

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall  
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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Vincent C. Matthews, Ed.D., Superintendent, San Francisco Unified School District  
Susan Solomon, Board President, United Educators of San Francisco

FROM: Brent Jalipa, Assistant Clerk  
Youth, Young Adult, and Families Committee

DATE: June 4, 2021

SUBJECT: HEARING MATTER INTRODUCED

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The Board of Supervisors' Youth, Young Adult, and Families Committee has received the following hearing request, introduced by Supervisor Hillary Ronen on June 1, 2021:

**File No. 210670**

**Hearing on the San Francisco Unified School District's (SFUSD) decision to change school start times, what child development research or fiscal considerations justify these changes, how families, teachers, and other school stakeholders were consulted in determining the new start times, how the changes affect teachers' work schedules, what impacts these changes have on afterschool program operating costs and staffing needs, and to provide an opportunity for directly impacted families to voice concerns and share recommendations about the start time changes; and requesting the San Francisco Unified School District, School Board members, and the United Educators of San Francisco to report.**

If you have any comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102, or by email at Brent.Jalipa@sfgov.org.

c: Viva Mogi, San Francisco Unified School District  
Esther Casco, San Francisco Unified School District  
Mele Lau Smith, San Francisco Unified School District  
Anabel Ibanez, United Educators of San Francisco



Supervisor Hillary Ronen

SFUSD recently announced plans to adjust the start times of more than 40 schools in the district, which will see changes between 30 minutes to over a full hour from their existing schedules. While these adjustments are being proposed with the intention of standardizing and streamlining school start times across grade levels, the changes have generated many questions and concerns about the consequences of these shifts in schedule.

Parents and caregivers often choose their school based on the school's specific start time in order to accommodate their work and life schedules. The unilateral change in start times could inadvertently drive away families if the changed start times no longer work for their personal schedules.

Moreover, it is unclear what impacts the changed start times will have on afterschool programs, whether such programs would be expected to run for a longer period of time at schools that are required to start earlier in the day, and who will bear the costs of these extended program times.

There are also outstanding questions about what motivated the district's decision to change start times, and whether established research around child development and age-appropriate start times supports staggering the times in the way that SFUSD is proposing.

I am calling a hearing to help SFUSD families and the general public understand what prompted the school district's decision to change school start times, what child development research or fiscal considerations justify these changes, how families, teachers, and other school stakeholders were consulted in determining the new start times, how the changes affect teachers' work schedules, and what impacts these changes have on afterschool program operating costs and staffing needs. The hearing will also provide an opportunity for directly impacted families to voice concerns and share recommendations about the start time changes.

I am directing the Clerk of the Board to invite representatives from the San Francisco Unified School District, School Board members, and the United Educators of San Francisco to attend.

# Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

Time stamp  
or meeting date

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).
- 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.
- 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.
- 4. Request for letter beginning : "Supervisor  inquiries"
- 5. City Attorney Request.
- 6. Call File No.  from Committee.
- 7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion).
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- 9. Reactivate File No.
- 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on

Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:

- Small Business Commission
- Youth Commission
- Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission
- Building Inspection Commission

**Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Form.**

Sponsor(s):

Ronen

Subject:

Hearing Request on SFUSD's School Start Time Changes

The text is listed:

See attached document.

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: