

By the Committee on Education Pre-K - 12; and Senators Bradley, Yarborough, and Davis

581-02107-25

2025296c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to middle school and high school start
3 times; amending s. 1001.42, F.S.; deleting a
4 requirement that middle schools and high schools start
5 by specified times beginning in a certain year;
6 requiring district school boards to consider certain
7 benefits relating to school start times when adopting
8 middle school and high school start times; providing
9 an effective date.

10
11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

12
13 Section 1. Paragraph (f) of subsection (4) of section
14 1001.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

15 1001.42 Powers and duties of district school board.—The
16 district school board, acting as a board, shall exercise all
17 powers and perform all duties listed below:

18 (4) ESTABLISHMENT, ORGANIZATION, AND OPERATION OF SCHOOLS.—
19 Adopt and provide for the execution of plans for the
20 establishment, organization, and operation of the schools of the
21 district, including, but not limited to, the following:

22 (f) *Opening and closing of schools; fixing uniform date;*
23 *middle school and high school start times.*—Adopt policies for
24 the opening and closing of schools, fix uniform dates, and
25 middle school and high school start times.

26 1. The opening date for schools in the district may not be
27 earlier than August 10 of each year.

28 2. ~~By July 1, 2026, the instructional day for middle~~
29 ~~schools may not begin earlier than 8 a.m. and the instructional~~

581-02107-25

2025296c1

30 ~~day for high schools may not begin earlier than 8:30 a.m.~~ Each
31 district school board must inform its community, including
32 parents, students, teachers, school administrators, athletic
33 coaches, and other stakeholders, about the health, safety, and
34 academic impacts of sleep deprivation on middle school and high
35 school students and consider the benefits of a later school
36 start time when adopting middle school and high ~~and discuss~~
37 ~~local strategies to successfully implement the later school~~
38 start times.

39 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.