



Howard County | Maryland

health, safety and equity in education

August 21, 2022

Dear *****:

Congratulations on getting through to the General election in November!

There has been a lot of activity since we last spoke in April. Below is a synopsis of BOE meetings discussing their initiative of healthy school hours:

- April 15, 2021: HCPSS discusses school start times, following a presentation by the school system. The BOE unanimously amended the recommendation to begin the planning for an implementation of the 2022-2023 school year.
- June 24, 2021: HCPSS approved a contract for a transportation consultant, Decision Support Group (DSG), to assist with development of bell times/bus routes.
- January 13, 2022: DSG presents their school start time and transportation report and a power point to the Board of Education. The Board requested the Superintendent "bring forward a later school start time implementation plan for the start of the 2023-2024 school year by February 10, 2022."
- January 27, 2022: The Board of Education accepts public testimony on school start and dismissal times.
- February 10, 2022: DSG presents their school start time implementation timeline to the Board of Education. The Board unanimously approves the recommendation that new school hours be implemented for the 2023-2024 school year.
- July 14, 2022: SY2023-24 provisional school by school bell time report was presented by DSG to the Board (please see the attached document). The proposed is center for the start time, for tier 1, start time could be between 8-8:10am, tier 2, 8:30-8:50am, tier 3, 9:05-9:25am.

- July 14, 2022: To address the concern from elementary school parents about starting school too late, the Board directed "the Superintendent to provide the Board with a timeline for analysis that explores the possibility of shifting tier 1 to tier 3 either with a swap or a shift of other tiers by August 16, 2022.
- August 16, 2022: DSG is working on the additional start time analysis which will be available sometime in November, 2022. The vote for the new start times is anticipated to be in December, 2022. (Dr. Wu has requested the vote to be in November so he can vote on it).

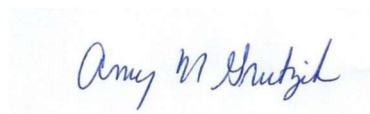
As a member of the Board of Education you will play a vital role in the implementation of healthy, safe, and age-appropriate school hours for all students.

Therefore, Start School Later Howard County respectfully requests your answers to the attached **Supplemental Candidate Questionnaire** regarding your support of healthy school hours. In addition, I have attached our **March 2022 questionnaire**. I can also post your answers to that questionnaire on our website.

Please return the Questionnaire by September 18th to sslhoco@gmail.com

Your response will be shared on our website: <https://www.startschoollater.net/hoco-elections.html>, on our Facebook page, and with supporters who signed petitions in 2013 through 2022 to urge the Board of Education to act.

Sincerely,



Amy Grutzik, Chapter Leader, Start School Later Howard County

Enclosure (1) DSG preliminary proposed start times from July 14th meeting

Enclosure (2) 2022 General Election Candidate Questionnaire