

BOE Election Candidate School Hours Questionnaire (Start School Later)

Candidate Name: Jacky McCoy

1. Will you sign Start School Later's 2013 petition at <https://sign.moveon.org/petitions/changing-howard-county> ?

Yes, I would have; however, the Howard County Board of Education is currently in the process of planning for new healthy school start times for the 2023 - 2024 school year. As a member of the Board of Education, I would support healthy school start times.

If you won't sign it, please explain why.

2. Based on the research that later middle and high school start times increase graduation rates and decrease absenteeism, with disadvantaged students benefiting the most from age-appropriate school hours, do you feel the current school hours affects the County's ability to be a leader in K-12 education for all students?

I absolutely believe that the current school hours affects students, especially with high school start times earlier than 8:30 AM. Research supports the value of later school start times.

3. What hours would you define as healthy, safe, and age appropriate? The current school hours are: Elementary 8:15-9:25 a.m. start times, Middle School 7:40-8:25 a.m. start times, and High School 7:25 a.m. start time.

The [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) recommends starting middle and high schools no earlier than 8:30. My suggestion for healthy school start times would be:

Elementary School: start between 8 - 8:30 AM

Middle School: start between 9:00 - 9:25 AM

High School: start between 8:30 - 9:00 AM

4. On February 10, 2022, the HCPSS Board of Education unanimously voted for healthy school hours to be implemented for the 2023-2024 school year. Do you agree with this decision? Why or why not?

I agree with the decision for healthy school hours to be implemented for the 2023 - 2024 school year; however, there was a problem with the late start time for elementary school students. I

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believe there should not be any significant problem addressing that concern.

6. In your prior experience and positions, what have you done to ensure all Howard County Public School students (K-12) have healthy, safe, and age appropriate school hours?

I have not been formally involved in efforts to ensure healthy, safe, and age appropriate school hours for students but I recognize the value of providing this important developmental option for our children. As a member of the school board I will support the continuation of healthy, safe, and age appropriate school start times beyond the 2023 - 24 school year. .

7. In your elected position, what will you do to ensure healthy and safe school hours for all of Howard County Public School Students? Please be specific: Resolutions, recommendations, funding requests, educational outreach, implementation efforts, etc.

As a future member of the Board of Education, I will support the implementation of healthy and safe school hours during and beyond the 2023 - 2024 school year. As a member of the community, I will vote for the 2024 Board of Education candidate in my district who will commit to further support healthy and safe school hours.

9. Is there anything else you would like your constituents and future voters to know about your position on safe, healthy, and age-appropriate school hours?

I believe that providing safe, healthy, and age-appropriate school hours is a common sense way to address one of the obstacles to students' academic success.