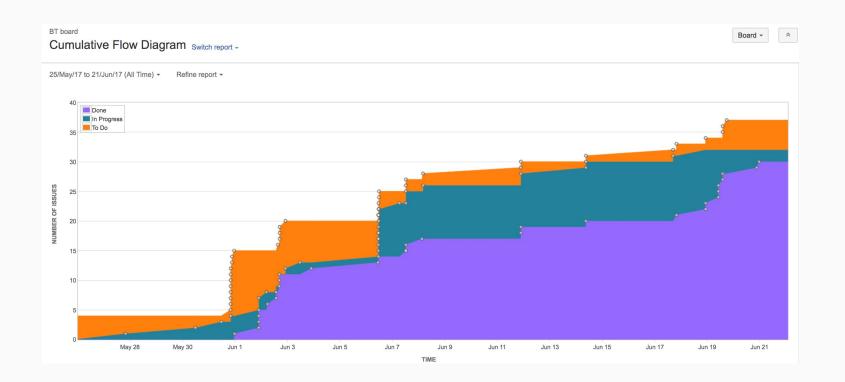


Next Steps

- Refactor code
- Rigorous system testing
- Increase Functionality
 - Reduce excel legwork
 - Combine with low cost algorithm to reach optimum result
 - Combine with routing solution

Teamwork





Cumulative Flow Diagram

Tech&Tools













Pain Points:

- Scheduling
- GitHub
- Planning for integration

Thanks!

