



MARYLAND | MONTGOMERY COUNTY
health, safety and equity in education

BOE Primary 2024 Election Candidate School Hours Questionnaire

Please return to: startschoollatermontgomery@gmail.com

Candidate Name: Shebra L Evans

- 1. 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 agree that MCPS secondary schools should start at 8:30 am or later?** The community shared their thoughts and concerns with the Board and MCPS. Conversations eventually led to changing school start times with the impact mainly at the secondary level. The shift has allowed some families to see advantages for starting later and I can support efforts to continue moving in the right direction of a later start time.
- 2. Are you willing to commit to enacting a Board of Education Resolution within your first 100 days in office to officially establish a goal to start secondary schools in Montgomery County at 8:30 a.m. or later? Yes.**
- 3. Before implementing later secondary school bell times, both Anne Arundel and Howard Counties each conducted a transportation study to inform this decision; Fairfax County is now in the process of doing the same to further adjust their bell times. Are you willing to commit to work toward funding a comprehensive transportation study during your first 100 days in office to look at all transportation resources the county has available,**

in addition to MCPS school buses, to achieve healthy bell times? A transportation study has been conducted and will come back to the full board. The recommendations will include immediate, short and long-term goals that will consider impacts on programs, students and staff. We're a very big district and will consider things such as our magnet programs that currently have hundreds of buses transporting student across the county.

4. Will you sign our [new petition](#) regarding bell times for teens, designed to replace petition from 2012 that has nearly 14,000 signatures on it? If not, please explain why.ⁱYes, I have signed the petition.

5. Is there anything else you would like voters and future potential to know about your position on safe, healthy, and age-appropriate school hours? As a current school board member and a parent of a current MCPS student, every decision I make will affect how my daughter and students across the county learn and experience their education every day. I want students fully engaged and prepared to begin their day well rested. I support later start times.

ⁱ ***Please note that the iPetition survey hosting company may solicit a donation. No payment is required for your signature to be captured and counted. Such requests have nothing to do with Start School Later, which doesn't receive any funds from iPetition.***