

Why a later start to the school day could pump \$1 billion into Illinois' economy



Parents of students at William H. Ray Elementary school speak about their first day of school experience after they dropped off their children, Sept. 5, 2017, in Hyde Park. (Alyssa Pointer/Chicago Tribune)



By **Gail MarksJarvis**
Chicago Tribune

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If school districts throughout the state moved starting times to 8:30 a.m. so middle and high school students could sleep longer, Illinois' economy would gain \$1 billion within five years, according to a study by the Rand Corp.

The state, along with others throughout the country, would benefit from fewer car crashes involving sleep-deprived adolescents, and from students performing better in school, going to college, and earning more in their careers, the study said.

The researchers said the gain to the nation would be \$9.3 billion within two years if every state made

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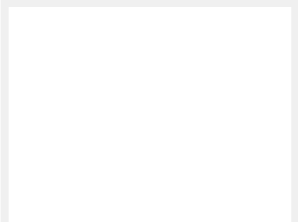
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