Please click the link below to join the webinar: https://worcesterschools.zoom.us/j/83462022833?pwd=WXo1blBRekVPY0NDb0hV N0FJODZwZz09 Passcode: 482157 Telephone: US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 Webinar ID: 834 6202 2833

The following items will be discussed at the virtual meeting of the Standing Committee on School and Student Performance to be held on Monday, March 29, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building:

<u>gb #1-92 - Mr. Monfredo (March 10, 2021)</u>

Request that the Administration establish an advisory committee to include personnel, community representatives and experts in the field of student health to discuss a later starting time for secondary students, or move the time forward by 30 minutes for everyone.

Motion ros #1-3 - Mr. Monfredo (January 7, 2021)

Request that the Administration consider forming a committee to study the feasibility of changing the secondary school start time to 8:00 a.m. and provide a report to the full committee in the first week of March.

<u>Committee Members</u> Tracy O'Connell-Novick, Chair Dianna L. Biancheria, Vice-Chair Laura Clancey <u>Administrative</u> <u>Representative</u> Christina Kuriacose

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS 20 IRVING STREET WORCESTER, MA 01609

AGENDA #1

The Standing Committee on SCHOOL AND STUDENT PERFORMANCE will hold a virtual meeting:

- on: Monday, March 29, 2021
- at: 4:30 p.m.
- in: Room 410, Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>
- II. <u>ROLL CALL</u>
- III. <u>GENERAL BUSINESS</u>

<u>gb #8-54</u> - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria (February 2, 2018)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the accountability changes made by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

gb #8-179 - Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo (May 30, 2018)

Request that the Administration provide a report on suspensions.

gb #8-180 - Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo (May 30, 2018)

To consider establishing a committee, in conjunction with the Administration, to reduce school suspensions.

<u>gb #0-30 - Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Foley/Ms.</u> <u>McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick (January 8, 2020)</u>

Request that the Standing Committee on School and Student Performance monitor the benchmarks and metrics for the district, and in particular the new investment under the Student Opportunity Act, to gauge the success of our work and to identify the challenges still facing the district.

SSP 3-29-21 Page 2

gb #0-87 -Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Foley/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick (February 26, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding the feasibility of offering a Drug Education Program to students in lieu of suspension.

gb #0-232 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Foley/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo (July 7, 2020)

To consider the Worcester Regional Research Bureau's July 2020 report <u>"Broadening</u> <u>Broadband"</u>.

gb #0-311 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough (September 23, 2020)

Request administration clarify school arrest data as reported to the state for the 2018-19 school year.

gb #0-312 - Ms. Novick (September 23, 2020)

To review the recently released Citizens for Juvenile Justice and Strategies for Youth report <u>"Fail: School Policing in Massachusetts."</u>

<u>gb #0-353 - Administration (November 10, 2020)</u>

To consider input from the School Committee's student representatives.

Request that the Administration consider sharing weekly student check-in survey responses with the School Committee. (Jasmine Owusu)

<u>gb #0-290.2</u> - <u>Administration/Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough</u> (November 3, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to clarify under what circumstances students will be suspended during remote learning and what suspension will consist of during that time.

gb #0-347.1 - Administration/Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough (January 19, 2021)

Response of the Administration to the request to propose for School Committee deliberation and decision alternative methods for determining admission to limited admission programs and schools in light of the lack of 2020 MCAS data.

SSP 3-29-21 Page 3

<u>gb #1-92 - Mr. Monfredo (March 10, 2021)</u>

Request that the Administration establish an advisory committee to include personnel, community representatives and experts in the field of student health to discuss a later starting time for secondary students, or move the time forward by 30 minutes for everyone.

Motion ros #1-3 - Mr. Monfredo (January 7, 2021)

Request that the Administration consider forming a committee to study the feasibility of changing the secondary school start time to 8:00 a.m. and provide a report to the full committee in the first week of March.

IV. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

Helen A. Friel, Ed.D. Clerk of the School Committee

STANDING COMMITTEE: SCHOOL AND STUDENT PERFORMANCE

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, March 29, 2021

ITEM: Mr. Monfredo (March 10, 2021)

Request that the Administration establish an advisory committee to include personnel, community representatives and experts in the field of student health to discuss a later starting time for secondary students, or move the time forward by 30 minutes for everyone.

PRIOR ACTION:

3-18-21 - On a roll call of 6-0-1 (absent Ms. Novick due to connectivity issues), the item was referred to the Standing Committee on School and Student Performance.

BACKUP:

The following are links that Chairman Novick provided regarding research on later start times.

<u>School Start Time and Psychological Health in Adolescents</u> (2018) Aaron T. Berger, Rachel Widome & Wendy M. Troxel

<u>Rise and Shine: The Effect of School Start Times on Academic Performance from Childhood</u> <u>through Puberty</u> (2017) Jennifer A. Heissel and Samuel Norris

<u>Relationships between school start time, sleep duration, and adolescent behaviors</u> (2017) Kyla L.Wahlstrom PhD, Aaron T.Berger MPH, Rachel Widome PhD, MHS

Embracing the School Start Later Movement: Adolescent Sleep Deprivation as a Public Health and Social Justice Problem (2018) Lauren Hale, PhD, corresponding author and Wendy Troxel, PhD

Later School Start Times in the U.S.: An Economic Analysis (2017) Hafner, Marco; Stepanek, Martin; Troxel, Wendy M.

<u>School Start Times, Delinquency, and Substance Use: A Criminological Perspective</u> (2019) Daniel C. Semenza, Ryan C. Meldrum, Dylan B. Jackson, Michael G. Vaughn, Alex R. Piquero <u>High school start times and student achievement: Looking beyond test scores</u> (2019) Matthew Lenard, Melinda SandlerMorrill, John Westall

Annex A (19 pages) contains a copy of the School Start Time Study, Technical Report, Volume II: Analysis of Student Survey Data.

Annex B (2 pages) contains a copy of articles regarding later start times.

