

# Perspectives on Sleep Health for Youth in Juvenile Justice System



Meeting with State of Maryland Juvenile Services Education Program Board April 6, 2022









## **Introductions**



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## Sleep Regulation: Changes During Puberty

- Sleep Pressure System
  - Balances sleep and wake
  - Pressure for sleep builds more slowly in older vs. younger student



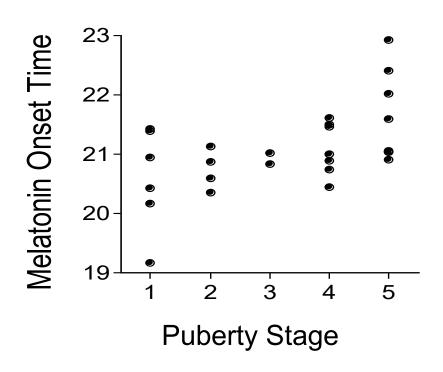
- Circadian (~24-hour) Biological Clock
  - Regulates timing of sleep and wake
  - Clock signaling sleep runs later in older vs. younger students



## Circadian Clock Shifts Later

Controlled conditions

 Circadian cue for sleep shifts later with puberty

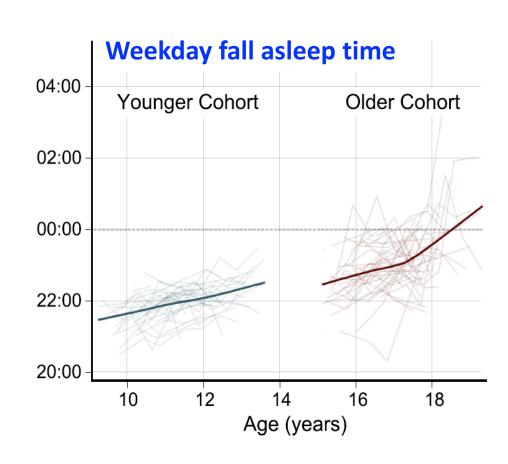


(Carskadon et al., Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci., 2004)

Figure from M. Carskadon

## Adolescent sleep timing shifts later

- Largely driven by sleep regulatory changes in the brain during puberty.
- Older adolescent who used to fall asleep at 9:00 PM will now not be able to fall asleep until 11:00PM or later.
- It also means waking 2 hours later in the morning.



<sup>\*</sup>external factors

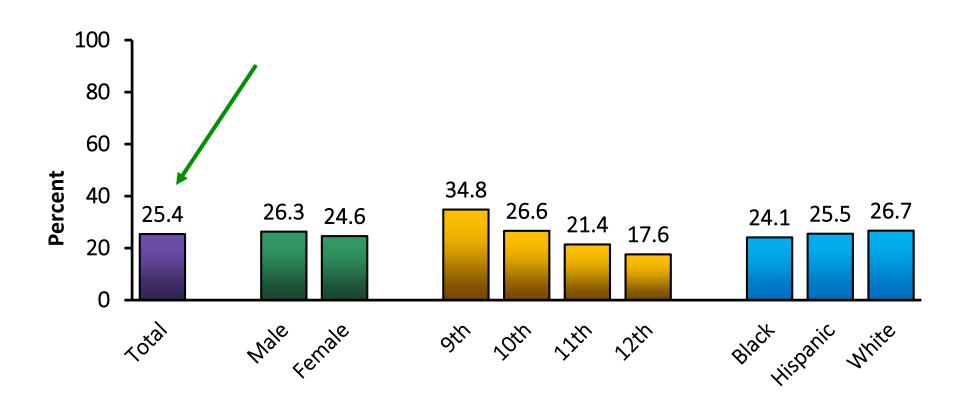
## **Insufficient School Night Sleep**

- Biological factors contribute to late bedtimes.
- Early school start times force students awake on weekday mornings



Sleep Need: 8 – 10 hours/night

## Percentage of High School Students Who Got 8 or More Hours of Sleep on Average School Night by Sex, Grade, and Race/Ethnicity



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>9th > 10th, 9th > 11th, 9th > 12th, 10th > 11th, 10th > 12th, 11th > 12th (Based on t-test analysis, p < 0.05.) All Hispanic students are included in the Hispanic category. All other races are non-Hispanic. Note: This graph contains weighted results.

## Consequences of Insufficient & Mistimed Sleep

- Falling asleep in class
- Depression, anxiety, suicidal thoughts
- Behavior problems

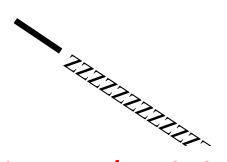
  - AggressionHyperactivityPoor impulse control
- Risk-taking behaviors
- Cognitive challenges
  - -- attention
  - -- memory
  - -- executive functioning
- Poor teachers' ratings
  - quality of work
  - percent work completed
  - difficulty recalling material
- Poor school grades



