

**2018 Lawrence USD 497 School District
Middle School Students Online Survey
Final Report**

January 2, 2019



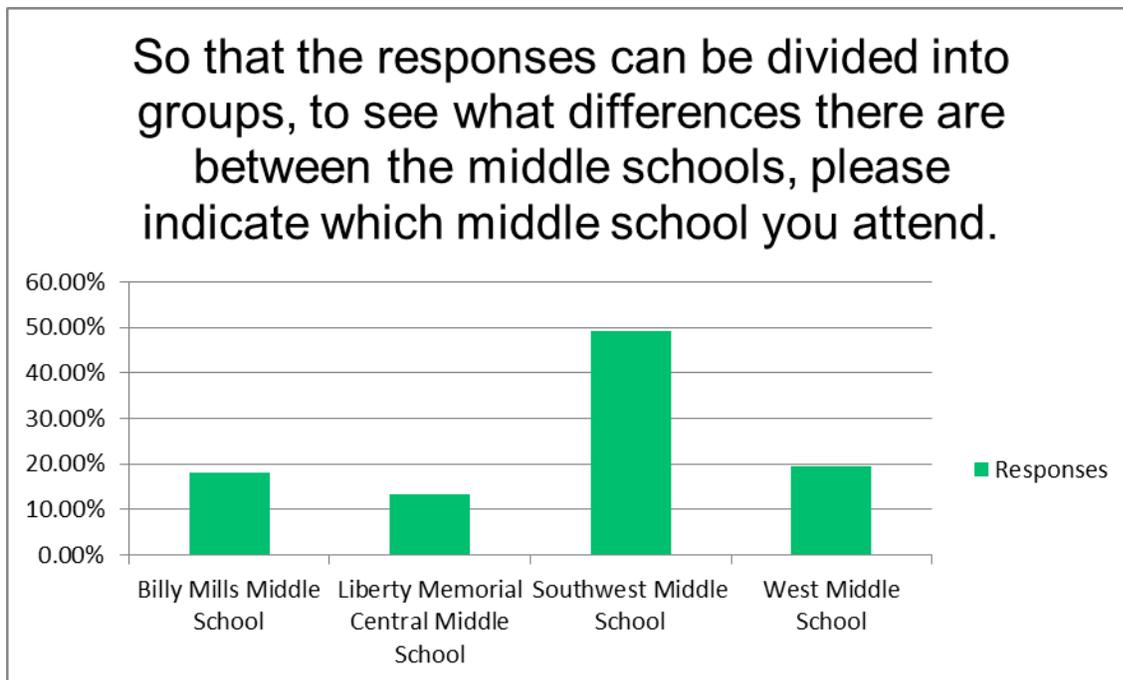
Prepared by: Patron Insight, Inc.

At the same time a statistically reliable random dial telephone survey was taking place within the Lawrence USD 497 School District with 200 parents of middle and high school students, an online version of the survey was made available to middle school students.

The survey was similar to the telephone survey, with minor modifications to trim the length slightly (to encourage completion of the survey) and to fit the online format. The middle school students' survey had the second highest turnout of all the Lawrence online surveys, with 969 respondents. However, not all participants chose to answer all the questions – a situation which is common with online surveys.

As is the case on the telephone survey, responses to the open-ended comments were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas, to allow for a better understanding of the most commonly held views. Comments that were more “one-off” in nature are displayed in verbatim form.

We started this survey with a demographic question, asking which school participants attend.



We followed that with two open-ended questions about the perceived advantages and disadvantages, if the high school had a later start and end time, when the middle school students became high school students.

Let’s start with a basic question: What do you think the advantages would be for you, if the high school had a later start time and end time, when you became a student there?

Responses were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas. Numbers, rather than percentages, are displayed.

Response	Number
Sleeping later/getting extra sleep	444
Better rested/energized/focused/productive	203
More time at home/to get ready	83
No advantages/None/Nothing	64
More time for homework/studying	51
Better academic performance/grades	50
Get to school on time	28
Time for breakfast	24
Get home later/less daylight	19
Other (see below)	18
Stay up later at night	18
Less stressed	15
Pickup/drop-off easier	14
Rather start earlier/end earlier	12
More time for activities/sports	11
Want later start	10
Would make sports/activities later/day longer	10
Don’t know/Not sure	9
Take a Zero Hour class	8
Less time/later homework	6
More daylight/warmer – getting to school	6
More family time/meet family obligations	6
Would start homework later	6
Later to after-school job	4
More free time	4
Pickup/drop-off harder	3
Less free time	2
Less traffic	2
Play video games later	2

Verbatim “other” comments

We could go to school refreshed and on time. I know of some students that have jobs before school and that could give them more time to be at school and have some more time for a rest.

Maybe the start time for me would be like 9 or 10 and to the end would be to 2:30.

I honestly think I would have more time to get myself back into gear, and Saratoga's reviewing work I did last year.

I think that my parents run around the house trying to gather things and most of the time my brother is late.

I'm moving.

Because my little brother is starting middle school, we will have to get to school at the same time, which won't be able to happen. If high school starts later, I can make it to school on time.

It wouldn't be too different; it would just start later and end later.

Starting school at its current time helped me because it gets me out of school more early, so that I could have time to do homework and study for anything.

Now, let me ask you people something, how would you feel if the times got changed? Because I am positive that not every faculty member would be ok with this change you people are trying to enforce in our schools. Now, if the high school had a later start time, then I could sleep in longer and have more time to get ready, without having to be worried about being late to school which happens to everyone at some point. If it had a later end time, I probably would not see much of an advantage in that because I have other things after school around that time and I also would have homework, chores, sports, recitals and would not have as much free time after school.

You get out early and get to hang out with family and friends.

I could watch YouTube in the morning longer than I already do.

I think that it's not fair.

Well scenic. I go there for math in the mornings. If it starts later, then I won't be able to get to the high school.

I would like school to start at like 9 a.m. and end at 2:15 p.m.

Yes I think schools to start at a later time. One main big reason is most teens do not enough sleep, and this can lead to being overweight, having depression and also performing poorly in school.

I'm going to LHS.

It would allow us more time to get ready before school and let us have a relatively early lunch time, improving morale.

A better education, so I could go to KU to play basketball.

Here's another basic question: What do you think the disadvantages would be for you, if the high school had a later start time and end time, when you became a student there?

Responses were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas. Numbers, rather than percentages, are displayed.