ANNEX A gb 1-92 and Motion 1-3 Page 1

School Start Time Study

Technical Report, Volume II: Analysis of Student Survey Data

The Center for Applied Research & Educational Improvement University of Minnesota

Executive Summary

The initial purpose of this study was to discover and examine the array of factors to be considered by a school district relative to changing the start time for high schools. The study was developed in response to a request by school superintendents from two member school districts of the Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement (CAREI) at the University of Minnesota. Ultimately, the administrative and financial support of 17 participating CAREI member districts was obtained. A sample of 7,168 students was drawn from a total student population of 66,394 in the 17 districts.

This report, the second in an anticipated series of reports, focuses primarily on data obtained from three of the 17 Minnesota school districts that responded to the School Sleep Habits Survey developed by the Bradley Hospital at Brown University School of Medicine. The main purpose of this study was to discover any differences in student responding to a sleep habits survey between a district that had changed its school start time to a later time and two districts that maintained an earlier start time. The implementation of a later high school start time by District A when compared to two similar districts that maintained an earlier start time, Districts B and C, produced significant differences in student responses to the School Sleep Habits Survey.

High school students in District A report not going to bed much later than students at the two other demographically similar schools, while they get up roughly an hour later. That is, students in District A, as a group, are getting a full hour more sleep than students at the two similar schools with earlier start times. This difference in amount of sleep was found to be related to students' reports of how they feel and perform during the school day. District A students reported less overall sleepiness, less daytime sleepiness, less erratic sleep behaviors, and less depressive feelings and behaviors when compared to students in the early start time schools. Students in District A reported getting higher grades. The observed effects appear, to some extent, to be related to simply getting more sleep.

Students in District A did not report a restriction in their participation in extracurricular activities and sports. However, District A students did report significantly less time working in a job. This may be related to the later school dismissal time or it may be a factor of some other community norm. This finding deserves more careful study.

Students in District A's middle school get a little less sleep than middle school students in Districts B and C and report slightly higher levels of sleepiness, erratic sleep behavior, and depressive feelings and behaviors than reported by students getting more sleep in Districts B and C. This result is consistent with the results obtained at the high school level. This finding also supports the contention that the student populations in the three districts are similar in terms of community norms and other variables which were not directly controlled for in this research.

This study only touched on individual differences within the student populations. The original study conducted by Bradley Hospital categorized students as either morning, in-between, or evening subjects. When examining the data from the 17 Minnesota schools, significant differences were observed between these groups. Students who are owls (naturally more alert and active in the evening) tend to report more depressive feelings and behaviors, are sleepier during the day, and have more erratic sleep behaviors than larks (naturally more alert and active in the morning). Even though owls report being sleepier during the day, they actually report getting about the same amount of sleep at night as do larks. This finding raises a host of questions related to the importance of individual differences and school start time. Later school start times may not benefit all students.

Several questions emerged from the research team which focused on employment and participation in extracurricular activities. The observed differences relative to grades and employment and/or extracurricular activities were not substantial either in a positive or negative direction. Two questions did provide significant differences. Erratic sleep/wake behaviors were related to reports of lower grades and more depressive feelings and behaviors. The report of more frequent sleepiness was related to reports of more depressive feelings and behaviors. The Minnesota sample proved to be remarkably similar to the original Rhode Island sample. As students age, the amount of reported school night sleep decreases. Students who go to bed earlier on school nights, and consequently, get more sleep report higher grades in school. Taken as a whole, the analyses in this report appear to support the contention that later school start times for high school students, as a group, is beneficial. A later school start time appeared to be related to be treated to be treated to be related to be related

Introduction

This is the second in an anticipated series of reports to be generated from the Minnesota application of the School Sleep Habits Survey developed by the Bradley Hospital at Brown University School of Medicine. This survey was administered to a sample of 7,168 students in 17 Minneapolis/St. Paul area school districts with a total student population of 66,394. These analyses and this report are in follow-up to the School Start Time Final Report Summary (CAREI, January, 1997).

This report is organized around data tables derived from the statistical analyses which were applied to the student survey sample. This has proven to be a very rich data set and it is anticipated that other analyses will be conducted in the future. The discussion accompanying each table is prepared so as to highlight critical findings. Readers are encouraged to examine all of the data contained in the tables. These data will certainly raise other important questions deserving study.

There are four components to the current effort. Of primary interest is the comparison of student survey responses from a district that changed its high school start time to a later time with those of two similar school districts that maintained an earlier start time. All three of these school districts were similar in terms of standard demographic information such as: socioeconomic status, racial and ethnic diversity, and school population size.

In a second component of the study, survey responses from middle schools students in these same three districts are compared in an effort to control for the absence of random assignment of students to the school start time condition. These analyses allowed an examination of pre-existing differences in the three communities.

The third component is made up of a set of questions of interest derived by the research team. A separate set of analyses was completed beyond those which were reported as part of the earlier School Start Time Final Report Summary (CAREI, January, 1997). These analyses utilized the total sample of 17 school districts and provided an opportunity to pose additional questions.

Finally, results from this Minnesota sample are compared with results from the original study which used the same survey instrument with a sample of Rhode Island students.

On the following pages are the data tables for each of the four components of this study. Each table is followed by a brief discussion of key findings reported in each table. It is important to note that the data is self-report data. Self-report data is subject to responder bias. To this point the self-report data such as grades or school attendance have not been verified for this particular instrument. However, the reliability of self-report data within an adequate sample size is generally considered sufficiently reliable for statistical analysis. Ultimately, the data reported here are expected to accurately reflect the opinion of the students responding.

