



## David T. Howard Middle School

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

Dear Ram Family,

Thank you for your engagement during our recent sessions on our three-year Academic Recovery Plan. Your input, questions, and concerns are a vital part of our decision-making process.

Given your feedback, I want to update you on the final decision regarding the change to the school bell schedule, which will begin in the 2021-2022 school year. Superintendent Herring shared this decision at the Board of Education's meeting on June 7. The bell schedule for David T. Howard Middle School will be 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, staff, various advisory councils and task forces, the district's internal Equity Design Team, partners, school principals, and the broader APS community through the district's virtual town hall and bell schedule survey. [Click here to see the survey results.](#)

With a commitment to equity, David T. Howard Middle School is keeping the success of our students in focus, implementing our plan with fidelity, and being responsive to your engagement. Remember, there are three components to our Academic Recovery Plan:

A new K-12 universal screener to help identify our students' learning needs.

1. Our Summer Academic Recovery Academy, which has enrolled over 11,000 students districtwide.
2. Implementation of a required intervention or enrichment block in our school.

We are excited to move forward and need your ongoing support in helping our students succeed through these academic recovery efforts.

As you prepare for this change and the first day of school on August 5, 2021, be on the lookout for more information from us about the implementation of this plan. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Regards,

Interim School Principal