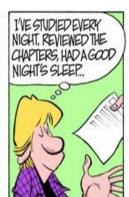


## **Sleep Prepares for & Enhances Learning**

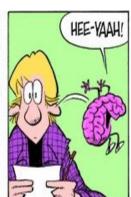
Information acquisition



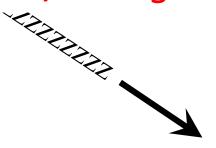




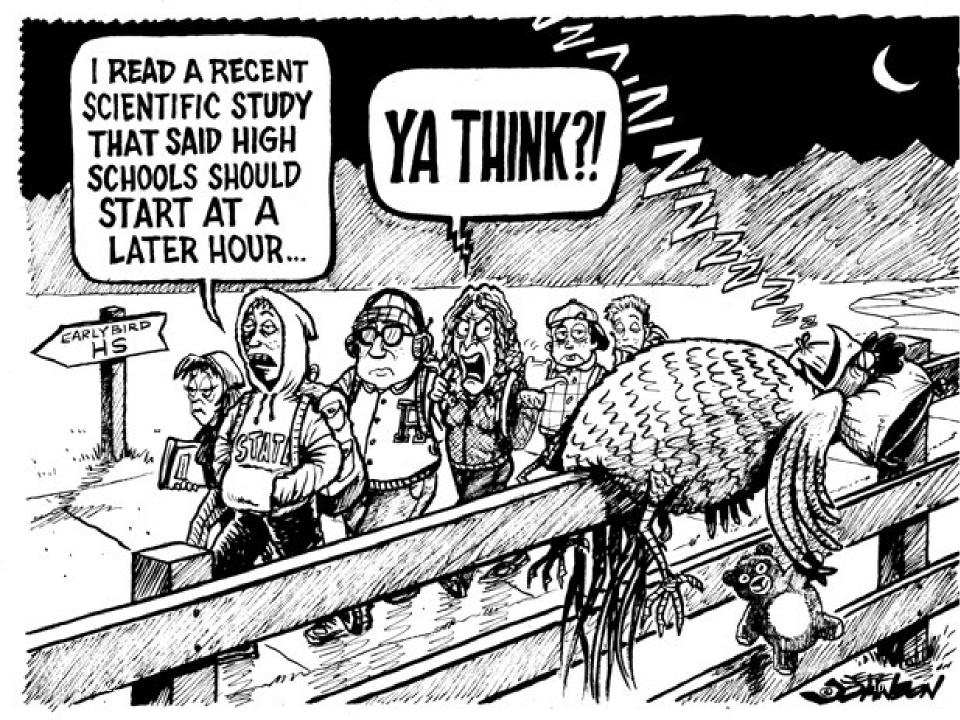




Consolidation/stabilization/strengthening/filtering



Information retrieval





health, safety, and equity in education

#### **Facts About School Start Times**

- The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that middle and high schools start at 8:30 a.m. or later.
- Today, many middle and high schools begin much earlier, often around 7 a.m.
- Bus pick-ups starting between 5:15 and 6:30 a.m. require students to wake up hours before what is healthy, safe, and developmentally-appropriate for their still-growing brains and bodies.
- With such schedules, teenagers have to be in bed and asleep at 8 or 9 p.m. in order to get the amount of sleep they need. This just isn't possible — for both biological and logistical reasons.

Learn more about why it's time to Start School Later

... and what you can do to help.



#### Sleep Health

Volume 8, Issue 1, February 2022, Pages 11-22



#### Adolescent sleep health and school start times: Setting the research agenda for California and beyond. A research summit summary

Terra D. Ziporyn PhD <sup>a</sup> <sup>c</sup>, Judith A. Owens MD, MPH <sup>b</sup>, Kyla L. Wahlstrom PhD <sup>c</sup>, Amy R. Wolfson PhD <sup>d</sup>, Wendy M. Troxel PhD <sup>e</sup>, Jared M. Saletin PhD <sup>f</sup>, Sonia L. Rubens PhD <sup>g</sup>, Rafael Pelayo MD, FAASM <sup>h</sup>, Phyllis A. Payne MPH <sup>a</sup>, Lauren Hale PhD <sup>j</sup>, Irena Keller PhD <sup>j</sup>, Mary A. Carskadon PhD <sup>f</sup>

Professional medical and public health organizations have reviewed all of the available sleep research on adolescent health. They have recommended a start time for all middle/high schools.



#### Recommend middle/high school start at 8:30am or later

American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry American Academy of Pediatrics American Academy of Sleep Medicine

American Medical Association

American Psychological Association

American Sleep Association

American Thoracic Society

Centers for Disease Control

Massachusetts Medical Society

National Association of School Nurses

National Institutes of Health

National Parent Teacher Association

National Sleep Foundation

Sleep Research Society Society of Behavioral Medicine

Society of Pediatric Nurses

#### Recommend middle/high school start before 8:30am

No organization has found that starting middle or high schools before 8:30am is safe or healthy for our children.