School Week Sleep Patterns: Comparison of Mean Scores for Three Demographically Similar High Schools (grades 10-12)

Table 1:Districts and Start Times

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Items/Scales from Sleep Survey	District A 8:30am	District B 7:25am	District C 7:15am	All 17 School Districts	
School Day Rise Time	7:06am1	6:08am2	5:58am3	6:11 am	
School Night Bedtime]1:21pml	11:20pm1	11:09pml	11:08 pm	
School Night Sleep Total	7 hrs, 46 min1	6 hrs, 47 min2	6 hrs, 48 min2	7 hrs, 2 min	
Daytime Sleepiness	2.101	2.452	2.973	2.50	
Sleepiness Scale (#43)	14.861	15.861	17.742	16.56	
Struggled to stay awake or fallen asleep (school related items from #43):					
reading, studying, doing homework	1.951	2.121	2.612	2.23	
during a test	1.211	1.341	1.572	1.44	
in a class at school	1.981	2.24ns	2.482	2.38	
while doing work on a computer or typewriter	1.171	1.32ns	1.422	1.31	
Sleep Behavior Scale (#45)	19.191	21.022	22.843	21.71	
In the last two weeks, how of	en have you (#4	46):			
arrived late to class because you overslept	1.491	1.912	2.022	1.71	
fallen asleep in a morning class	1.571	1.952	2.012	2.02	
fallen asleep in an afternoon class	1.451	1.70ns	1.852	1.84	
Depression Scale (#46)	9.961	10.431	11.432	10.59	
Days Home Sick Over 2- weeks (#21)	0.281	0.421	0.471	0.40	

NOTE: Different superscript values indicate a statistically significant difference between row means at p < .05. "ns" superscripts indicate that this district's mean is not significantly different from either of the other two district means (e.g., for item "School Day Rise Time" each of the three means are significantly different from each other; for the sub-item "struggled to stay awake in class at school" District B was not significantly different from either District A or C, but District A is significantly different from District C).

Discussion of Table 1: School Week Sleep Patterns

Items and scales from the Bradley Hospital School Sleep Habits Survey were analyzed using one-way ANOVA's to see if there were any statistically significant differences between the three high schools. Most notably, we were looking for differences between District A, the district that changed to a later school start time, and Districts B and C which maintained an earlier start time. Because students could not be randomly assigned to schools with different start times, this is not a true experiment. Thus, one needs to be cautious about stating that the later start time in District A caused students to be less sleepy and less depressed. Other factors, such as community norms in District A, may be a more powerful causal agent than differences in sleep and sleep habits. Despite this limitation, the observed differences in responding between students in the three districts provides a rich ground for speculation concerning the importance of sleep in relation to the self-reported performance of high school students.

High school students in District A reported going to bed at about the same time as students in Districts B and C, [F(2,411)=0.58, ns]. However, students in District A report getting up much later [F(2,434)=223.82, p < .0001]. This allows these students to get an hour more sleep each night [F(2,411)=15.06, p < .0001].

One of the possible benefits of this extra sleep is that students in District A report being less "sleepy." There are many different measures of "sleepiness" in the School Sleep Habits Survey. One such measure (item 37) asks students "during your daytime activities, how much of a problem do you have with sleepiness (feeling sleepy, struggling to stay awake)?" Students in District A reported less daytime sleepiness than students in the other two districts [F(2,434)=31.91, p<.0001]. A second measure of sleepiness in the survey is the sleepiness scale, where students respond to whether or not they have struggled to stay awake in 10 different situations (item 43). Students in Districts A and B report much less overall sleepiness than students in District C [F(2,380)=17.07, p < .0001]. Although students in District A report less overall sleepiness than District B, the difference was not statistically significant.

Four of the sub-items in item 43 (Sleepiness) were analyzed separately because they specifically pertained to situations occurring in an educational environment. Students in Districts A and B reported less sleepiness while studying [F(2,424)=17.80, p < .0001] and while taking tests [F(2,417)=12.01, p < .0001] than students in District C. Students in District A also were less sleepy in class [F(2,417)=10.55, p < .0001] and while working on a computer [F(2,420)=6.73, p < .01] than students in District C.

Another scale in the sleep habits survey measures students' erratic sleep behaviors (item 45). Students in District A reported less erratic sleep behaviors than students in Districts B and C [F(2,400)=13.22, p<.0001]. Three of the sub-items from item 45 were analyzed separately because they directly related to in-school behavior. Students from District A reported being less likely to arrive late to class because of oversleeping [F(2,428)=8.39, p<.001] and were less likely to fall asleep in a morning class [F(2,424)=6.00, p<.005] than students in Districts B and C. Students from District A also reported being less likely to fall asleep in an afternoon class than students in District C [F(2,422)=5.76, p<.005].

Finally, the sleep survey contains a scale that measures feelings and behaviors often associated with depression. The survey was not designed to be a diagnostic tool in terms of mental status. In the original survey the sub-items in item 46 were clustered under the heading "depression." While the responses do suggest differences between districts concerning these feelings and behaviors, there may or may not be a relation to a clinical diagnosis of depression. Caution should be used in interpreting this item. Students in Districts A and B reported less depressive feelings and behaviors than students in District C [F(2,412)=11.49, p<.0001].

On each of the measures of sleepiness, sleep behavior, and depressive feelings and behaviors District A reported significantly less concern than District C. Only on the daytime sleepiness and erratic sleep behavior measures did District A students report significantly less difficulty than students in District B. However, of the three districts, District A always had the lowest (better) score on each measure (see Figures 1 & 2 for a graphic illustration of these trends).





Note: Survey response options were given ordinal numeric values 0 to 3 for this figure.





Note: Survey response options were given ordinal numeric values 0 to 3 for this figure.

Figure 3: Student Responses to Sleepiness Items, Erratic Sleep Behavior, and Depression by School District



Note: Scores on the three "scales" (sleepiness, sleep behavior, and depression) were all converted to a 5-point scale for this graph.

Academic Achievement: Comparison of Mean Scores for Three Demographically Similar High Schools (grades 10-12)

Table	2:	Districts	and	Start	Times
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Items/Scales from Sleep Survey	District A 8:30am	District B 7:25am	District C 7:15am	All 17 School Districts
Hours of Homework School Week	8 hrs, 37 minl	4 hrs, 40 min2	7 hrs, 15 minl	5 hrs, 33 min
Hours of Homework Weekend	3 hrs, 5 min1	1 hr, 56 min2	2 hrs, 56 minl	2 hrs, 8 min
Self-reported Grades	7.081	6.502	6.372	6.12

NOTE: Different superscript values indicate a statistically significant difference between row means at p < .05.

