

## Start time issue woven into **Student Operating Schools Day**

BY SUE BUCK STAFF WRITER sbuckGoc.homecomm.net

■ Farmington school officials have been examin-ing the issue of changing start times, based on research that indicates students may benefit A survey will determine stu-dent level of interest in starting school 60 to 90 minutes hater will be part of the discussion during this year's "Student Operating Schools Day." from starting their school day later in the morning.

SALE 29.99 CROPPED PANTS

elativity. Reg. 36. Too them old with n

sale 24.99; in LADIE

Schools Day. Farmington school officials have been examining the issue of changing start times, based on research that indicates students benefit from starting their

school day later in the morning. The plan is to distribute the sur-vey in required English classes aschools. "We think we will get a pretty "We think we will get a pretty

23700 Orchard Lake Rd. Our Lightsheer Laser is FDA Approved! Suite B Farmington Hills Book On-Line Save 5% Guaranteed Results in Writing...Call Today! 248.473.8500 Payment Plans Available **STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15** presidents'dav sale **GREAT SAVINGS ON SPRING'S FRESHEST STYLES** 



SALE 19.99 Girls' denim jeans from Zana-Di, Mudd, and L.E.I. in sizes 7-16. Reg. 34.00, sale 19.99. W CHILDREN'S



SALE 29.99 Izod knit sport shirts in a variety of styles and colors. Reg. 45.00, sale 29.99. IN MEN'S



:



25% OFF The entire stock of Nine West and relativi-ty handbags. Reg. 29.00-80.00, sale 21.75-60.00. 25% OFF Women's latest diress shoes from Enzo Angiolini, Nine West, Anne Klein 2, Elienne Aigner, Van Eli, Unisa, Naturalizer, Easy Spirit and relativity. Reg. 49.00-78.00, sale 36.75-58.50.



15% OFF your first day's purchases when you open a Parisian credit card. See an associate for details.

Schools Day. The students will be taking this as their theme... They will have this data from their own high school to bring

They will have this data from their own high school to bring and discuss." Student Operating Schools Day is similar to the annual Stu-dent Government Day held at the City of Farmington, where students assume the actual roles of administrators. A proliminary copy of the sur-vey was distributed at a Feb. 4. Surveys should be completed by Feb. 22. One of the things school offi-cials have heard is, "We don't Know what kids think," said Farmington School Superinten-dent Bob Maxfold. He's received mixed reviews from kids, some like the idea of starting later, but some also pause to reconsider when they learn that means they will also attend school an hour later. Justin Prinstein, a North Farmington High School student and member of the late school start time committee, thought the survey questions were one-sided. "Knowing the research, I

start time committee, thought the survey questions were one-sided. "Knowing the research, I know how to nnswer them," Prinstein said. "You need to be more neutral." He noted that there were more actions which said "more abla

He noted that there were more able questions which said "more able to" than questions which said "lees likely to." Cherem said there was a reason for that. "You always word things in a positive way," she explained. "You never want to use nega-tives."

tives." Among other questions, stu-dents will be asked if they would be for or against having high school programs cut to pay for buses to implement a later start time.

school programs cut to pay for buses to implement a later start time. There were no changes to ear-lier cost estimates between \$400,000-\$600,000 to start up the program with annual costs, depending on the time chosen, of \$171,000 for the 9 a.m. time and \$250,000 for the 8.30 a.m. time. The budget would also include a facilities garage for the addition \$250,000-\$500,000. The times are under consider-ation for possibly the beginning of the 2003 school year, however, the move hasn't yet received bard approval. Transportation Director Bill Tousley explained after the Feb. 4 meeting than he didn't consider any duer start times in cost cal-quilations. Some parents have questioned why the district had-jut looked at an 8 a.m. start time. To looked at several different

"I looked at an o ham search time. "I looked at several different scenarios but they all had logis-tical problems, because the way the district is distributed by ele-mentary by elementary bound-aries it added travel time." Tous-beausid

ley said. The West Bloomfield School The West Bioomielo School district is also considering latter high school start times and expects to make a decision in April for the 2002-2003 school year. If the plan is approved, high school students would change from a 7:20 a.m. starting time to 8:15 a.m.

And the survey says...

A draft survey that will be administered to high school stu-dents to judge their opinions on school start times asks them to rank a number of statements on a scale from "strongly agree" to "strongly diangree", if school started at 8:30 or 9 a.m. Among them are: More likely not to feel drowey or fall askeep in class. More nible to do quality work in achool.

in school.

in school. More patient, less stressed More nble to participate in family activities. More nble to participate in co-curricular activities. Happier (better sense of well beingt and enjoy life more. Hitenither. More nble to ext brenkfast. More nble to accomplish homework,

homework, More able to learn and

recall school learni Each of learning.
Likely to stay up later.
Likely to work more.
Likely to volunteer.