



## NEWS RELEASE

3/24/21

Contact: Tim Robinson, Media Relations Specialist

206-465-5404 c

[tirobinson@seattleschools.org](mailto:tirobinson@seattleschools.org)

[SPS Newsroom](#)

## SPS Bell Times Adjusted by 30 Minutes

*Bell schedule change begins March 29*

**SEATTLE** – The start and end times for both in-person and remote instruction will change for all Seattle Public Schools preschool, kindergarten through fifth grade students, and all students that attend K-8 schools after the SPS Board of Directors voted today to adjust bell times.

This adjustment to bell schedules will allow more students the opportunity to participate in the upcoming return to a half-day, in-person hybrid learning model.

**The change will take place on March 29 for all elementary and K-8 students** and continue through the end of this school year.

With an hour between elementary and secondary start times, it enables the SPS transportation department to use the same drivers and buses and transport more students.

This approach is a return to the transportation model and operations previously used by SPS.

While this change is to accommodate transportation needs for some students resuming in-person instruction, the bell schedule changes apply to both in-person students and students in remote instruction.

**Note:** 6-8 grade comprehensive middle schools and high schools which will remain with a 9 a.m. start time.

### Bell Schedule

8 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday**

- Morning Block: 8 – 10:45 a.m.
- Afternoon Block: 11:45 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

8 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Wednesday**

- All students will be remote

While SPS can't guarantee transportation to students beyond those who the district is legally obligated to support, SPS will continue to work to increase transportation access in the most equitable way possible.

The district will use its school equity tiering system as it develops routes and expands opportunities for general education students to return in person with transportation.

###

For more information about **Seattle Public Schools**: [SPS webpage](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#)