Discussion of Table 2: Student Academic Achievement

Students in District A report getting higher grades than did students in Districts B and C. There are many possible factors to be considered, one of which may be the extra hour of sleep. It may also be that District A has more grade inflation than the other schools. Part of the difference obtained could be due to students in District A spending more time doing homework than students at the other two schools. The observation that District A students report studying more than students in the other two district could be a result of

something within District A's community and not be related to the later start time. This seems to be the case as the middle school students at District A also study more than students in the two other districts. District A's middle school starts earlier than the middle schools in Districts B and C. Without baseline information (prior year's grades and/or standardized test results) it is difficult to determine if the increase in sleep is increasing student achievement. This is a noteworthy finding which warrants more study.

Weekend Sleep Patterns: Comparison of Mean Scores for Three Demographically Similar High Schools (grades 10-12)

Table 3: Districts and Start Times

Items/Scales from Sleep Survey	District A 8:30am	District B 7:25am	District C 7:15am	All 17 School Districts
Weekend Rise Time	10:00am1	10:30am1	10:15aml	10:06 am
Weekend Bedtime	1:07am1	1:28aml	1:13am1	1:23 am
Weekend Sleep Total	8 hrs, 54 minl	9 hrs, 2 minl	9 hrs, 1 min1	8 hrs, 44 min
Weekend Oversleep (weekend total sleep - school night total sleep)	l hr, 12 minl	2 hrs, 23 min2	2 hrs, 16 min2	1 hr, 43 min
Weekend Delay (weekend bedtime - school night bedtime)	l hr, 47 minl	2 hrs, 6 minl	l hr, 59 minl	2 hrs, 14 min

NOTE: Different superscript values indicate a statistically significant difference between row means at p < .05.

Discussion of Table 3: Weekend Sleep Patterns

Students in District A do report similar weekend sleep patterns as compared to students in the other two districts. Thus, it appears that even though students in District A are getting extra sleep during the week, they still feel the need for more sleep on the weekends. The reason why their "Weekend Oversleep" score is so much lower than students in the other two Districts [F(2,374)=5.72, p<.005] is because they are getting more sleep during the week, not because they are sleeping in less on the weekend.

After School Activities: Comparison of Mean Scores for Three Demographically Similar High Schools (grades 10-12)

Table 4: Districts and Start Times

Items/Scales from Sleep Survey	District A 8:30am	District B 7:25am	District C 7:15am	All 17 School Districts
Hours of WorkSchool	2 hrs, 42	5 hrs, 45	5 hrs, 51	6 hrs, 52
Week	min1	min2	min2	min
Hours of WorkWeekend	3hrs, 34	3 hrs, 44	4 hrs, 42	5 hrs, 41
	minl	min1	minl	min
Hours of Homework	8 hrs, 37	4 hrs, 40	7 hrs, 15	5 hrs, 33
School Week	min1	min2	min1	min
Hours of Homework	3 hrs, 5	1 hr, 56	2 hrs, 56	2 hrs, 8 min
Weekend	min1	min2	minl	
Self-reported Grades	7.081	6.502	6.372	6.12
Hours of Organized Sports	3 hrs, 16	4 hrs, 14	3 hrs, 10	3 hrs, 29
School Week	minl	minl	minl	min
Hours of Organized Sports	1 hr, 20	1 hr, 25	l hr, 13	1 hr, 11 min
Weekend	minl	minl	minl	
Hours of Extra- curricular	2 hrs, 44	1 hr, 32	2 hrs, 48	1 hr, 44 min
Activities School Week	min1	min2	min1	
Hours of Extra- curricular Activities Weekend	1 hr, 3 min1	l hr, 11 minl	1 hr, 29 minl	l hr, 2 min

NOTE: Different superscript values indicate a statistically significant difference between row means at p < .05.

Discussion of Table 4: After School Activities

For the most part, the later start time for District A does not seem to be restricting student participation in after school activities such as organized sports and extracurricular activities. However, students in District A do report working at a job much less during the school week than do students in other school districts. This could be a result of getting out of school later in the day. But it could also be possible that the norm for students in this school district is to not work as much during the school week. Because we have no toooline on this high school and because mudic school students typically do not work much during the school students to work less.

Comparison of Mean Scores for Three Demographically Similar Middle Schools (grades 7-8)

Table 5: Schools and Start Times

Items/Scales from Sleep Survey	District A 7:35 am	District B 8:00 am	District C 8:00 am	All 17 School Districts
School Day Rise Time	6:14 am 1	6:29 amns	6:37 am2	6:22am
School Night Bedtime	10:10 pm1	10:09 pm1	10:02 pm1	10:07pm
School Night Sleep Total	8 hrs, 4 minl	8 hrs, 21 minns	8 hrs, 36 min2	8 hrs, 16 min
Daytime Sleepiness (#37)	2.281	1.942	2.07 ns	2.16
Sleepiness Scale (#45)	14.261	13.531	14.141	14.54
Struggled to stay awake or fallen aslee	p (school relate	ed items from	#45):	
reading, studying, doing homework	1.751	1.462	1.72ns	1.76
during a test	1.271	1.141	1.251	1.31
in a class at school	1.701	1.422	1.55ns	1.72
while doing work on a computer or typewriter	1.321	1.152	1.22ns	1.24
Sleep Behavior Scale (#43)	19.101	17.072	17.53ns	19.08
Depression Scale (#46)	9.851	8.872	9.34ns	9.65
Weekend Rise Time	9:58 am l	9:19 am2	9:41 amns	9:40 am
Weekend Bedtime	11:50 pm1	11:37 pm1	12:17 am1	12:11 am
Weekend Sleep Total	10 hrs, 10min1	9 hrs, 43 min1	9 hrs, 27 minl	9 hr, 29 min
Weekend Oversleep	2 hrs, 4min1	1 hr, 20 minns	53 min2	1 h r , 14 min
Weekend Delay	l hr, 40 minns	1 hr, 23 min1	2 hrs, 19 min2	2 hrs, 3 min
Hours of WorkSchool Week	38 minl	34 min l	29 min1	50 min
Hours of WorkWeekend	44 min1	1 hr, 16 min1	59 min1	1 hr, 14 min
Hours of Homework School Week	6 hrs, 44 min1	3 hrs, 20 min2	3 hrs, 30 min2	4 hrs, 16 min
Hours of Homework Weekend	2 hrs, 31 min1	1 hr, 20 min2	1 hr, 30 min2	1 hr, 39 min
Self-reported Grades	6.661	6.911	6.601	6.44
Hours of Organized SportsSchool Week	2 hrs, 16 min1	3 hrs, 13 min1	2 hrs, 12 min1	2 hrs, 49 min
Hours of Organized SportsWeekend	1 hr, 38 min1	1 hr, 48 min1	1 hr, 14 min1	1 hr, 23 min
Hours of Extra- curricular Activities School Week	1 hr, 28 min1	47 min1	53 minns	1 hr, 12 min
Hours of Extra- curricular Activities Weekend	40 min1	26 min1	38 min l	44 min

