

January 29, 2026

Dear South Platte Schools Families,

The South Platte Public Schools Board of Education and administration are beginning to explore the possibility of transitioning to a **4-day school week** for the upcoming academic year. This model is gaining traction across Nebraska and the United States as a way to prioritize student and staff well-being while managing operational resources.

Our primary goal is to provide an exceptional education for every student in the South Platte community. We believe it is essential to involve you in this conversation from the very beginning.

Why are we considering this?

- **Teacher Recruitment & Retention:** A 4-day schedule is a powerful tool to attract and keep high-quality educators in our rural district.
- **Improved Wellness:** Reducing the week can help lower stress levels and burnout for both students and staff.
- **Operational Efficiency:** The district may see modest savings in transportation and utility costs, which can be redirected toward classroom resources.
- **Flexibility:** An extra day allows families more time for appointments and extracurricular activities without missing instructional time.

Addressing Potential Challenges

We recognize that this change would impact every family differently. We are actively researching solutions for:

- **Childcare:** Understanding the needs of working parents on the fifth day.
- **Food Security:** Ensuring students who rely on school meals are supported.
- **Instructional Time:** Adjusting daily schedules to ensure we meet or exceed the state-required hours.

Next Steps & Your Voice

No final decision has been made. We invite you to share your thoughts through the following channels:

- **Community Survey:** Look for a link in your email later next week to provide specific feedback.

For immediate questions, please contact the district office at (308) 889-3622.

Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education.

Working Together,

Mr. Spencer