COMMUNITY MEETING:
FOUR-DAY INSTRUCTIONAL WEEK

Independence School District
November 2022
WHY

- Retain current quality staff, recruit new staff to the ISD earlier in the hiring process
- Work/life balance for students, staff, families
ISD BOARD OF EDUCATION

President Eric Knipp
Vice President Blake Roberson
Treasurer Carrie Dixon
Director Jill Esry
Director Denise Fears
Director Greg Finke
Director Anthony J. Mondaine
TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE

6-6:05pm       Eric Knipp, Introduction
6:05 - 6:20pm   Dr. Jon Turner
6:20 - 6:35pm   Dr. Dale Herl
6:35 - 6:45pm   Dr. Gregg Klinginsmith
                Ms. Ginger Schenck
6:45 - 7:30pm   Q&A
7:30pm          Dr. Dale Herl, Conclusion
Q&A OVERVIEW

- Administrators passing out cards + pens
- Write down your questions during presentations
- Raise hand for administrator to collect your card
- BOE members will read questions
- Questions to be answered by panel and ISD leadership

fourdayinfo@isdchools.org
Four-Day School Week
A Strategy to Recruit and Retain
High Qualify Teachers

Dr. Jon Scott Turner, Associate Professor
Historic Context of the Four-Day School Week

- Four-day school week was fairly common historically
- During the 20th Century as education standards became more rigorous the four-day school week became relatively rare
- During The Great Depression many schools used the four-day school week for a short period of time
- During the 1970’s Arab Oil Embargo—again short-term resurgence
- Over last 15 years Hawaii and Utah have both implemented large scale implementation due to state budget issues
- Historically focused in the rural western states
25 States Have at Least One District Using a Four-Day School Week

Approximately 550 of the Nation’s School Districts Use a Four-Day Schedule

*The number of districts in these states are estimates because the data are from old department of education reports or newspaper reports.

Notes:
- We only included states that have districts currently using four-day schedules. Some states had districts using the four-day schedule in the past but no longer do (e.g., Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey).

Growing Trend of 4-Day Week in Missouri

- 2015-2016 12 school districts
- 2016-2017 17 school districts
- 2017-2018 25 school districts
- 2018-2019 33 school districts
- 2019-2020 61 school districts
- 2020-2021 105 school districts
- 2021-2022 123 school districts
- 2022-2023 141 school districts
- 27% of Missouri public schools
Missouri
Four-Day Schools
Districts
2022-2023

• Estimated: 141 School Districts using 4 day school week
• 21 new schools this year
• 15 have more than 1,000 students grades K-12
• Two districts over 3,000 students
• 12 districts have less than 100 students
• First became an option in Missouri in 2009 (13th year)
Four-Day School Week—No Clear Impact on Academic Performance

- Mixed results on academic performance
- Some research indicates some minor impact one way or the other
- Some research indicates impact on academic achievement may be short term—and long-term impact seems to be neutral
- Other variables like the quality of teaching probably have a larger impact on academic performance
Parent Perspectives: Our results did not support these commonly cited concerns of parents.

Few parents expressed concern for their child’s safety during the extra day out of school.

Few parents expressed concern about the ability to find childcare during the extra day out of school (two important groups did express concerns).

Few parents expressed concern about the loss of free or reduced lunches (even families who received this benefit).

Single parent households did not show a significant difference in opinion of the four-day school week.
Overall Parental Perceptions

- 68.9% of families supported using the four-day school week in the future
- 80.5% of families felt their children were as successful in school with the four-day week as they had been the previous year on a traditional calendar
- 73.1% of families felt that the four-day school week had had a “positive impact” on their family
Where parental perceptions significantly differ

• Parents with only elementary aged children are less supportive of the four-day school week than others.

• Parents with only elementary aged children have more concern about finding daycare as compared with others (25.6%).

• Parent with students receiving special education services were less supportive than other parents. 33% wanted to return to the five-day week as compared to 12% of other families.

• 29.4% of parents with special education students felt the four-day week had not had a positive impact on their family, only 10.1% of other families had this negative impression.

• Families receiving free and reduced lunches were less likely to feel their child had been as successful in school with a four-day week.
Why Missouri administrators are switching to a four-day school week?

• Most commonly mentioned reason BY FAR—1st - Teacher recruitment and retention (can’t match salaries or benefits of larger districts)
• 2nd- Additional collaboration and professional development time
• 3rd- Attendance of students and teachers
• Only one of 142 Missouri schools to adopt the four-day school week returned to a five day week.
Faculty and Staff Findings

• Overwhelming support from both certified and classified staff (even staff that report earning less money)
• Unclear if it drives staff/faculty retention or improves faculty and staff attendance
What changes for teachers with four-day week?

• Obviously fewer “teaching days”—but additional professional development days
  • about half of the teachers come in two days less a month. (2 PD day per month)

• On average, in Missouri the length of the teaching day increased 27 minutes
(Missouri only monitors instructional hours—minimum 1,044 hours)

• On average, the amount of annual Professional Development time triples. Some
  school establish graduate programs and grow your own teacher programs for off
  days.