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Note: Different superscript values indicate a statistically significant difference between row means at p < .05. "ns" superscripts indicate that this district's mean is not significantly different from either of the other two district means (e.g., for item "Daytime Sleepiness" the mean for District A is significantly different District B as indicated by the different values in the superscript; for the item "School Day Rise Time" District B was not significantly different from either District A is significantly different from either District A or C, but District A is significantly different than District C).

Discussion of Table 5: Middle School Comparisons

Of these middle schools, students in District A, unlike at the high school level, actually started school earlier than students in Districts B and C. If middle school students in District A report less sleepiness, erratic sleep behaviors, and depressive feelings and behaviors than middle school students in Districts B and C, this finding would support that lower scores on these measures by the high school students in District A may be more a function of community norms, or some other factor than simply getting more sleep.

The middle school students in District A reported getting less sleep than middle school students in Districts B and C, and had the highest (worse) scores on measures of sleepiness, erratic sleep behaviors, and depressive feelings and behaviors. This finding lends support to the contention that the later start time for the high school students in District A, which resulted in an increased amount of reported sleep, did help reduce daytime sleepiness, erratic sleep behaviors, and depressive feelings and behaviors.

All 17 School Districts: Effects of a Student's Degree of Morningness/Eveningness (items 47-56)

Items and Scales	Owls	In Between	Larks
Depression	11.281	10.162	9.143
Sleepiness (#43)	17.431	15.712	14.133
Sleep Behavior Scale (#45)	23.391	20.572	18.053
School Night Sleep Total	7 hrs, 35 min1	7 hrs, 35 minl	7 hrs, 28 minl
School Day Rise Time	6:14 am1	6:16 aml	6:10 am2
School Night Bedtime	10:38 pm1	10:41 pml	10:42 pm1
Weekend Night Sleep Total	9 hrs, 20 min1	9 hrs, 5 min2	8 hrs, 41 min3
Weekend Rise Time	10:11 am1	9:56 am2	9:38 am3
Weekend Bedtime	12:53 am l	12:52 am1	12:59 am 1
Weekend Oversleep	l hr, 47 minl	l hr, 34 minl	1 hr, 13 min2
Weekend Delay	2 hrs, 12 minl	2 hrs, 8 min l	2 hrs, 16 minl

Table 6

Note: Different superscript values indicate a statistically significant difference between row means at p < .05.

Discussion of Table 6: Momingness/Eveningness Scale

For this analysis, all surveyed students' morningness/eveningness scores were calculated and the resulting distribution was broken into thirds: owls (evening people), in-between (students in the middle third of the distribution) and larks (morning people).

Students who are owls tend to report more depressive feelings and behaviors, are sleepier during the day, and have more erratic sleep behaviors than larks. Notice that even though owls report being sleepier during the day, they actually report getting about the same amount of sleep at night as do larks. One possible explanation for these differences between owls and larks is that the early school start times disrupts owls' circadian rhythms more, while these start times fit more naturally into the larks' circadian rhythm schedule.

Sleep Survey: Further Analyses

Further correlational analyses were conducted on the complete Minnesota data set (all 17 participating school districts). Correlational results are provided after each question. Because the data set had such a large sample (N=7168), many small correlations will be statistically significant. Some of the correlations are extremely small, which means they explain very little of the variation between the variables, yet they are still statistically significant. These correlations are noted below as being statistically significant, but not very meaningful. For example, the correlation between sports participation and grades is .08. By squaring this correlation one can find its true meaning, because this correlation squared tells you the amount of variance that can be explained in the students grades by knowing how much they participate in sports. In this example, only 0.64% of the variance in grades can be explained by sport participation. This is not very meaningful information.

When examining these results, one should also note that many of the correlations with students' self-reported grades are small. This is most likely due to the restriction in range present in the self-reported grades. As is shown in Table 8, most students report getting mostly A's and B's. When a distribution is skewed to one end as it is on this variable, there exists little variability and, thus, the ability of true correlations to be revealed is restricted. In other words, if one were to examine the relationship of these same variables with the students' actual grade point averages, one would probably find somewhat higher correlations.

What is the relationship between employment after school and grades? There is a statistically significant, though small, negative correlation (r=-.18, p<.001) between the number of hours worked during the week and grades. The more hours worked the lower the grades.

What is the relationship between employment during the weekend and grades? Again, there is a statistically significant, though small, negative correlation (r=.13, p<.001) between the number of hours worked during the weekend and grades. The more hours worked the lower the grades. What is the relationship between participation in sports and grades? There is a statistically significant, though very small, positive correlation (r=.08, p<.001) between the number of hours sport in organized sports during a 7-day week and grades. This is a good example of a result being statistically significant but not very meaningful. This seems to indicate that participation in organized sports does not hurt a student's academic progress.

What is the relationship between participation in extracurricular activities other than sports and grades? Similar to the sports result above, a statistically significant positive correlation exists but it is not very meaningful (r=.08, p<.001). Again, participation in extracurricular activities is not detrimental to academic performance.

What is the relationship between employment and participation in athletics and other extracurricular activities? Surprisingly, there is no relationship between number of hours worked and number of hours spent participating in either athletics (r=.02, ns) or other extracurricular activities (r=.01, ns). What is the relationship between employment and depressive feelings and behaviors? Students who work more hours tend to report more depressive feelings and behaviors. This relationship is statistically significant, though small (r=.14, p<.001).