Masconomet Chapter | Massachusetts health, safety and equity in education

## Benefits of Later School Start Times

- Review of 38 studies (Wheaton et al, '16); Meta-analysis of 20 studies (Bowers & Moyer, '17); other studies:
  - Sleep
    - Increased TST by 30-60 min
    - later WTs
    - consistent BTs
    - fewer sleep problems
    - easier time falling asleep
    - decreased sleepiness
  - Reduced tardiness (as much as 4X)
  - Increased attendance
  - Reduced drop-out rates
  - Improved standardized test scores, particularly Math & Reading
  - Improved GPAs
  - Increased/stable engagement sports, extracurricular activities
  - Improved time allocation

- Improved mood
- Improved behavior
- Improved mental health
- Decreased delinquent type behavior
- Decreased health center visits
- Improved family well-being (decreased family conflict)
- Decreased sleep-driver accidents
- Decreased substance abuse



 Economic benefits far exceed costs in real dollars by ratio of 6:1 as early as 2 years out

Wolfson et al., 2007; Edwards, 2012; Wheaton et al., 2016; Jacob & Rockoff, 2011; Bowers & Moyer, 2017; Hafner et al., 2017; Wahlstrom, 2001, 2014; Owens et al., '10, '17; Berger et al 2018; Sleep Health special issue, '17, Semenza et al., 2019, Groen et al., 2019, Dunster, et al., 2018, Nahmod et al., 2017, etc.



# Delaying School Start Times: Social Justice Solution!

- Strong evidence of racial/ethnic, socioeconomic disparities in adolescent sleep.
- Students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds experience greatest drawbacks from early SSTs (Marco, Wolfson et al., 2011, others).
- Early SSTs reduce performance among disadvantaged students by amount equivalent to having a highly ineffective teacher (Hamilton Report, 2011).
- Later middle SSTs associated with 2 percentile point gain in Math/Reading test scores, with larger gains at lower end of socioeconomic spectrum (Edwards, 2012).
- Delayed SSTs associated with increases in attendance & better graduation rates (McKeever & Clark, 2017).
- Therefore, later SSTs important & cost effective strategy to minimize achievement & health gaps for socioeconomically disadvantaged students.

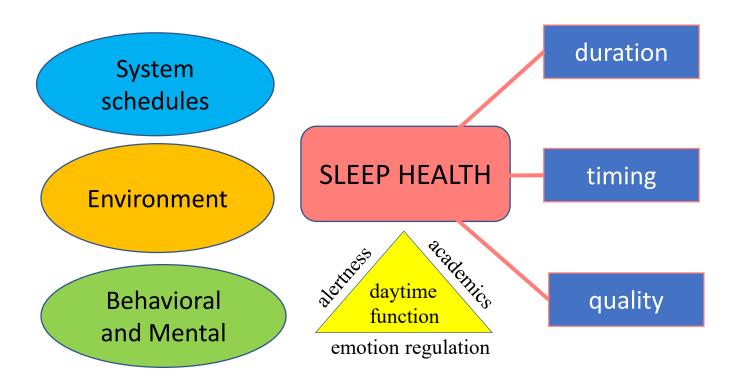
## Three Interlocking Studies

Phase 1: Sleep Environment Observational Study of DJS Facilities (Summer 2019)

Phase 2: DJS Staff and Administrator Interview Study (Summer 2020)

Phase 3: Juveniles' Perceptions of Sleep Quality and Environment During Detention (2021)

#### **Focus of Three Studies**



Sleep Health in Juvenile Justice Systems

## **Studies' Overall Findings**

- School-night sleep duration/time in bed close to recommended minimum of 8 hours
- Longer duration on weekends suggest some sleep restriction on school days.
- Mismatch between lights out and readiness for sleep
- Waking up in morning challenging for ~ 60% of youth
- ~2 awakenings per night reported on average
- Light at night was common theme from multiple reporters (youth and night staff)
- Higher levels Depression/Anxiety symptoms associated with:
  - More night wakings
    Increased daytime sleepiness
    Earlier wake times

duration

timing

quality

behavior/ mental health

#### **DJS Sleep Health Changes and Initiatives**

System/School schedules

**Environment** 

Behavioral & Mental health

#### Shifting lights on/off times later

- Revised Schedule: 9pm to 6am
- Need to delay school start time

#### Dark at night & bright light during the day

- DJS creating ability to dim lights at night and/or changing type of night lighting
- Eyeshades for most youth to decrease light for sleep
- Increased time in daylight during day
- Optimal lighting during the day
- Decrease noise at night (e.g., TV)

#### Supplemental programs/initiatives

- Sleep/circadian disorder assessments & referral?
- Sleep health education programs for staff!

## **MULTI-PRONGED APPROACH**

http://www.startschoollater.net/

Diverse players
(community advocates,
educators, health
professionals, sleep
health researchers,
policymakers)

#### **National**

- Legislation (e.g., ZZZs to As Act)
- Position Statements (e.g., AAP, CDC, APA, DOE, Educ Comm. Of the States)
- Litigation (?)
- Grassroots Activism
- Education

#### **State**

- Legislation
- Position Statements (e.g., state medical societies)
- Litigation (?)
- Grassroots Activism
- Education

#### Local

- Legislation
- Position Statements (e.g., local board of health)
- Grassroots Activism
- Education