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TENNESSEAN.COM

Energy would be saved by later school starts

To the Editor:

In response to Tina Messamore's letter on a later school start date, I agree completely ("Later school start makes economic sense," Aug. 13).

U.S. Department of Energy figures show August to be the hottest month to cool schools. Thirty-five percent less electricity is used in September. Tulsa, Okla., schools changed their start date from Aug. 19, to Sept. 3 and saved close to \$500,000 in utilities.

For decades, schools in this country have started close to Labor Day. Now, many states have passed legislation that mandates the start dates of schools. There is wide support in Tennessee that favors this.

Please contact your state representative to voice your concerns, or log onto savetennesseesummers.org to see what other states are doing.

Carol Duffin, Clarksville 37043