What is the relationship between participation in athletics and other extracurricular activities and depressive feelings and behaviors? There is no relationship between hours spent participating in athletics and depression (r=.02, ns). The relationship is statistically significant but not very meaningful between hours spent participating in extracurricular activities and depression (r=.08, p<.001). What are the effects of erratic sleep/wake behaviors (e.g., staying up all night, falling asleep in class, awakened too early in the morning and couldn't get back to sleep) on student functioning? Students who report more erratic sleep/wake behaviors (r=.47, p<.001), and tend to report getting less sleep during a school night (r=.21, p<.001).

What are the effects of sleepiness (responses to struggling to stay awake or falling asleep in various situations) on student functioning? Students who report more sleepiness tend to report getting lower grades (r=-.15, p<.001), tend to report more depressive feelings and behaviors (r=.43, p<.001), tend to report getting less sleep during a school night (r=-.26, p<.001), and tend to report working more hours during the week (r=.24, p<.001).

Gender Differences in Sleeping Patterns and Daytime Functioning

Items and Scales	Females	Males	Effect Size
Depression	10.86	9.55	.48*
Sleepiness (#43)	16.08	15.49	.14*
Sleep Behavior Scale (#45)	20.99	20.39	.09*
School Night Sleep Total	7 hrs, 27 min	7 hrs, 40 min	.10*
School Day Rise Time	6:07 am	6:20 am	.35*
School Night Bedtime	10:39 pm	10:43 pm	.04
Weekend Night Sleep Total	9 hrs, 0 min	9 hrs, 5 min	.03
Weekend Rise Time	9:51 am	10:01 am	.07*
Weekend Bedtime	12:53 am	12:58 am	.03
Weekend Oversleep	1 hr, 35 min	1 hr, 29 min	.03
Weekend Delay	2 hrs, 14 min	2 hrs, 11 mm	.02

Note: Because of the large sample size in this study, effect sizes were computed to allow one to properly interpret group differences. Effect sizes are computed by dividing the mean difference between the two groups by their pooled standard deviation. A '*' after an effect size indicates that the difference between these two variables is statistically significant at p<.01. However, Cohen (1988) suggests that an effect size less than .20 is too small for the difference to be meaningful.

Table 7

Table 7 Discussion

The few meaningful gender differences that emerged were similar to what Wolfson and Carskadon (1996) found in their analysis of Rhode Island students' sleep/wake patterns. Female adolescents reported that they woke up 13 minutes earlier than their male peers on school mornings. This finding is consistent with many other studies (Gau & Soong, 1995; Wolfson & Carskadon, 1996). Wolfson and Carskadon speculate that adolescent girls may be getting up earlier because they require more time to prepare for school and/or family responsibilities.

Also, female adolescents in this sample report more depressive feelings and behaviors than males. This result is also consistent with numerous studies.

Rhode Island and Minnesota Means for School-Night and Weekend Sleep Variables by Grades & Age

Table 8: Self-Reported Grades

Sleep/Wake Variables	A's (N=1238) (N=4017)	B's (N=1371) (N=1988)	C's (N=390) (N=778)	D's/F's (N=61) (N=150)		
School-night Total Sleep Time			i			
Rhode Island	7 hrs, 35 min	7 hrs, 33 min	7 hrs, 18 min	6 hrs, 48 min		
Minnesota	7 hrs, 39 min	7 hrs, 26 min	7 hrs, 15 min	7 hrs, 5 min		
School-night Bedtime	School-night Bedtime					
Rhode Island	10:27pm	10:32pm	10:52pm	11:22pm		
Minnesota	10:34pm	10:46pm	10:59pm	11:13pm		
School-night Rise Time						
Rhode Island	6:02am	6:05am	6:10am	6:09am		
Minnesota	6:13am	6:13am	6:15am	6:21am		
Weekend Total Sleep Time						
Rhode Island	9 h rs, 15 min	9 hrs, 14 min	8 hrs, 50 min	9 hrs		
Minnesota	9 hrs, 4 min	9 hrs, 1 min	8 hrs, 55 min	9 hrs, 22 min		
Weekend Bedtime						
Rhode Island	12.06am	12:29am	1:09am	1:33am		
Minnesota	12:41am	1:04am	1:36am	1:47am		
Weekend Rise Time						
Rhode Island	9:21am	9:43am	9:59am	10:33am		
Minnesota	9:44am	10:04am	10:26am	11:00am		
Weekend Oversleep						

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ANNEX A gb 1-92 and Motion 1-3 Page 16

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Rhode Island	1 hr, 45 min	1 hr, 48 min	1 hr, 49 min	2 hrs, 17 min		
Minnesota	1 hr, 27 min	1 hr, 37 min	1 hr, 43 min	2 hrs, 9 min		
Weekend Delay						
Rhode Island	1 hr, 39 min	1 hr, 57 min	2 hrs, 17 min	2 hrs, 13 min		
Minnesota	2 hrs, 5 min	2 hrs, 16 min	2 hrs, 33 min	2 hrs, 45 min		

Note: Weekend Oversleep is the difference between weekend and school-night total sleep times and Weekend Delay is the difference between weekend and school-night bedtimes.

Table 8 Discussion

Students who get better grades tend to go to bed earlier on school nights and, consequently, get more sleep on school nights. Most students get over an hour and a half more sleep on weekend nights as compared to school nights. The Minnesota results are remarkably similar to the Rhode Island study results in this respect. However, Minnesota students tend to go to bed later and get up later (more so on the weckends) than the Rhode Island students. As an aside, another interesting finding was that Minnesota students (58%) report getting more A's as compared to the than Rhode Island students (40%). This may mean that Minnesota schools suffer more from grade inflation.

