Four-day school week FAQs

Q: Why is the Board considering a four-day school week?
A: The Board of Education first explored this idea in mid-October. Board president Ben Johnson asked the superintendent to look into that option as a possible cost savings measure. The board is still also considering the regular 4.5 day calendar for 2026-27..

Q: What is the timeline for this decision?
A: Currently this is just a proposal. The more the District looks into this, the more it learns.. The Board will decide if they want to move forward with the consideration of a four-day week tentatively in January. If they make that decision, the district would then put a proposal together to send to the state. The state school board would ultimately need to approve the four-day week.

Q: How much longer will kids be in school Monday through Thursday to make up for the lost day?
A: The proposal as it currently stands would mean students are in school 20 -35 minutes longer each day.

- Elementary 8:55 a.m. to 3:50 p.m. (possibly 3:55 p.m. for busing needs)
- Middle school 8 a.m. to 3:10 p.m.
- High school 7:50 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.

Students would not attend school on Fridays. Spring Break and winter recess would remain unchanged. Two Monday holidays - President's day and MLK — students would be in school. The Monday of fall break would be eliminated. School would start on a Monday and end on a Friday (the only Friday students would attend school).

Q: What are the current known pros and cons of this proposal?
A: Pros: Additional family time, fewer absences (Friday's have the most absences), balanced A/B schedules at the high school level, balanced schedules with S-Tech and SUU for high school students, student mental health, teacher morale, Initial budget savings, athletes, extracurriculars no longer missing Fridays for games.

Cons: Instructional time loss (minimal), childcare challenges, child nutrition needs, schools are a M-F safe place, loss of two holidays when parents are off, Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) freeze for employees for 1-2 years. Possible loss of hours for hourly employees.

Q: What were the results of the survey?
A: Initial survey results show nearly 71 percent of staff in favor. The parent survey shows 66 percent in favor of four-day. 80% of parents said they could adapt to the 4-day school week.

Q: Does this schedule even meet state requirements?
A: In the past, the state has required 990 hours of instruction time. The state also has a 180 day requirement which includes 4 Professional Development days. The state must approve an

exception to the 180-day requirement, which would be part of the process if the Board approves moving forward with the 4-day school week.

Q: Where are students of working parents expected to go on Friday?
A: The District is still looking at Friday opportunities such as clubs, after school-type programs and tutoring to help with some of the concerns with no school on Friday.

Q: How can people provide input to the school board in a valid and reliable way?
A: By the end of the week, the district will share a unique link to every parent, staff and high school student to give everyone an opportunity to provide input.. This survey is conducted through the Qualtrics system and will include an opportunity for comments.