



August 2026

Dear SOMSD Community,

As we prepare for our students and staff returning for the 2026–2027 school year, I would like to remind everyone about our new start and end times for our schools. We sent correspondence this past April and want to ensure this is at the top of your inbox.

We designed this year's schedules and bus routes with two clear priorities: supporting student learning and ensuring safe, reliable transportation. Coordinating start and dismissal times allows our buses to serve every school efficiently. Bus passes have been sent out, and you will notice we've tightened routes to shorten travel times, combined stops, and avoided major streets wherever possible. We have heard your feedback and remain committed to working collaboratively to continuously improve our services.

Again, we'd like to thank you for your support. We recognize that changes to school schedules can have an impact on families and appreciate your flexibility and understanding as we work to balance transportation, instructional time, and the operational needs of our schools.

Student School Day

School	Student Start/End Time
Columbia High School	8:20 a.m. – 2:55 p.m.
Maplewood Middle School	8:25 a.m – 2:50 p.m.
South Orange Middle School	8:25 a.m – 2:50 p.m.
Clinton Elementary	7:50 am – 2:20 p.m.
Delia Bolden Elementary	7:50 am – 2:20 p.m.
Marshall Elementary	9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Montrose Early Learning Center	8:15 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.
Seth Boyden Elementary	9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
South Mountain Annex	7:50 a.m. – 2:20 p.m.



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
**South Orange
& Maplewood™**

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South Mountain Elementary	8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Tuscan Elementary	9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Please also note the following conference times:

- **Middle Schools:** 2:50 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.
- **Columbia High School:** 2:55 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Conference time allows our educators to engage in important collaboration and planning while also supporting the overall transportation schedule.

We look forward to a successful start to the new school year and to welcoming our students back on **September 1.**

Sincerely,

Jason Bing
Superintendent