

Frequently Asked Questions Four-Day Week

Please take time to look at some FAQs that have been posed to the school district. We hope that the following will help answer some valuable questions before you take the survey.

Q - Will this make the school day longer?

A - Yes. However, it may not be as long as one may think. At this time, it could add approximately 30-40 minutes per day depending on how long the school year calendar is. Currently, the school day starts at 8am and ends at 3:17pm. We would be possibly looking at a day that starts at 8am and ends at 3:50pm.

Q - Will this make the school year calendar longer?

A - This will depend on how long the school day is. If we start at 8am and end at 3:50pm, the school year calendar could be similar to what we have in place now.

Q - Will there be an early out on Thursday like we currently have on Fridays?

A - No. We would more than likely keep the school day start and end time the same Monday-Thursday.

Q - Will there be days where students will be required to go to school on Fridays?

A - Yes. Many 4 day weeks will require their students to go to school on a Friday if they had the Monday off. For example, schools who take Monday off for Labor Day, Easter Monday, and Presidents Day require students to go to school on that Friday.

Q-How many days of school would be required of students?

A- It all depends on how long the instructional day is. If we went from 8am-3:50pm, the calendar could be around 156-158 days. Currently, our school calendar is 176 days.

Q - Will there be a decrease in instructional hours for students?

A - No. We would ensure that we will not decrease the instructional hours for our students. Keeping instructional hours the same or more is important.

Q - Will teacher/faculty hours be reduced?

A - No, not really. Our staff will still put in the valuable time needed to deliver their instruction to the students. By keeping instructional time the same, it will keep teacher/faculty work time the same. With a longer instructional day it would mean a longer day for staff.

Q - Will there be cost savings for the school District by moving to a 4-day week?

A - Not really. The cost savings would be minimal with the most savings more than likely seen in school food, transportation, and the cost of subs.

Q - Does the district have any concerns regarding the length of the school day, especially for younger students.

A- This has been brought up as a valid concern. Supt. Klasna has talked with multiple school districts on a 4 day and found that students have adapted well to the longer day.

Q - Would the school district still offer a week long spring break?

A - There would be a good chance we would not build that in the calendar to ensure that we are meeting the instructional minutes/hours for our students. If we were to offer a week-long spring break, we would need to extend our calendar further into the summer or start school earlier in August.

Q- Would the calendar allow for a typical Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter Break?

A - Possibly. There could be a chance to not have as many days off during these holidays to ensure that we are meeting the required instructional hours.

Q - What are the main reasons for the school district researching the 4 day week?

A - The main reasons discussed at school board meetings are recruitment and retention of quality staff, reduced absenteeism for staff and students, and more energized staff and students.

Q - What are the main concerns for the district moving to a 4-day week?

A - With any new concept, there will be concerns. Concerns have been the lack of childcare service, decline in academics, students who have unfortunate circumstances, lack of student meals on Fridays, and shareholder perception.

Q - What is the timeline for the implementation of the 4-day school week?

A - The district has taken the approach of being thorough and not rushing this concept. Talks of the 4-day school week started last fall and will continue into March. Consideration of the 4-day week will more than likely be on the March 2023 school board agenda. If the board approves a 4-day calendar, it will be for the following 2023-2024 school year.