Response	Number
Less time for/later homework	142
Late to/miss non-school sports/ activities	140
Longer/later day/less daylight	126
School activities/sports start later/get home later	110
Less free time/downtime	58
No disadvantages/None/Nothing	58
Stay up late/no extra sleep	41
Harder to get/won't have a ride to and from school	40
Less time in general	36
Messes up family time/activities/dinner	31
Prefer current schedule	30
Oversleep/more tardies/skip school	28
Have to adjust after-school job schedule	27
Impact parents'/family's schedule	21
Don't know/Not sure	19
Less time with friends/playing	19
Disrupts/shifts entire schedule	17
More tired/less focused	15
Other (see below)	11
Harder to pick up/take care of younger siblings	10
Negative impact on academic performance/less learning	10
Less tired/more focused	9
Miss class time for sports/activities	9
Walk home/get home in the dark	8
Everything/no advantages	7
Transportation/bus issues	7
Later/shorter lunch time	6
Less time for chores	5
No time to get ready for activities	5
Will still have to be at school early	4
Hard to adjust sleep schedule	3
Sports practices in the dark	3
Harder to get to after-school appointments	2

More traffic/unsafe commute	2
Stress	2

Verbatim “other” comments

School is awesome and is needed, but I don’t wanna be doing past the age of 18!

A later start time would give me less time after school, but for homework I could always finish it in the morning.

Would miss out on a lot of things.

If a high school started later, I would be able to stay up later. Students would have more time to get ready for school. Any doctor appointments or etc. could be done before school started at a reasonable time.

All the disadvantages.

Have less time to do homework after school. Have to wake up early for seminary already.

Can’t hang out with friend as late after school. Will be almost dark when we get out of school.

I’m moving.

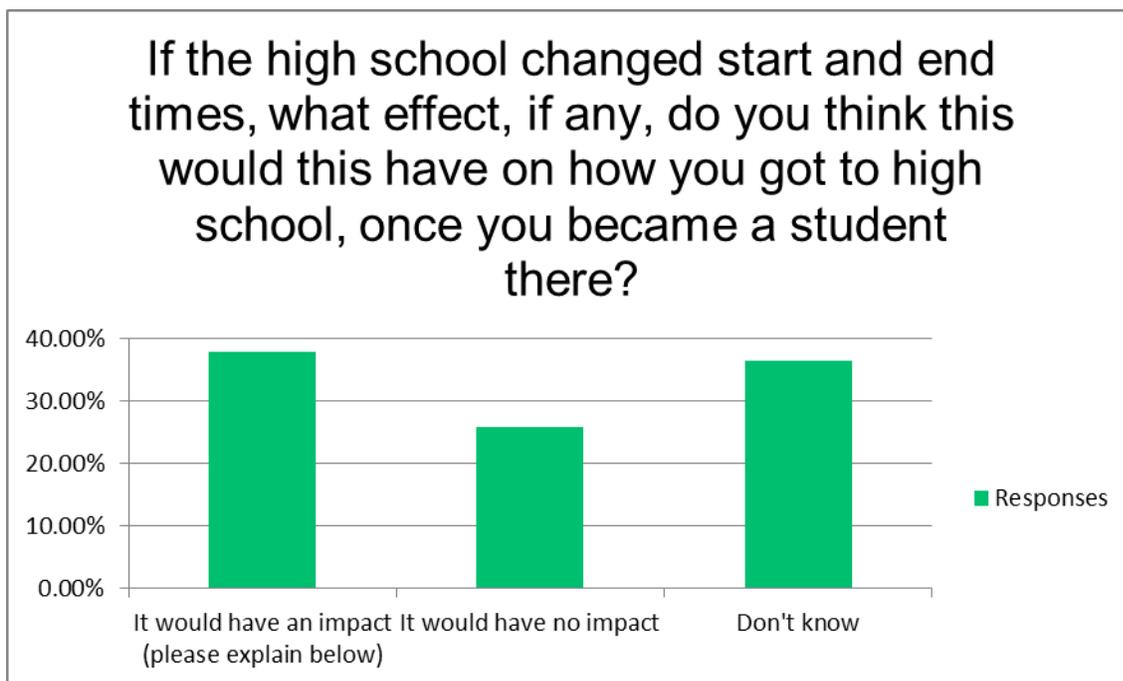
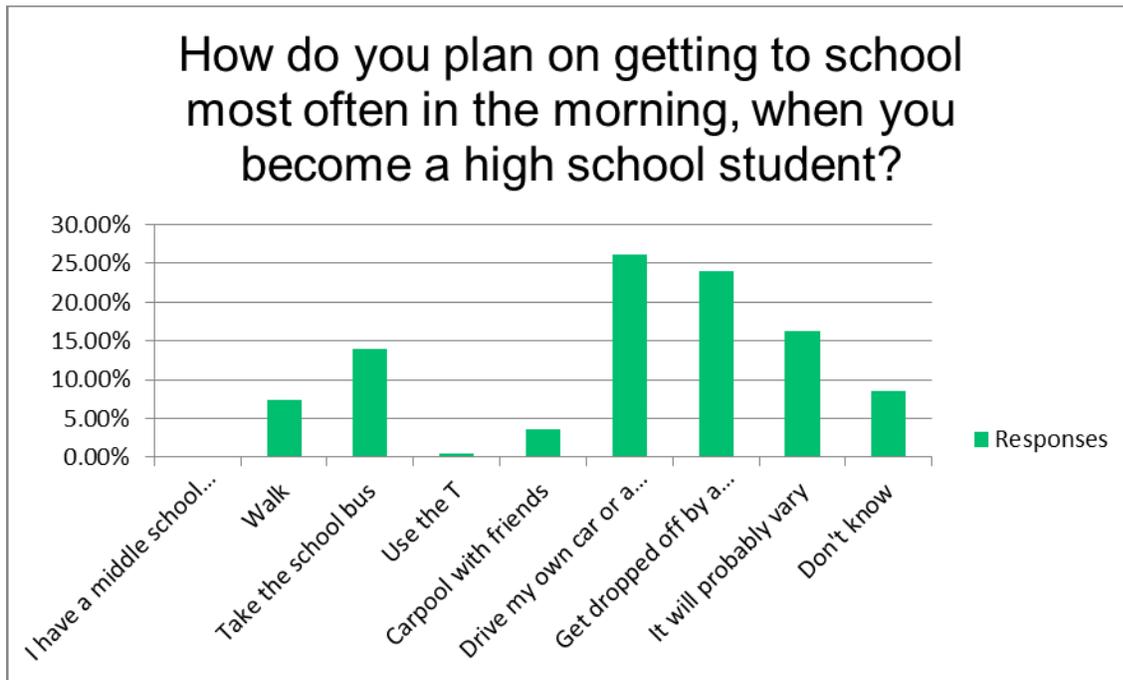
Not getting Zero Hour.

People might complain.

I answered this question in my first answer.

Well, since I’m already taking math there, it would be more awkward attending first hour math and getting to my second hour at West on time.

Two transportation-related questions came next.



Additionally, respondents to this question were given the option of providing an “Other” response, if they answered that “It would have an impact” on them. Responses were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas. Numbers, rather than percentages, are displayed.

