

MEMORANDUM

To: All APS Parents and Guardians

From: Dr. Lisa Herring, Superintendent

Date: June 7, 2021

Subject: Update on Decision Regarding the Bell Schedule Change for School Years 2021-2022, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I want to thank you for your involvement in our engagement sessions about our Atlanta Public Schools' three-year Academic Recovery Plan. Your feedback and recommendations were critically important in finalizing the 2021-2022 school year bell schedule to accommodate for additional student learning time.

After evaluating options, we have altered the school bell schedule, which will begin in the 2021-2022 school year, as follows:

- Elementary School 7:45 am to 2:45 pm (changed from 8 am to 2:30 pm)
- High School 8:45 am to 3:45 pm (changed from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm)
- Middle School 9:15 am to 4:15 pm (changed from 9:05 am to 4:05 pm)

In reaching this decision, we engaged with GO Teams, parents of students with disabilities, APS staff, various advisories and task forces, our internal Equity Design Team, our school principals, and the broader APS community through our virtual town hall and survey. [Click here to see the survey results.](#)

This is just one piece of our comprehensive Academic Recovery Plan, which includes:

- A new K-12 universal screener to help identify our students' learning needs.
- Our Summer Academic Recovery Academy, which has enrolled over 11,000 students.
- Implementation of a required intervention or enrichment block in all schools.

As we all prepare for the first day of school on August 5, 2021, be on the lookout for more information about the implementation of this plan from your school.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in helping our students succeed through these academic recovery efforts. We appreciate your engagement and are excited to move forward!

Please be well,

Dr. Lisa Herring