

From: [Arleen Y](#)
To: [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Questions about Earlier School Start Time
Date: Friday, June 11, 2021 12:12:40 PM

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In case it's not too late to have these questions addressed during this morning's hearing:

1) Why not hold off on the time changes until the 2022/23 school year, so the district could have time for public comment?

2) At Jefferson, the only children that take the school bus are IEP students. Why can't the earlier start time just be for the IEP students and keep the same start time for the rest of the school population? I have a mentally ill brother myself, so I certainly empathize with families who have children in IEP programs. If I had a child in an IEP program, I would feel horrible if the rest of the school (90%) were to change to an earlier start time to accommodate the IEP students.

3) If they are going to proceed with the new schedule this Fall, will they revisit the starting time issue again for the 2022/23 school year (at least for those schools with families who are not happy with the time change)? the K-5 schools with a new 7:50 start time and whose feeder middle schools have a 9:30 start time
This is a major problem for families with kids in an elementary school that will start at 7:50 and kids in a middle school that will begin at 9:30.

Thank you.

Arleen Yamayoshi-Wong

From: [Julie Mccord](#)
To: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Early Start times for June 11 meeting
Date: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 5:57:34 PM

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Hi,

Please reverse the decision on changed start times until there is time to collect community input and/or wait until parents can make choices based on the new times.

I am new to SFUSD. My daughter will start kindergarten at West Portal Elementary in August. I attended multiple sessions about how to navigate the lottery system, spoke to countless families and "attended" dozens of virtual tours and school meetings.

Every single step of the way, I was told to make sure to look at start times. I created a color-coded spreadsheet where 7:50am was least desirable (red) and 8:40 was most desirable (green).

I was thrilled to find out that we were accepted to West Portal in round 1. Only to find out after the round 2 deadline had already passed that the start time was changing from 8:40 to 7:50. This time is not feasible for our family schedule. This is not the way to build trust with parents and students.

Please accept this letter of discontent. **I ask you to appeal the decision to change start times until the community has had a chance to provide input or until the next lottery, to accommodate the schedules upon which current decisions were made.**

Thank you for your attention.
Julie McCord

From: [Mumm Family](#)
To: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: KEEP JEFFERSON ELEM START TIME AT 8:40A (NO on 7:50a)
Date: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 9:52:14 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Decision Makers,

I am writing to protest the unnecessary time change for Jefferson Elementary from 8:40a to 7:50a. Please leave us alone. Since 8:40a is already one of the 3 new consolidated start times, please let us just KEEP 8:40a and spare our children and parents.

Many parents like me, have kids that are in different schools (because the assignment system is **FLAWED**). And so when we make a decision to apply to one school because of another school that another child is already at, **START TIME** is taken into consideration. You **CANNOT** just rip the carpet from under our feet like this. Worse, you made this decision **WITHOUT** any regard to parent comments/considerations! This is cruel and this is NOT right.

Please keep Jefferson's start time at 8:40am (one of the 3 new consolidated start times). Getting up at the crack of dawn to get to school at 7:50am will **NEGATIVELY AFFECT** my child. It will **NEGATIVELY AFFECT** the parents. It will **NEGATIVELY AFFECT** the siblings. It will academically hurt my child's performance. I don't even know how he will eat breakfast everyday. The most important meal of the day will be skipped. Tired kids lead to poor academic performance. That \$3MM saving you keep trouting to justify this change will cost families MORE than that!!

Please **KEEP** Jefferson Elementary start time at 8:40am. The fate of our children/family is in **YOUR** hands.

The Mumm Family

(Resident of San Francisco since 1984, Proud immigrant, 1st Generation in America, Went to SF public schools my whole life, 2 kids in public schools now)

From: [Lisa Hardy](#)
To: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: New school times are unreasonable on working families
Date: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 10:21:18 PM

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I feel like the district have not taken into account all the parents that have a large transition times where 2 or more children will be attending elementary & middle school. This sounds so ill thought out. We have a 10-15 minute drive to Jefferson alone, then will have to drive another child entering middle school 10-15 minutes further away. Over an hour and a half between drop off times is unacceptable and a huge disruption to parents who need to work. What do we do?

This would be my actual schedule:

1. Drive kid 1 to school 1, leave house at 7:30 am
2. Drive back home by 8:10 am
3. Stay at home for 45-50 min
4. Drive kid 2 to school 2, leave house at 9:00 am
5. Drive back to house, get back at 9:50 am
6. Work for 2 hrs/get lunch, then drive to pick up kid 1 at 12:30 pm
7. Go back to house, work an hour or so then go pick up kid 2
8. Drive back to home & try to get in a couple hours of work between helping with homework, making dinner, getting kids to bed on time
9. Work until 10-11 to make up for time wasted traveling between school pick up/drop off

10 am is the starting point for your job IF you work from home. What about the parents who need to actually take public transport to their office, tacking on another 30-40 minutes commute? Then on Wednesday you work for an hour and half before having to pick your kid up again at 12:30? There are no other families around me to even pool resources for a drive share.

A lot of parents choose their schools with specific start times to accommodate their schedules/sleeping habits of their kids. To suddenly take this away without any discussion is a huge slap in the face to already overburdened parents trying to make it in the city, especially after the last year we have had.

