# Changing School Start/Dismissal Times

In November 2021, Sun Prairie Area School District administration followed the recommendation of the Secondary Boundary and Bell Time Task Force to change school bell times beginning in the 2022-2023 school year.

## Why are we changing bell times for our schools?

- Sleep science research shows that later start times for middle and high school students have a positive impact on achievement, attendance, and behavior.

- Due to the national and local bus driver shortage, the District must have tiered bus routes beginning in 2022-2023. For this to work, there needs to be at least 50 minutes between tiers.

- This change addresses safety concerns with student arrivals and departures for schools that are very close to each other.

## Suggestions for Families

- Start planning for the change now.

- Talk with other families about how they will adapt to different start and end times.

- Be sure to develop safety plans for students – the who, what, where, when, how for things such as late or missed pickups or drop-offs and other safety issues relevant to your family.

- The District is exploring additional after school childcare options with community partners (YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, Parks & Recreation, Community Schools)

- Work with your School Community Organization to brainstorm ideas for students and families.

# 2022-2023
## New start/dismissal times

### 4 Year Old Kindergarten
**District Sites**
**Start:** 7:40 am / 11:42 am
**Dismissal:** 10:23 am / 2:40 pm
**Early Release:** Thursdays at 1:30 pm

**Partner Sites**
**Start:** 7:50 am / 11:32 am
**Dismissal:** 10:33 am / 2:30 pm
**Early Release:** Thursdays at 1:20 pm

### Elementary School (Grades K-5)
**Start:** 7:40 am
**Dismissal:** 2:40 pm
**Early Release:** Thursdays at 1:30 pm

### Middle School (Grades 6-8)
**Start:** 8:25 am
**Dismissal:** 3:35 pm

### High School (Grades 9-12)
**Start:** 8:35 am
**Dismissal:** 3:45 pm

### Prairie Phoenix Academy
**Start:** 8:45 am
**Dismissal:** 3:20 pm

## Need More Information?

Visit our website by scanning the QR Code with your phone's camera:

Sun Prairie Area School District
Futures depend on us...every child, every day.