Response	Number
Parent/siblings/guardian can't drive me to school	85
Late to/miss non-school sports/ activities	34
Better rested/energized/focused/productive	32
Sleeping later/getting extra sleep	27
Less time for/later homework	25
No impact/N/A/None/Nothing	22
Keep the schedule the same	17
All schedules would have to change	16
Longer/later day/less daylight	15
Less free time/downtime	14
Activities/sports start later/get home later	13
Have to ride school/city bus	12
Other (see below)	11
Transportation/bus issues	11
Don't know	10
Stay up late/no extra sleep	10
Find another way/might not get to school	9
Still dropped off/be at school early	8
Less family time	7
Less rushed/more time to get ready	7
Prefer earlier start/getting to school early	7
Have to walk to school/far walk	6
Have to adjust after-school job	5
Impact different for each person	5
Walk – warmer/daylight/more time	5
Make it easier to get to school	4
Negative impact on academic performance/less learning	4
Positive impact on academic performance/grades	4
More stress	3
Harder to get to school on time/tardy	2
Late to math class at HS	2
Less time with friends	2
Less traffic	2
More time to finish homework	2

Verbatim “other” comments

Positive impact I believe.

I would not go to my grandma’s house.

I will either have more time to get to school or less.

Why are you asking this?

It would impact meals and probably the FACT THAT LITERALLY NO OTHER SCHOOL WOULD DO THIS! HAVE YOU EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT THE FACT THAT MAYBE THEY WILL TRANSFER AND POSSIBLY SLEEP PAST THEIR ALARM AND BE LATE MULTIPLE TIMES?! I think this is rubbish to be honest, like who in their right mind would do this? This is just my honest opinion, but this isn't going to do anything.

On Wednesday, I go to therapy.

I might have to go to Zero Hour or go with my stepbrother.

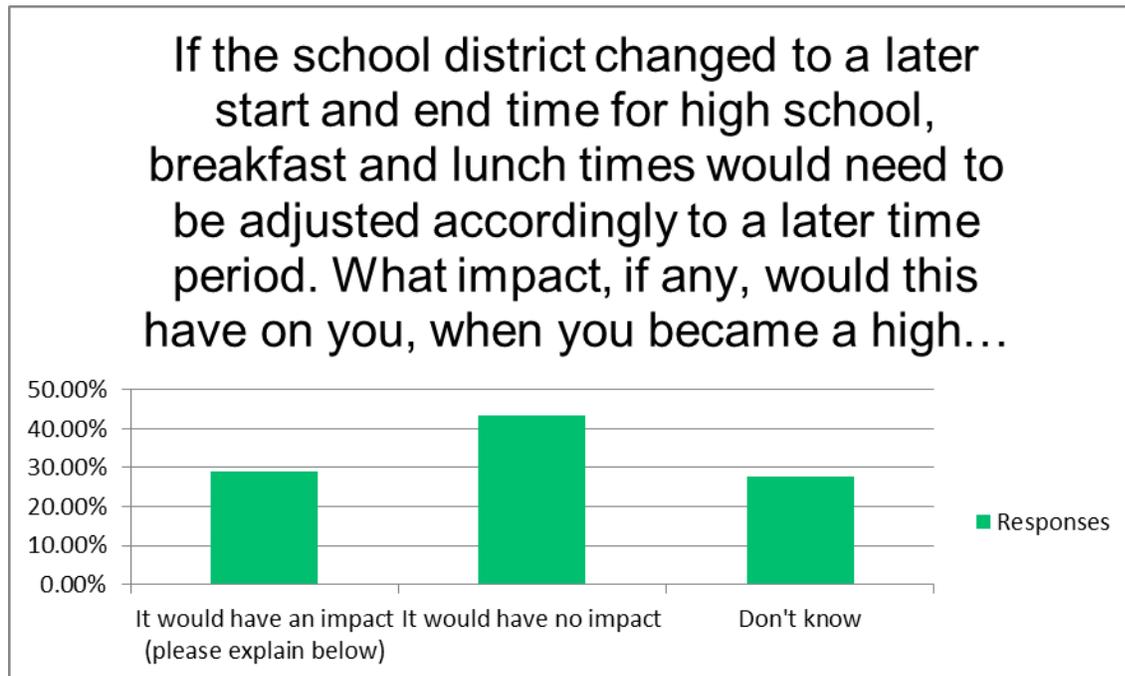
It would be a different way of doing things than normally; it would have an effect on us at first, but we would get used to it later.

Maybe the Algebra 2 class time will change because I will have Algebra 2 in 8th grade.

The world starts early, so does college.

It would cause a butt-load of controversy.

We then asked about how changing breakfast and lunch times would affect these students.



Additionally, respondents to this question were given the option of providing an “Other” response, if they answered that “It would have an impact” on them. Responses were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas. Numbers, rather than percentages, are displayed.

Response	Number
Would be hungry/not focused/engaged	134
Too late/some lunches already late in the day	31
No impact/N/A/None	29
Other (see below)	19
Mess up/change eating schedule	14
Eat a better breakfast at home	14
Harder – if don’t eat breakfast	11
Late to/miss non-school sports/ activities	7
Need to bring snacks/extra food	7
Eat dinner later	5
Less time for/later homework	4
Don’t know	3
Longer/later day	3
Parent can’t drive me to school	3
Breakfast and lunch would be later	2
Different lunch times than friends	2
Impact family time	2

Verbatim “other” comments

We would have a lot longer for lunch.

Younger sibling and activities after school.

Stop asking me dumb questions. I’m a middle-schooler. If this were to happen, I’d get hungry and be sad.

Change middle school time.

A positive impact.

Well they serve us crap anyway and call it “food.” I don’t know why or how it doesn’t have the place to be called food. They are trying to kill us. Please, for the love of God, get real food.

I have diabetes and I’m used to eating lunch at a certain time, and it will kind of mess with my sugars.

What I said before – flip flop it please, the other no impact.

You would have lunch earlier in the school day, but that is good, not bad.

Eating breakfast later may have an impact to someone's health or daily schedule. If a student has an appointment, then maybe times will have to also adjust.

Cause I want to start school early.

It would have an impact on us because of our routine, but you could also just wake up earlier.

Breakfast maybe, but lunch no. In high school, the students go out to get lunch at like Taco Bell.

Probably the Algebra 2 time will change and I will come there in eighth grade.

Students would not be as hungry for breakfast, if school started later.