Not to mention that as kids get older they chemically start becoming more night owls. It's been difficult getting my oldest up for these early days, so to have to get her up way early and have her just attend before school (if they even offer it) to accommodate the district's needs only is unfairly one-sided. This not only affects parents, but teachers, staff support and how THEY have to drop off their kids too.

The district wants to reduce transportation costs, but have the parents transportation costs skyrocket in mileage/fuel/lost work time? There are other parents who drive even farther to get their kids to school and will be in the same predicament as I will be. Where I grew up we had buses for ALL students. Our parents were not forced to drive our kids to school and pick us up, so the fact we have to already do that is a huge issue also.

How is a parent supposed to maintain a career at this rate, especially when the district decides to randomly make ONE day shorter too and throw that in the mix? Parents need consistency in order to survive in the city and this is just one more time the district has failed parents and the kids, and will most likely force yet more families out of the city for ineptness on their part.

Also, there is NO clarity on if Beacon is even going to be open at middle school. I have written the administrator over there and there is no word yet if they can be open. If SFUSD has decided to open the doors to all the students then surely we can get the after and before care sorted out so stressed out parents know they can have their kids safely at school all day while they are trying to work.

I know I and a ton of other parents, including teachers are really upset about this and so I write in protest to this decision.

These are the questions the families of Jefferson Elementary want answered by the school board:

1.
If the main reason for making these mandated accommodations were for the sake of middle/high school students getting more sleep, what impact does it have on middle schoolers who have younger siblings who attend schools starting at 7:50? Older students must now wake up earlier than what they originally did in elementary and attend before school care for families where both parents need to work before the 9:30 start time for older children. This causes families in this situation to have an older child not receiving the “benefits” of this change, causes them to have a much longer day at school, and increases care costs for the families.
2.
Have there been studies on the earlier start time for kids in Special Day classes & how they are affected? Jefferson has quite a few Special Day classes to consider.
3.
Have there been any studies on the extra costs to parents with kids in elementary & middle school with significant start time differences in terms of extra gas, car maintenance, environmental factors/costs, traffic congestion, parking issues, possible vehicle accidents due to tired/irritated/running late parents, loss of work hours and/or job loss?
4.
With the upset in times changing, why add in ANOTHER schedule change by Wednesday as an earlier departure time? We have had some practice with this already during hybrid and it is very disruptive.
5.
Why specifically did Jefferson’s start time roll back earlier when it already was slotted as 1 of the 3 supported times by the district? A large majority of families chose Jefferson BECAUSE of the start time.
6.
Why are there 2 other schools very close to Jefferson that got the 8:40 slot, yet Jefferson didn’t?
7.
We are an all-city school. What is the impact of having families start their days an

hour earlier?

8. Will our teachers get free parking permits? What is the financial impact of giving teachers/staff free parking permits they may need depending on the area they teach in?
9. Has there been a study of the impact this has on families, teachers and staff on the access to public transport to accommodate earlier times? I.e., would there even be public transport readily operating for people who need it throughout the city? Are there any increased risk factors in getting sick with different strains of Covid/flu or other safety issues using this transport? Families, teachers & staff (who are heavily female) who have to take transport an hour earlier could have safety considerations because it is really dark in the winter.
10. Can our teachers/staff accommodate these new start times with their own children?
11. Why was Dr. Gibson given no reign to have the community be able to have any input in this change?
12. Can these changes happen next year so families have time to make arrangements for them?
13. Will the district mandate affordable and mandatory before and after school care faculty to accommodate ALL families that attend that school?
14. WHO ultimately is responsible for these changes being made? WHO can we directly talk to about changing this?
15. Some schools have no before or after care at their facility. How will you be accommodating those families who may need it now that there are time changes?
16. Can elementary schools and their feeder schools be reassigned together so that there is not such a huge time difference between the two so families do not have so much back & forth with drop off/pick up?
17. Will there be a follow up study to see how families are affected? I.e. job loss, moving out of the city, changing schools, extra cost of paying for care, physical & mental toll

lisa hardy

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From: [Odette LeFebre](#)
To: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public comment for June 11 meeting: Early start time
Date: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 9:58:15 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Mr. Jalipa,

Please find following my submission for public comments for the June 11 meeting, agenda item: early start times.

Could the early start times be paused until this can be socialized better? I applaud your decision to have a later start time for the older students. However, switching elementary schools to an earlier start time without any community input is shocking. I understand that you want to save money on busses, but this decision was not thought through, specifically:

- parents choose schools based on start time, but the change was announced AFTER the applications were due.
- children will not have time to eat breakfast, which will impact their well being and their ability to learn.
- after care programs were not consulted, and early reports indicate this may raise child care costs
- parents with two children have to balance two start times. Example: the middle school feeder to my daughter's elementary school will start almost 2 hours after the elementary school
- children who have to take busses to schools with early start times will have to wake up incredibly early
- tardy rates are going to sky rocket
- working parents were not consulted.
- teachers and principals were not consulted
- yet another reason that parents are losing faith in SFUSD; this will drive children to private schools

Here's my personal reason: my daughter has a health condition that means sleep is very important to her well being. An hour less of sleep would have negative consequences for her health. Also, she absolutely must eat breakfast before leaving the house.

Please pause implementing this change. Please establish a committee to study the impact of early start times and, if necessary, implement/announce changes early enough so parents can adapt in time.

Thanks and kind regards,

Sara Norwick