Table 9: Age

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Sleep/Wake Variables	13-14 (N=336) (N=2306)	15 (N=858) (N=1177)	16 (N=918) (N=1271)	17-19 (N=988) (N=1596)		
School-night Total Sleep Time						
Rhode Island	7 hrs, 54 min	7 hrs, 40 min	7 hrs, 28 min	7 hrs, 19 min		
Minnesota	8 hrs, 1 min	7 hrs, 27 min	7 hrs, 1 min	6 hrs, 56 min		
School-night Bedtime						
Rhode Island	10:05pm	10:20pm	10:37pm	10:51pm		
• Minnesota	10:14pm	10:36pm	11:08pm	11:20pm		
School-night Rise Time						
• Rhode Island	5:59am	6:00am	6:05am	6:10am		
Minnesota	6:16am	6:03am	6:08am	6:17am		
Weekend Total Sleep Time						
Rhode Island	9 hrs, 30 min	9 hrs, 36 min	9 hrs, 9 min	8 hrs, 40 min		
Minnesota	9 hrs, 23 min	8 hrs, 57 min	8 hrs, 49 min	8 hrs, 36 min		
Weekend Bedtime						
Rhode Island	11:54pm	12:06am	12:30am	12:49am		
Minnesota	12:25am	1:13am	1:16am	1:32am		
Weekend Rise Time						
Rhode Island	9:22am	9:40am	9:46am	9:32am		
• Minnesota	9:48am	10:08am	10:04am	10:08am		
Weekend Oversleep						
Rhode Island	1 hr, 46 min	1 hr, 56 min	1 hr, 53 min	1 hr, 34 min		
Minnesota	1 hr, 23 min	1 hr, 34 min	1 hr, 50 min	1 hr, 40 min		

ANNEX A gb 1-92 and Motion 1-3 Page 18

Weekend Delay		5 		
Rhode Island	1 hr, 49 min	1 hr 46 min	1 hr, 53 min	1 hr 58 min
Minnesota	2 hrs, 9 min	2 hrs, 35 min	2 hrs, 8 min	2 hrs, 11 min

Note: Weekend Oversleep is the difference between weekend and school-night total sleep times and Weekend Delay is the difference between weekend and school-night bedtimes.

Table 9 Discussion

Again, these findings are similar to the Rhode Island findings. The older students get, the later they go to bed, and consequently, the less sleep they get. The Minnesota 17-19 year olds are averaging 6 hours and 43 minutes of sleep on a school night. Carskadon hypothesizes that these later bed times for older adolescents are due to a change in their circadian rhythms. For the most part, the results from Tables 7 and 8 replicate Wolfson and Carskadon's (1996) findings. Their findings caused them to appeal to schools to start schools later in the morning.

Conclusions

While there were substantial limitations to the present study, significant differences in the students responses relative to attendance at an early start versus late start school suggest that school start time does have an effect on student's behavior and performance. Preliminary evidence supports the notion that a later school start time for high school students has at least some self-perceived benefit. Further study is needed in order to better understand the actual effect of school start time. In particular, student survey data needs to be verified through other data collection means such as observation or follow-alone recording. This may be most important in terms of student achievement.

Not all students may experience the same benefit from late school start times. Districts may wish to consider offering alternative start times such as "zero hour" courses and late afternoon courses. How students would choose early or late start times should be examined in terms of the desired outcome. If student achievement is the goal, the schedule selection procedure will need to provide guidance so as to assure that students are making choices with that end in mind. Subsequent data collection on this project, as well as continued analysis of the existing data set, will likely provide stronger evidence concerning the impact of school start time. There is clear evidence of an effect from changing the school start time. There certainly exist a host of related factors that also interact with sleep and start times to impact student performance and behavior. Just what the effects are and how individual students benefit remains somewhat speculative.

Physiological and psychological measures have not been a part of the current study. This type of information will be necessary in order to fully understand the individual effects of schedule changes. Group data, while very powerful, does not account for individual differences. There exists strong evidence that individual differences are a critical factor relative to sleep and human performance. This will likely be especially important for special populations within the school environment.

In summary, the present project has created a very rich data base that has yielded a number of key findings relative to school start time and its impact on student performance and behavior. At a minimum, the current study supports the contention that this is an area that deserves greater attention from the educational community.

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ANNEX B gb 1-92 and Motion 1-3 Page 1

any teenagers i ve in a state of chronic sleep daffet that can affect mood, behavior, schootwork and reaction time

Not enough nighttime shut-eye means daytime problems

By Denise Grady THE NEW YORK TIMES.

t 6:30 in the morning, a strapping teenager on the cusp of manhood can look an awful lot like a newborn puppy, with eyes that won't open and a powerful instinct to curl up under something warm.

Is this the same person who swore he wasn't tired at 10:30 last night while he traded instant messages with six different friends at once, and who will probably do it again tonight?

Parents know the adolescent drill all too well: Stay up past 11 or 12 on school nights, stagger out of bed at 6 or 7, shower interminably, eat a token breakfast and bolt. Yawn through school, perk up for sports or clubs, fight sleep while doing homework. Come to life at 9 p.m., deny fatigue and stay up well after parents have collapsed into bed. Holidays and weekends, stay up half the night and then "binge sleep" until noon or beyond. Sunday night, restart the cycle of late to bed and early to rise.

Americans are said to be a sleep-deprived people. and teensgers are the worst of the lot Most are lucky to get six, seven or eight hours of sleep ⁶In every study where we've looked at it, it's crystal clear that kids who sleep less report more depressed moods.⁹

> DR. MARY CARSKADON SLEEP RESEARCHER AT BROWN UNIVERSITY

a night, even though studies have shown repeatedly that people in their teens and possibly even early 20s need nine to 10 hours. Many live in a state of chronic sleep deficit that can affect mood, behavior, schoolwork and reaction time.

Dr. Mary Carskadon, a sleep researcher at Brown University, describes sleep-deprived teenagers as existing in a "kind of gray cloud." "We just ignore these bad feelings from not

"We just ignore these bad feelings from not enough sleep and get used to it," she said. "We forget what it's like to feel good, and how much more efficiently you can do things." Physical, emotional and social factors seem to conspire against letting adolescents get enough sleep.

When teenagers insist that they are not tired at 9 or 10 p.m., they are very likely telling the truth. For reasons that are not fully understood, Carskadon said, their body clocks shift, so that their natural tendency is to stay up later at night \ddagger and wake up later in the morning than when they were younger. But that inner clock often clashes with the outer world: Early starting times in bigh school and demanding schedules of sports, clubs, music lessons, homework and part-time jobs.