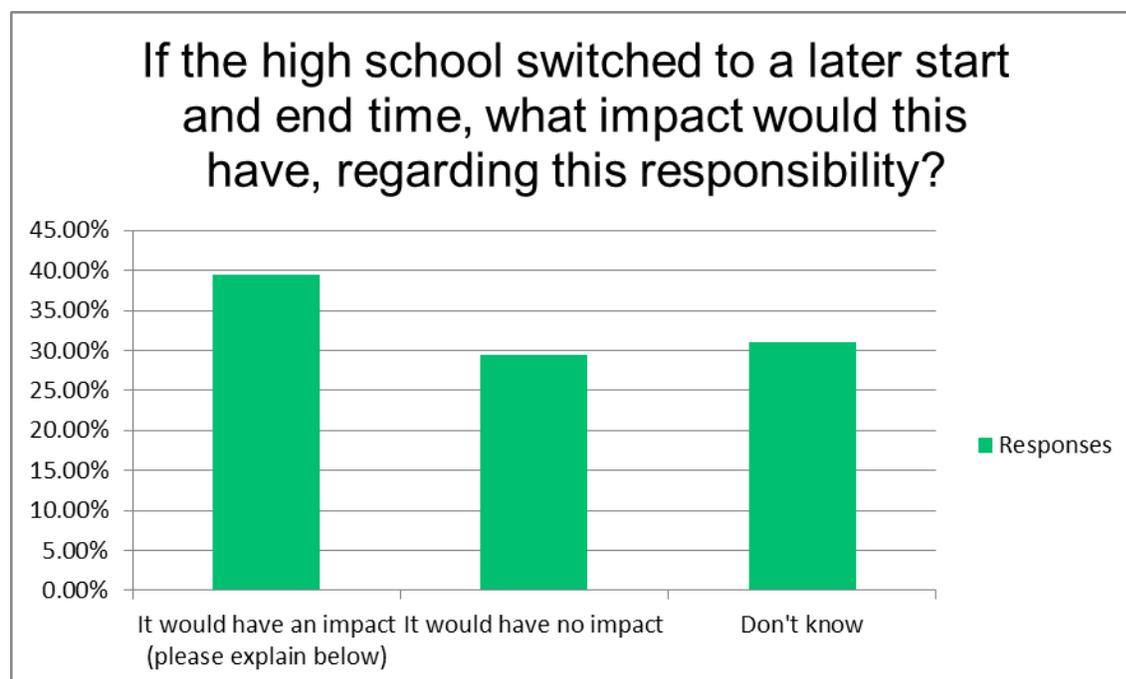
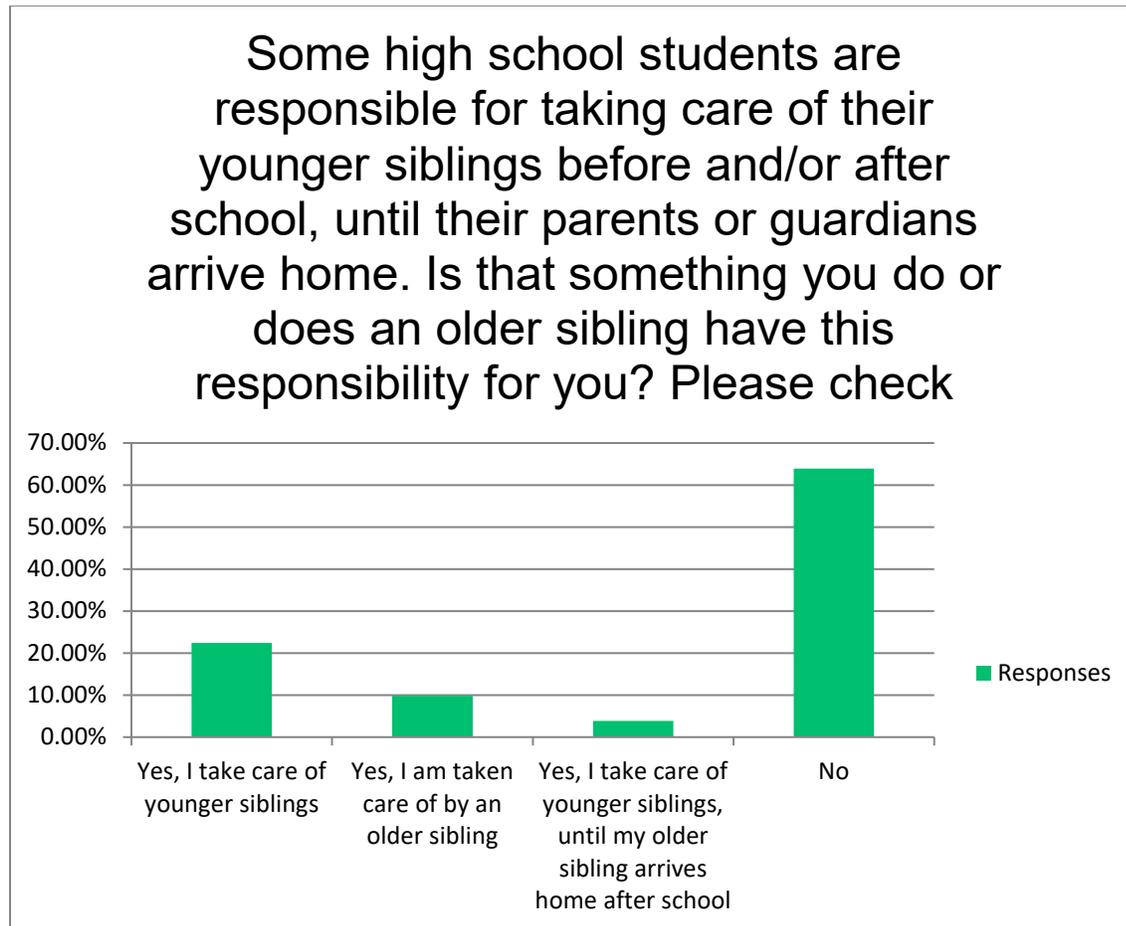
I would want lunch later, so the fuel I get lasts longer.

They would probably stop serving breakfast because you would have more time to eat, and for lunch, nothing will happen it would probably get served at 12 p.m.

I can eat quickly.

I often get very hungry, and it seems awkward to me to have lunch earlier in the school day. I would probably wake up later, so breakfast and lunch were closer together, which doesn't work.

We then asked two questions about sibling care.



Additionally, respondents to this question were given the option of providing an “Other” response, if they answered that “It would have an impact” on them. Responses were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas. Numbers, rather than percentages, are displayed.

Response	Number
Not home in time/nobody home to watch younger siblings	33
Other (see below)	16
Late to/miss non-school sports/ activities	10
Not able to pick up and/or drop off younger siblings	8
Siblings have to go after-school care program/baby-sitter	8
Better rested/energized/focused/productive	7
Disrupts/shifts entire schedule	4
Less time for/late homework	4
Less time in general	4
Not have a ride to and/or from school	4
Sleeping later/getting extra sleep	4
Impact after-school job/less money	3
Less sleep/more tired	3
Don't know	2
Get home later/longer day	2

Verbatim “other” comments

Might not be as tired and better handling of responsibilities.

I just did this. I would get to have more time in the morning to sleep, cuddle with my dog and EAT REAL FOOD (#notschoolfood) or what they call food, it's not real.

It would make them have less work to do.

It depends if middle schools change.

I would rather wake up earlier.