• Many schools revise “sick days” policies for faculty/staff
Superintendent Interviews

- All report many more applicants for positions
- Unexpected Consequences Repeatedly Mentioned
  - Expected more recent college graduate applications—surprised by the large number of veteran teacher applications.
  - Unexpectedly, hired spouse teachers from other districts to come to their district.
  - Disappointed by the number of teacher absences—although nearly all said teachers missed school less often but didn’t reduce the number of absences as much as expected nor did they save much money on substitute teachers.
  - Mood, engagement, and morale during professional development days much higher.
  - Fewer retirees at year 30 (typical retirement year in Missouri)
My Personal/Professional Advice

Focus on the 5th day—as much (maybe more) as you do the 4 day school week. How will the 5th day “look”?

Look for opportunities—focuses academic intervention, career exploration, college visitations/exploration, extra-curricular programs, apprenticeships (Pathways for Paras), and graduate programs (grow your own).

Have clear vision of PD days—how many, how they will be organized, focus.

Communication—both within and around the school district about what you’re doing on the 5th day.

Have long and focused conversations EARLY about who is this going to impact. Families with only early childhood aged children and families with students have special medical or behavioral needs.
Contact information

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https://education.missouristate.edu/CLSE/JonSTurner.aspx
Resources

• www.fourdayweek.us
WHY

- Retain current quality staff, recruit new staff to the ISD earlier in the hiring process

- Work/life balance for students, staff, families
Missouri’s First-Year Teacher Retention 2015-16 to 2020-21

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Year</th>
<th>2015 - 16</th>
<th>2016 - 17</th>
<th>2017 - 18</th>
<th>2018 - 19</th>
<th>2019 - 20</th>
<th>2020 - 21</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>After 3 Years</td>
<td>61.4%</td>
<td>61.5%</td>
<td>57.9%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
<td>64.1%</td>
<td>55.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After 5 Years</td>
<td>39.9%</td>
<td>46.4%</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
<td>46.7%</td>
<td>48.0%</td>
<td>46.5%</td>
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Missouri’s Teacher Retention Rates 2015-16 to 2020-21

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Teachers</td>
<td>70,162</td>
<td>70,640</td>
<td>70,575</td>
<td>70,233</td>
<td>70,783</td>
<td>71,055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Year Teachers</td>
<td>4,267</td>
<td>4,387</td>
<td>4,127</td>
<td>4,025</td>
<td>4,251</td>
<td>4,378</td>
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</table>
Educator Preparation Enrollment 2010-11 to 2019-20

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enrollment</strong></td>
<td>14,139</td>
<td>12,568</td>
<td>10,120</td>
<td>10,390</td>
<td>8,239</td>
<td>7,830</td>
<td>8,254</td>
<td>8,214</td>
<td>10,247</td>
<td>10,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Completers</strong></td>
<td>4,795</td>
<td>4,663</td>
<td>4,609</td>
<td>4,682</td>
<td>4,256</td>
<td>3,752</td>
<td>3,824</td>
<td>3,496</td>
<td>3,576</td>
<td>3,651</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4-day week: no school most Mondays
School Week = Tuesday - Friday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>4-day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tier 1</td>
<td>7:15 am - 2:25 pm</td>
<td>7:10 am - 2:55 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>8:12 am - 3:22 pm</td>
<td>8:05 am - 3:50 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 3</td>
<td>9 am - 4:10 pm</td>
<td>8:50 am - 4:35 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total school day increase = 35 minutes
Monday FIFTH-DAY OPTIONS:
BIRTH - AGE 5

EARLY EDUCATION
AGES BIRTH - 2
NO CHANGE
remains on current
five-day schedule

PRE-K
AGES 3 - 5
KIDS' SAFARI CHILDCARE
new full-day program
MONDAY FIFTH-DAY OPTIONS:

**GRAD K - 5**
- Learning League
- Monday Enrichment
- Monday Enrichment
- FS / LS / CBSS
- Kids' Safari Childcare

**GRAD 6 - 8**
- Academic Support
- Monday Enrichment
- Monday Enrichment
- FS / LS / CBSS
- Kids' Safari Childcare

**GRAD 9 - 12**
- Academic Support
- Monday Enrichment
- Monday Enrichment
- Kid’s Safari Childcare
## Monday Fifth-Day Options:

### Grades K - 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades K - 5</th>
<th>Grades 6 - 8</th>
<th>Grades 9 - 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning League</td>
<td>Academic Support</td>
<td>Academic Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday Enrichment</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS / LS / CBSS</td>
<td>FS / LS / CBSS</td>
<td>FS / LS / CBSS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kids' Safari Childcare</td>
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GRADES K - 12

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- Learning League
- Monday Enrichment
- FS / LS / CBSS
- Kids' Safari Childcare

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**GRADES 9 - 12**
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- Monday Enrichment
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GRADES 9 - 12
- Academic Support
- Monday Enrichment

Kids' Safari Childcare

Kids' Safari Childcare
FOURDAYINFO@ISDSCHOOLS.ORG

Thank you for partnering with us in the education of ISD students.