



PREPARING EVERY CHILD TODAY FOR TOMORROW

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT

For Immediate Release

Contact: Franklin L. Foster
(843) 782-4525
ffoster@colleton.k12.sc.us

School Board Approves Start and End Times for 2018-2019

March 26, 2018: The Colleton County School Board of Trustees unanimously accepted the recommendation of Superintendent Franklin L. Foster at its regular school board meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 for new start and end times for all district schools beginning the 2018-2019 school year. The new schedule will be 7:30 a.m. until 1:55 p.m. for the early childhood center, 7:30 a.m. until 2:15 p.m. for elementary schools, 8:30 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. for middle school and 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. for the high school.

The primary reason for the change in the start and end times was to improve the overall educational programs and academic achievement of the students. This change decreases students arriving late to school, which costs them a loss of instructional time. Also, ongoing safety issues created due to early arrivals and late departures at schools will improve due to this change. Lastly, the new start and end times will allow us to utilize our current transportation staff effectively.

A working team was created, as directed by Dr. Foster, consisting of a wide representation of internal and external stakeholders, and met several times throughout the year to talk to surrounding districts faced with the same challenges, researched the topic, and ran route simulations for our district to develop the two proposed options. Prior to making the recommendation to the board, the district shared information with board members and internal stakeholders, launched the informational page on the district website, conducted an online survey and held Town Hall meetings in each attendance area.

Dr. Foster's recommendation was based on the feedback received from the 1,232 participants of the online survey with 60% supporting proposed Option 1 and attendees of the Town Hall meetings.