Sometimes, my mom needs to do things and my sister and I would need to be home.

It may affect how or what time the adult must arrive home.

I'd have the responsibility to wake up, since I'm used to waking up at 7 a.m.

Kids might be late to do the change.

I can't get to math.

I would be home alone, until I go to high school, which is not fun.

My sister would get home from school before me; this means she will probably do something mean to my cat. She will also play on our shared computer and not give me any time if I need it.

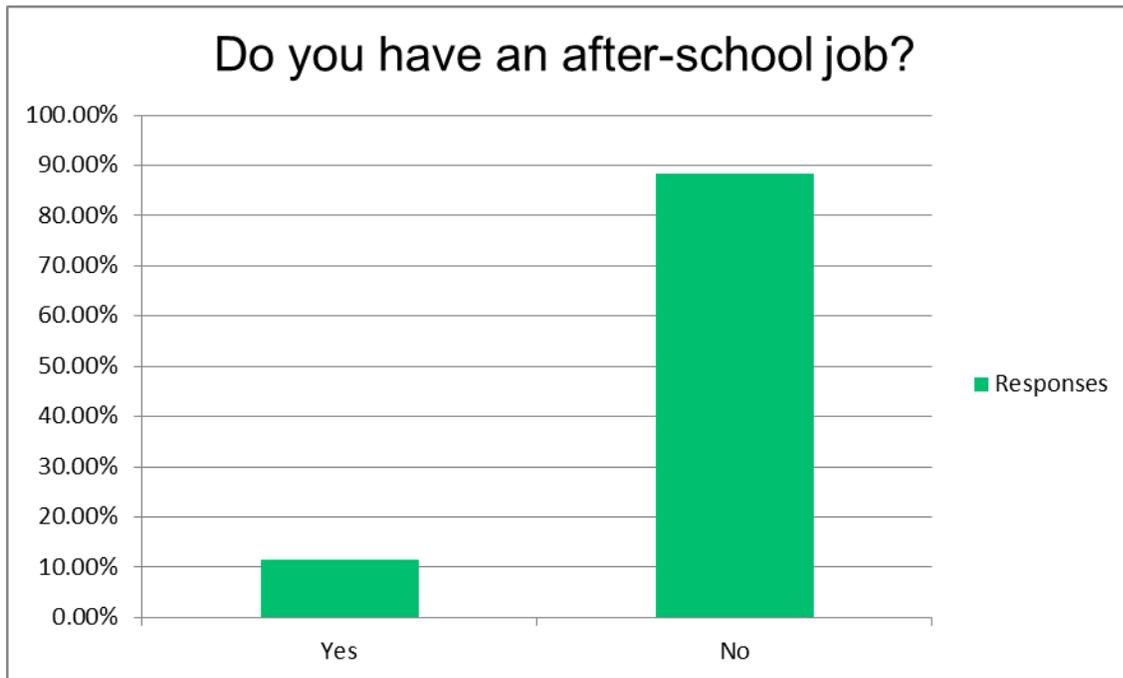
It would just mean that my grandma would have to watch my brother more often.

Well I won't be in high school for another three years, and when I start high school, my only younger sibling will be in fifth grade, so he will have a phone by then and will be able to stay home alone for a while.

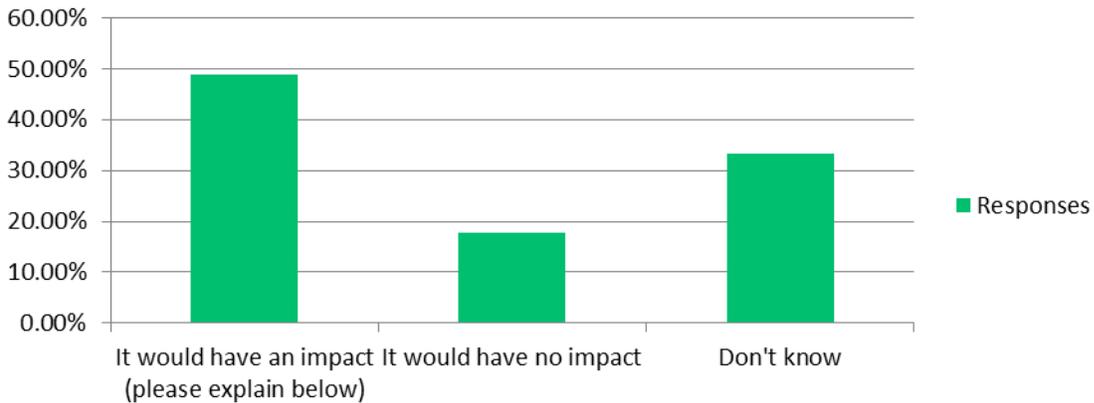
Still a middle-schooler.

I would not have enough time to be with family.

The next two questions asked about after-school jobs.



If the high school switched to a later start and end time, what impact, if any, would this have on your after-school job, once you became a high school student?



Additionally, respondents to this question were given the option of providing an “Other” response, if they answered that “It would have an impact” on them. Responses were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas. Numbers, rather than percentages, are displayed.

Response	Number
Would be late/not on time	9
Would have to change schedule/work later	9
Fewer hours/less money	7
Late to/miss non-school sports/ activities	4
Less time for/later homework	4
Might have to quit/be fired	4
Other (see below)	4
Can't care for siblings/baby-sit	3
Depends on time of day/season	3
Less time for chores	3
Less time to get ready/eat	3
Make day longer/bedtime later	3
Less downtime/free time	2
Pickup/drop-off harder	2