There are consequences. For one thing, lack of sleep can interfere with learning: Tired students have a hard time paying attention, and even if they do somehow manage to focus, they may for get what they were taught because memory for ma tion takes place partly during sleep.

In "Adolescent Sleep Patterns," a book published in August and edited by Carskadon, she wrote, "The students may be in school, but their brains are at home on their pillows." Tired teenagers can be as cranky as tired 2-year

Tired toenagers can be as cranky as tired 2-year olds, and even less fun to deal with. More seriously, sleep deprivation can bring on feelings of stress, anger and sadness.

Turn to Later/Page C

Later school starting times promoted

Laker/From Page C1

Carskadon said studies had repeatedly linked sleep deprivation to depressed mood — a temporary case of the blues, not the same as clinical depression.

"In every study where we've looked at it, it's crystal clear that kids who sleep less report more depressed moods," she said.

Lack of sleep may take its toll physically as well. Growth hormone and sex hormones are secreted during sleep, but it is not known whether missing out on sleep disrupts hormonal patterns. Studies have shown that sleep deprivation may also diutaish the body's ability to process glucose, and a prolonged sleep deficit can produce the kind of blood glucose levels found in people who are on the way to becoming diabetic.

Studies in people and animals suggest that lack of sleep may also interfore with the working of the immune system and its ability to tight infections, but, Carskaden said, it is not clear whether sleep loss is linked to illness in people.

Lack of sleep also increases teenage drivers' already elevated risk of car accidents. According to the National Sleep Foundation, a nonprofit group, drowsingssor fatigue play arole in 160,000 traffic crashes a year, and drivers 25 or under cause more than half of those accidents. Sleep loss and drinking are an especially bad combination because fatigue greatly magnifies the effects of alcohol.

Many health experts, and parents, say that high school starting times — often earlier than 8 a.m. — are largely to blame for students' perpetual, exhaustion. According to a poll in August by the National Sleep Foundation, a nonprofit group, 80 percent of the people surveyed said high schools should not start before 8 a.m. The foundation favors 9 a.m.

Some school districts have aleady changed their schedules so that high school classes start

later, between 8 and 9 a.m., instead of before 8. In some cases, the changes came about only after parents campaigned for tham.

The drawbacks are that some students, especially in city schools, are unable to take part in after-school activities, and some say they are earning less at their after-school jobs.

But not all school districts are willing or able to alter their schedules because they do not have enough school buses to carry children from elementary, middle and high school during the same hours. Some have concerns, too, that later schedules will interfere with afterschool sports.

According to the sleep foundation, individual schools and districts in 13 states have changed to later school start times. But many still start before 8 a.m., and nearly all before 9. A few schools are starting earlier.

The military has shown more flexibility than some school districts. Concern about sleep deprivation led the U.S. Navy last April to change the "rack time," or sleeping hours, for young sailors — many of whom are in their late teons — at the Great Lakes base in Chicago, where all basic training is done.

Previously, the schedula allowed only six hours of skeep, from 10 p.m. until 4 a.m. The Navy first tried adding one hour by ordering lights out at 9 p.m. but psychologists who had studied skeep said that was the wrong approach.

"I toured the barracks after lights out, and found what we expected," said Dr. Jeff Dyche, a naval lieutenant and psychologist. "The recruits were lying in their racks staring at the ceiling. You can't force these kids to go to sleep that early."

Dyche said he and other psychologists briefed a three-star admiral about sleep research, especially Carskadon's work. The psychologists said young people could not fall asleep early and were at their sleepiest from



THE NEW YORK TIMES

Allie Woodhull and Jeff Scoppetto catch the bus for school in Glastonbury, Conn., at 6:35 a.m.

⁶ In every study where we've looked at it, it's crystal clear that kids who sleep less report more depressed moods.⁹

DR. MARY CARSKADON BROWN UNIVERSITY

4 to 6 a.m. They recommended letting the recruits sleep later rather than ordering them to bed earlier, and allowing them eight hours of sleep a night.

The admiral agreed, noting that his generation had slept eight hours during training. He made the rack time 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Navy researchers are studying the soldiers to see if the extra sleep makes a difference.

"They're looking at test scores, sleep patterns, sick call and the number of times these kids get into trouble," Dyche

said, "We want to compare it to years past and see what we get." Although the data are not in yet, he added, he expects "Dig dividends."

Doctors and sleep experts say parents need to play a stronger role in helping their trenagers to get more sleep. Among the suggestions are setting a bedtime on school nights, being there to enforce it, and not letting the weekend hours drift so far out of line that they throw off the rest of the week.

Part of the strategy also includes limiting or banning television on school nights, as well, as telephone and internet socializing. The intentions are noble, but perhaps not so easy to carry out, especially at 11:30 when the 15-year-old needs "just afew more ninutes" to finish an English project or practice a solo for tomorrow's concert.

But it may be that a good night's sleep, given a chance, will sell itself. Carskadon said that one young man, who slept nine hours a night for a week as part of a study, told her: "You know, this is really good. I might try this even when the study's over."

STANDING COMMITTEE: SCHOOL AND STUDENT PERFORMANCE

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, March 29, 2021

ITEM: Mr. Monfredo (January 7, 2021)

Request that the Administration consider forming a committee to study the feasibility of changing the secondary school start time to 8:00 a.m. and provide a report to the full committee in the first week of March.

PRIOR ACTION:

1-7-21 - Mayor Petty made the following motion:

Request that the School Committee postponing the reopening of schools from January 20, 2021 until a date to be determined.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.

Superintendent Binienda discussed the updated schedules for the reopening of school.

Dr. Sippel and Dr. Morse discussed the updated new weekly time synchronous learning schedule.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration consider forming a committee to study the feasibility of changing the secondary school start time to 8:00 a.m. and provide a report to the full committee in the first week of March.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved and referred to the Standing Committee on School and Student Performance.

On a roll call of 7-0, the Report of the Superintendent was accepted and filed.

BACKUP: Consider with gb #1-92.