Verbatim “other” comments

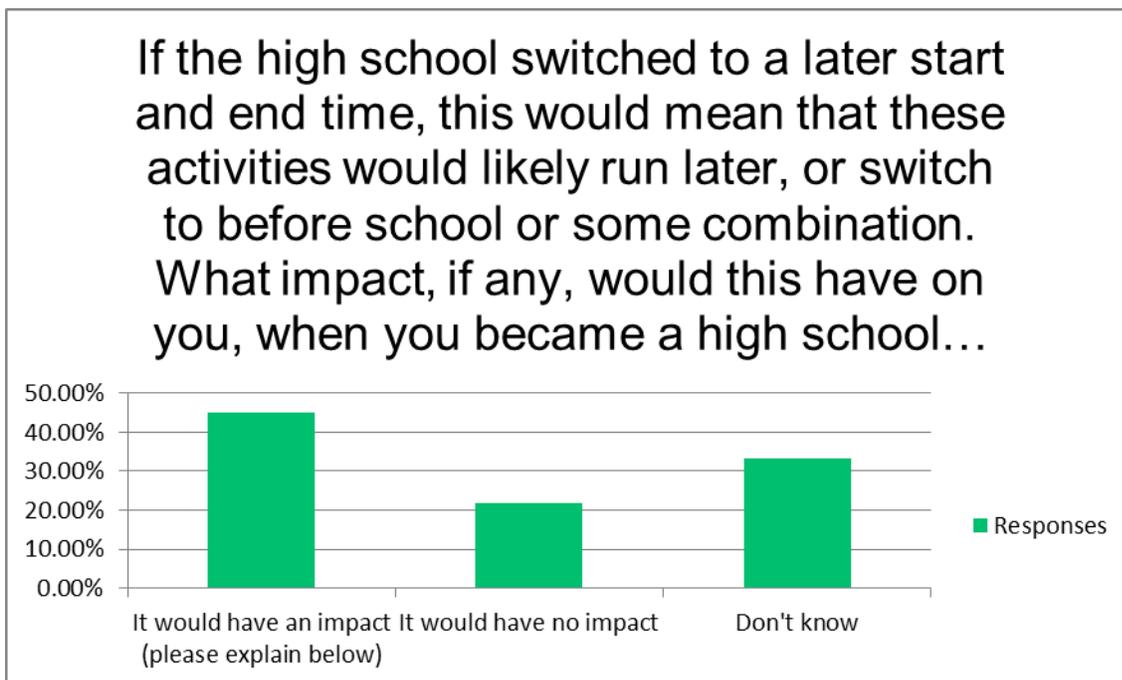
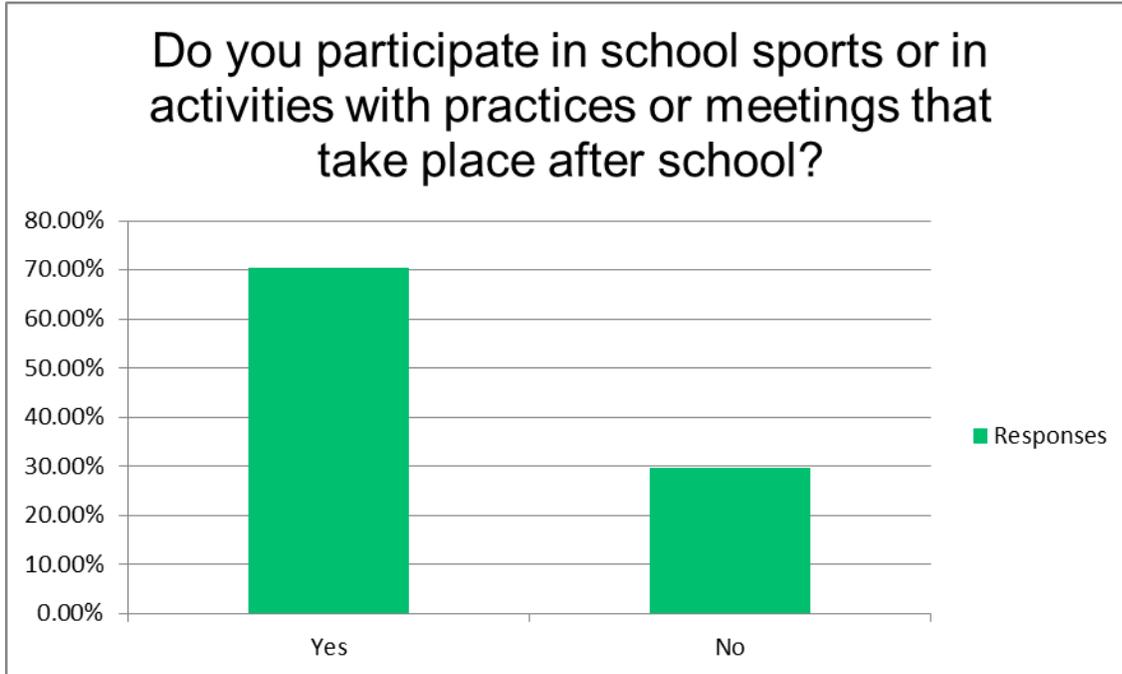
My job is related to deadlines, and I would rather work on it earlier in the afternoon.

I work at a horse barn (i.e., clean stalls, bring horses in, etc.), and it all needs to be done by 6:30 p.m.

I volunteer at Pet World and have dance at 4:30 p.m.

None.

Two questions about after-school activities followed.



Additionally, respondents to this question were given the option of providing an “Other” response, if they answered that “It would have an impact” on them. Responses were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas. Numbers, rather than percentages, are displayed.

Response	Number
Activities/sports start later	57
Less time for/later homework	43
Miss/be late to non-school activities/sports	40
Get home later/less daylight	21
Stay up late/no extra sleep	20
Hard to get to school for morning practices/eliminates late start	16
Other (see below)	14
Non-school activities/sports won't adjust time	12
No time for other obligations	10
Please keep the same schedule	10
Hard to balance school & non-school activities	9
Make evening really full/no downtime	9
Less family time	8
Would impact entire schedule	8
Eat later/miss meals	7
Impact academic performance	6
No impact/None	6
Don't know	5
Need to drop some activities/not participate at all	5
No time to get ready	4
Less time for after-school job	3
Parents won't let stay later	3
Couldn't help with sibling care	2
Dark outside/less playing time – fall/winter	2
Depends on time/day	2
Extra stress	2
Morning practices are better	2
No transportation	2
Parents could pick up	2

Verbatim “other” comments

You'd have to be prepared.

I'd like to get to home at a normal time.

Because I have lessons and classes to do, so I might have to change to a later time, and I don't focus really well when it's late.

I would rather be smart than being stupid by asking these questions. Just leave the time it should be.

This would affect some of the clubs I do, and, if it runs too late, it interferes with my volunteering.

Would have to get up early and that could create a tardy.

It would be easier to go to meetings in the morning, because I would be less tired.

I need lots of time because I am a theater tech person and it takes a lot of time to take care of props, painting, etc.

Yes, because my coaches know education goes first.

I would want to take a Zero Hour as well as do an after-school activity.

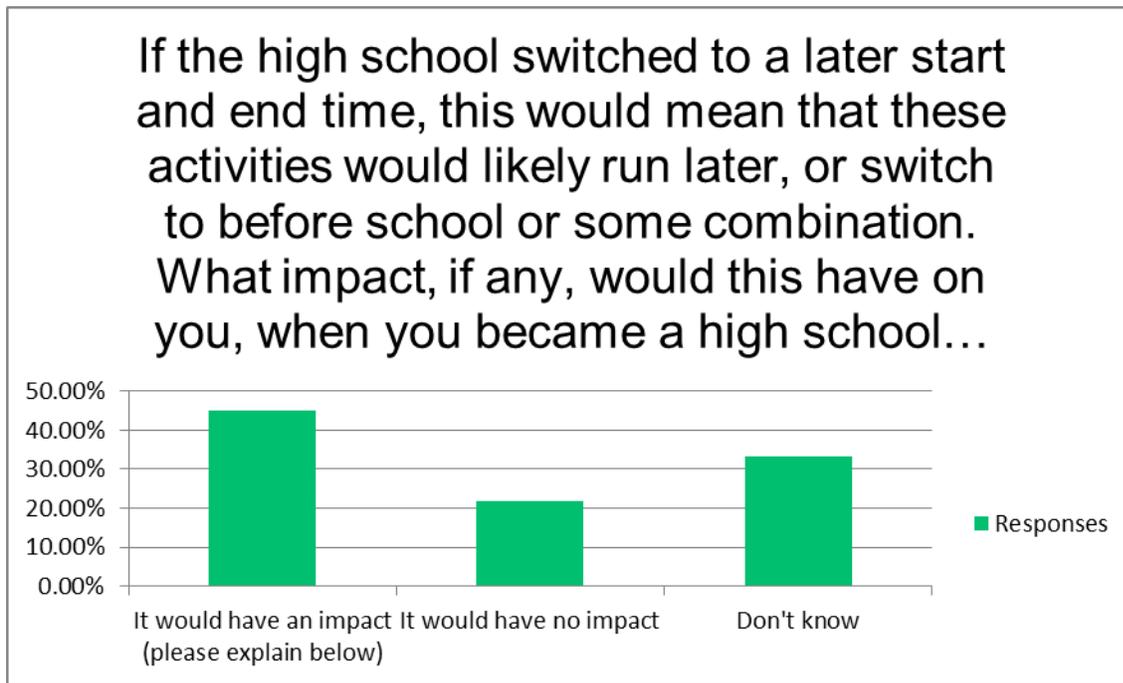
It would have an impact because teachers are ready to go home and not stay with students after school; I mean a few teachers might, but not all.

I might have to change my drum practice.

If the activities started before school, I wouldn't be able to take a Zero Hour class, and if they started after school, I would get home late in the evening, causing me to finish my homework up late at night.

I would have to stay late or wake up very early.

We asked a question about the potential impact of later start and end times on their academic performance.



Additionally, respondents to this question were given the option of providing an “Other” response, if they answered that “It would have an impact” on them. Responses were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas. Numbers, rather than percentages, are displayed.

Response	Number
More attentive/energized/focused	110
Get more sleep/more rested	66
Less time for/later homework	48
Better grades/academic performance	48
Activities/sports start later/get home later	16
Homework done on time/better prepared for the day	14
Poor academic performance/grades	14
Stay up later/get less sleep	13
Keep the same schedule/prefer earlier start	12
Just make day longer/less daylight	12
No impact/None	12
Other (see below)	10
More stress	6
Decrease tardiness/skipped classes	4
Don't know	4
Eat breakfast	4
Less downtime/free time	3

Verbatim “other” comments

Cause I don’t do after-school sports.

It depends on the person.

I would choose to get Fs.

I would be antsier and it would affect some people’s medications.

This is sad. If you think about it, high-schoolers party all night and they won’t get their homework done!!!

I’m not good academically anyways; it can’t get worse.

It would have an impact because I have other priorities besides school all of the time, like jobs, sports, baby-sitting, my own hygiene and my personal well-being with the stuff I like to do to spend time with my friends and family.

Basically, it means you’re not spending time with your family and friends.

Middle-schooler.

Gymnastics starts at 4.

We then asked for any additional comments.

Now that you have read some of the issues the committee has been discussing regarding how such a change in the start and end times could affect students and their families, do you have any additional comments you’d like to share on this subject -- as you think about the time when you will become a high school student? *Responses were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas. Numbers, rather than percentages, are displayed.*

Response	Number
Current schedule is fine/don’t change it	71
Would prefer later start time	30
Don’t know/not sure	21
Other (see below)	21
N/A/None/Nothing	15
Creates student drop-off/pickup issues	14
Better academic performance	13
Negatively impact activities/sports	12
Start earlier/get out earlier	12
Start later/get out same time	9
Start 30 mins later	9
Less time for/later homework	8

Students will still stay up later/get less sleep	8
Less family/friends time	6
Align times district-wide	5
Pros and cons to both	5
Impact after-school job	3
Just want late start Wednesday	3
Less downtime/free time	3
More time to get ready in the morning	3
Older siblings couldn't pick up/care for younger ones	3
Just take Zero Hour/get out earlier	2
Need less homework	2

Verbatim “other” comments

I think the time should be from 8:30-3:30.

I think it's a good idea, but it would be a big change and I'm not sure how it would affect the community as a whole.

Make the lunch times earlier instead of later, if you change the times.

I would just like to add that just change does not necessarily make it a bad change. Some plans with families might change, but worst case scenario some kid just gets to soccer practice five minutes late.

I think this is could impact so many things and so many people!

The people who are advocating for later start times are for the most part, not going to be in AP classes and have no real idea of the amount of homework they're going to get. I am advocating for earlier.

Some early risers could have more time to just hang, while heavy sleepers would have weird days.

I think the only people who made it to the meeting are people who AREN'T WORKING and if they don't work it doesn't affect them, but the people who are working can't make it and it will affect them.

There were a lot of personal questions.

I think that you should change the start time later for only middle school students. Most middle school students don't have a job, so that takes away a commitment.

No, I just want to take Zero Hour.

They should do the times that the elementary schools do, from 8:45-3:50.

I believe we should have later start times, but if kids have to arrive at a certain time I think the high schools should have a gym open for the kids.

I think that if parents want their kids to get more sleep, they can put them to bed earlier; it is not the School Board's job.

Possibly consider better school lunches.

The sibling thing doesn't really apply to me because I don't have siblings.

I understand that the majority is what is going to count but, I encourage you to take into serious consideration what the students say as well as the parents, as they are most likely less effected, since they are not experiencing it and we are and/or will be.

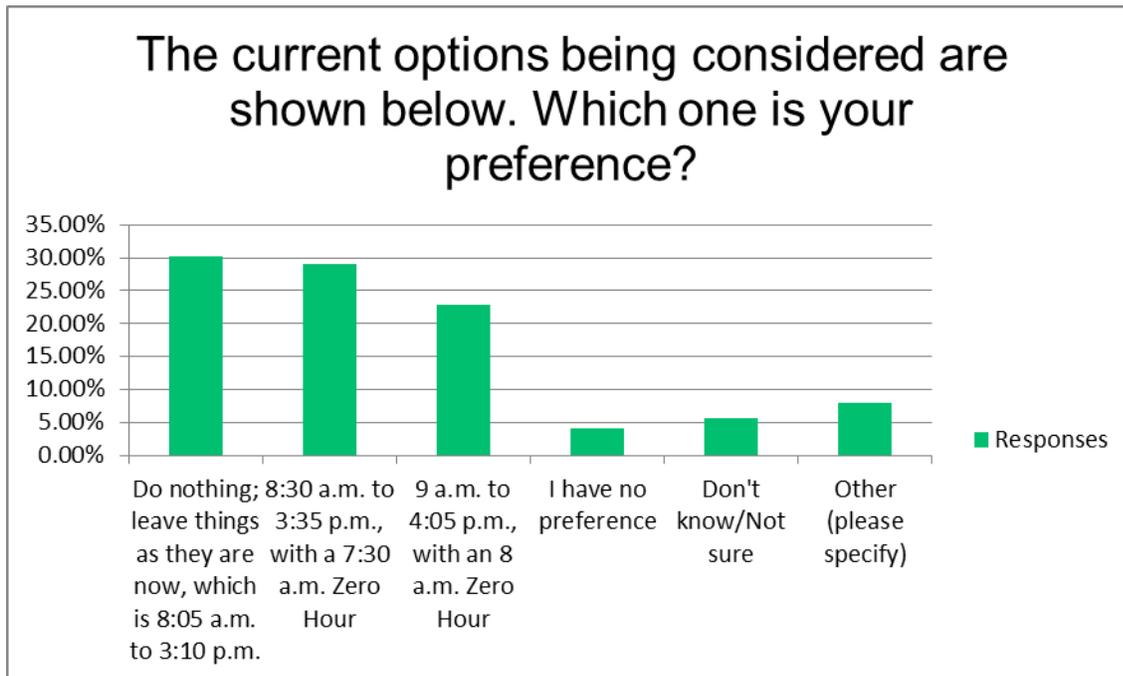
I would like there to be study hall more often that way we can have more time to get our homework done.

I think some classes should start at 8 a.m. and others at 9 a.m., depending on what you take.

If lunch time is moved to a later time, maybe we should have snack time?

I think parking will definitely suck and so will getting out of the parking lot.

Next, we asked about specific start and end options and why that option was preferred.



Additionally, respondents to this question were given the option of providing an “Other” response. Responses were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas. Numbers, rather than percentages, are displayed.

Response	Number
Other (see below)	22
8/8:05-3:05	3
8:45-3:45/3:50	3
9-4:05	3
7:30-2:30	3
9-3:05	2
7-2	2
7:05-2:05	2
10 a.m.-5:05 p.m., 9 a.m. Zero Hour	2

Verbatim “other” comments

8:30 to 3:05, with a 7:30 Zero Hour.

Please don’t do this. I won’t be successful.

8:30 to 3.

8:30 to 3:35, with a Zero Hour.

8:50-3:55.

7:30 to 2:35, with a 6:30 Zero Hour.

7:50-2:55.

7 a.m. Zero Hour.

7:30 to 2:45, with a 6 a.m. Zero Hour.

9-3:30.

I like going to school early, so I would do it about 7:50 school would start and end at 2:50.

9-3, with short summers.

If anything, make it earlier, but if I had to choose, please just keep it the way it is.

Earlier start and end time.

I’m OK with 8:30 or 9. I don’t have a preference.

10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., with a 9 a.m. Zero Hour, with less class and more homework. This would prepare us for college and make us more responsible as freshman through seniors.

9:45 a.m. to 4:25 p.m., with an 8:30 a.m. Zero Hour.

7 a.m. to 2:05 p.m.

I have a thing to go to after school every Wednesday, so if it were to end at a later time, I wouldn't have enough time to get ready for it.

8:45a.m. to 4:50p.m., with a 7:45a.m. Zero Hour.

The first or second option (1. 8:05-3:10 or 2. 8.30-3:35).

9 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

Why do you prefer this option (Do nothing; leave things as they are now, which is 8:05 a.m. to 3:10 p.m.)? *Responses were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas. Numbers, rather than percentages, are displayed.*

Response	Number
Current schedule is the best option/fewest disruptions	106
Activity/sports schedules won't change	30
More time for homework	22
Don't want later/longer day	18
More downtime/free time	14
Students will still stay up late, regardless of start time	14
Don't know	8
Best meets families' needs	6
No extra transportation issues	6
Other (see below)	6
Similar to real-world job hours	2

Verbatim "other" comments

So, we get a chance to vote.

It is earlier and I am a morning person.

I don't want a Zero Hour.

I like the time how it is but we could have longer advisory just to help students. Also, students should have a couple of their preferred friends in their advisory to help wake up and get ready for the day.

Because I would be able to leave and come to school at a good time, but as a middle-schooler, obviously, I don't have a job, which I might have in high school, so then I might have a different preference in high school.

I really hate this new option; these studies may show it works, but in reality it doesn't.

Why do you prefer this option (8:30 a.m. to 3:35 p.m., with a 7:30 a.m. Zero Hour)?

Responses were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas. Numbers, rather than percentages, are displayed.

Response	Number
More sleep time/better rested/focused	56
Happy medium/middle ground	54
Later release, but not as late as other option	42
Less impact on sports/activities	24
A little more time in the morning/get ready	20
Works better with schedule	20
More time for homework	12
Starting a little later/30 extra mins have an impact	12
Still help with siblings	10
More downtime/free time	8
Still get a ride with parent	8
Could take Zero Hour/not as early	7
Don't know	6
Other (see below)	3
More time to get to school/fewer tardies	2

Verbatim “other” comments

It is not too late in the morning, but it is a lot of work for changing the time only 20 minutes. I understand that would give students 20 more minutes of sleep, but the students will just have to learn to manage their time at night and get enough sleep. I just really don't want to get home at 5 in the afternoon on school nights because school starts later.

Because it's similar but still later.

It wouldn't be too much of a crazy change but a change, nonetheless. It might help a little bit with sleeping a bit more, and probably won't make students think, “Ohh! I can stay up late and watch movies now!”

Why do you prefer this option (9 a.m. to 4:05 p.m., with an 8 a.m. Zero Hour)? Responses were coded, based on common words, phrases and ideas. Numbers, rather than percentages, are displayed.

Response	Number
More sleep time/better rested/focused	82
Allow take Zero Hour/possibly leave earlier	22
Best option/fits schedule	12
More time to get ready/prepare to learn	12
Best meets families' needs	8
Don't know	8
More time for homework/help before school	8
Other (see below)	7
Eat breakfast	6
Latest start time	6
Can stay up later	2
More time to get to school/fewer tardies	2

Verbatim “other” comments

Because that is what happens on Wednesday.

My brother is going to high school next year and then I don't have to deal with his grumpiness, if it is like that.

It sounds like the best, most reasonable option. I think there would be an issue with work traffic, though.

I prefer this option because I need time to sleep and starting at 9 a.m. is the latest time. I usually do not have much after school, so that would not be a problem. I feel like starting school at 8:30 a.m., instead of 8 a.m. wouldn't make much of a difference in my ability to learn, concentrate, and remember things.

It would be easier for me to wake up later. I assume that the Arts Center would readjust their scheduled classes to meet the needs of the public school students that take their classes.

It gives us a good amount of time in the morning and shouldn't run too late into the evening with afternoon activities.

It would give me more time in the morning, to workout, get ready, stretch, maybe dance and do some homework.

We concluded the survey with two demographic questions.

