



Four-Day Instructional Week

Frequently Asked Questions



Contents

4 Hours

5 Instruction

6 Childcare

9 Enrichment

13 Early Education

15 Meals

15 Staff

Hello ISD families,

As we begin to look ahead to the 2023-2024 school year ([see calendars at isdschools.org/calendars](https://isdschools.org/calendars)), we wanted to answer some of the questions that you may have about our transition to a four-day school week.

This information, as well as everything we have previously published, is online at: isdschools.org/isd-four-day-instructional-week/.

We understand that this is a big change, and we appreciate your ongoing partnership to ensure ISD students receive a high-quality, well-rounded education. From the beginning, we have worked to be transparent about our purpose, which is to attract and retain the very best staff we can to ensure the quality of the education of our students. To that end, we have already seen many positive impacts since the announcement of our move to a four-day school week.

- The ISD has seen a drastic increase in the number of individual teaching applications coming into the district. The ISD has received more than four times as many applications for teaching positions compared to the same time last year.
- Number of individual teaching applications received:
 - December 21, 2021 - June 13, 2022 = 153
 - December 21, 2022 - June 13, 2023 = 678
- Our applicant pool has seen an increase in veteran teachers who will bring experience and knowledge to the classroom.
- More than 60 high schoolers have already enrolled to earn college credit on Mondays through a program offered only to ISD students.

We are sharing the following material to help close the gap of unknown information or dispel any misinformation, as well as remind our families that we are here to answer any questions that you might have about this transition: fourdayinfo@isdschools.org.

Thank you for all that you do to support ISD students.

Information in this document can also be found at
[ISDschooLs.org/FourDayFAQ](https://isdschools.org/FourDayFAQ)

Transition to a Four-Day Instructional Week

Frequently Asked Questions

Hours

- What are the start and end times of the school day?

Tier 1: 7:10 am - 2:55 pm

Bridger, Independence Academy, Truman, Van Horn, William Chrisman

Tier 2: 8:05 am - 3:50 pm

Benton, Bingham, Nowlin, Pioneer Ridge, Procter, Randall, Santa Fe Trail

Tier 3: 8:50 am - 4:35 pm

Blackburn, Bryant, Cassell Park, Fairmount, Glendale, Korte, Little Blue, Luff, Mallinson, Mill Creek, Ott, Spring Branch, Sugar Creek, Sycamore, Three Trails, William Southern

Early Education:

Sunshine Center, Truman Early Education: 7 am - 5 pm Monday - Friday

Hanthorn: 8:50 am - 4:35 pm Tuesday - Friday

Hanthorn ECSE (Early Childhood Special Education): AM session 8: 50 - 11:50 / PM session 1:35 - 4:35 Tuesday - Friday

- Why did the ISD choose Mondays as the day off?

Most national holidays fall on Mondays, so we have always had a handful of Mondays scheduled off anyway during the school year. We have also moved our Teacher/Staff Professional Development Days (PD days) to Mondays. Mondays off is the best option to accommodate families and allow more consistency in the calendar, plus it enables the ISD to stay within the parameters of the state-mandated school year start date and a school year end date prior to Memorial Day.

- Why are there still some weeks when school is in session on Mondays?

There is a law in the state of Missouri that says public school districts cannot begin the school year any sooner than 14 days prior to Labor Day. We also know that attendance drops off dramatically if the school year extends beyonds Memorial Day, which is why our calendar committee votes to end school in May. In order to both meet these parameters and protect ISD student instruction time, there are some weeks in which students will attend school on Monday as part of a traditional five-day school week.

- Will practices and games continue on Mondays?

Yes, practices and games will continue on Mondays. Transportation to practice will be provided for MSHSAA-sponsored activities.

Instruction

- Is my student receiving less education?

No. It was important to district leadership that the ISD protect student instruction time. While the number of student attendance days will shift from 170 days to 155 days, the length of the instructional day will increase by 35 minutes. Moving to a four day instructional model does not equal reducing 20% of your student's instructional time. Professional development days for teachers/staff, which the district already has, have been moved to Mondays as well.

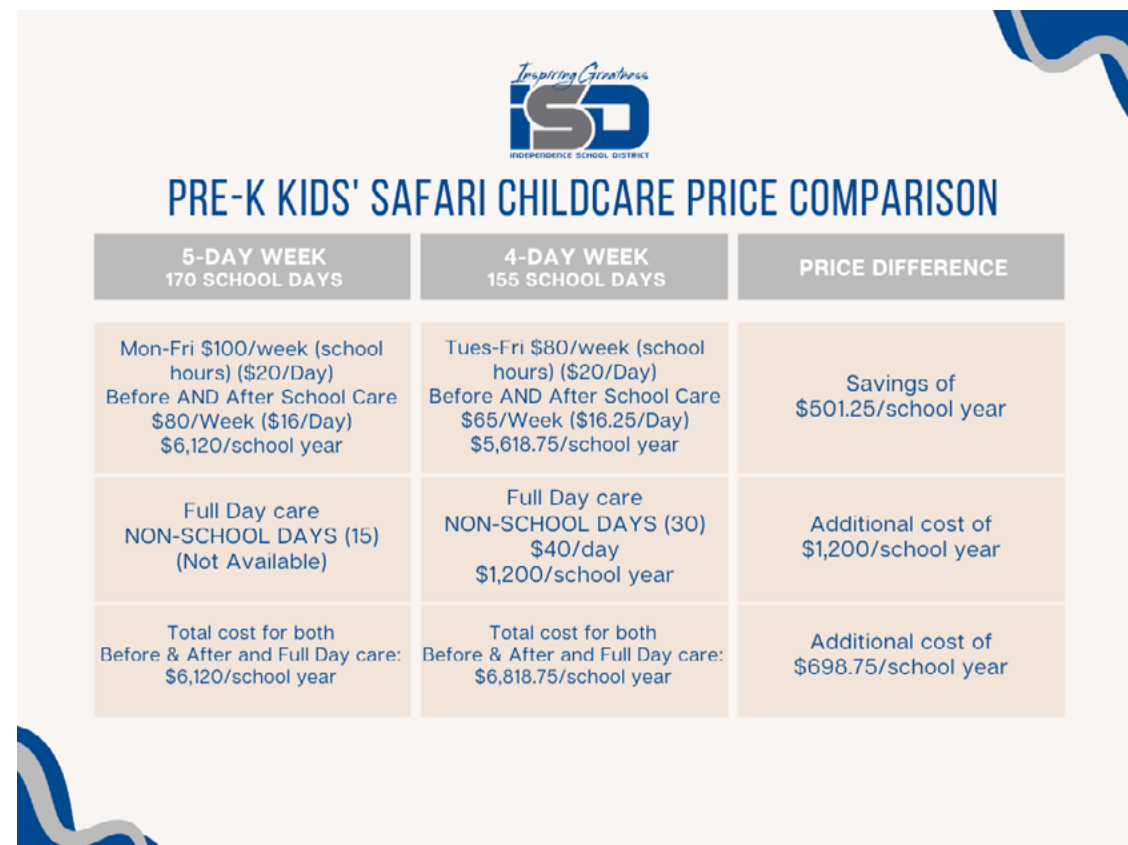
ISD students attend school for more instructional hours than the state requirement of 1,044 hours. While there might be slight fluctuations down to the minutes, the overall instructional time your student will receive is the same.

Childcare

● Did the cost of childcare go up?

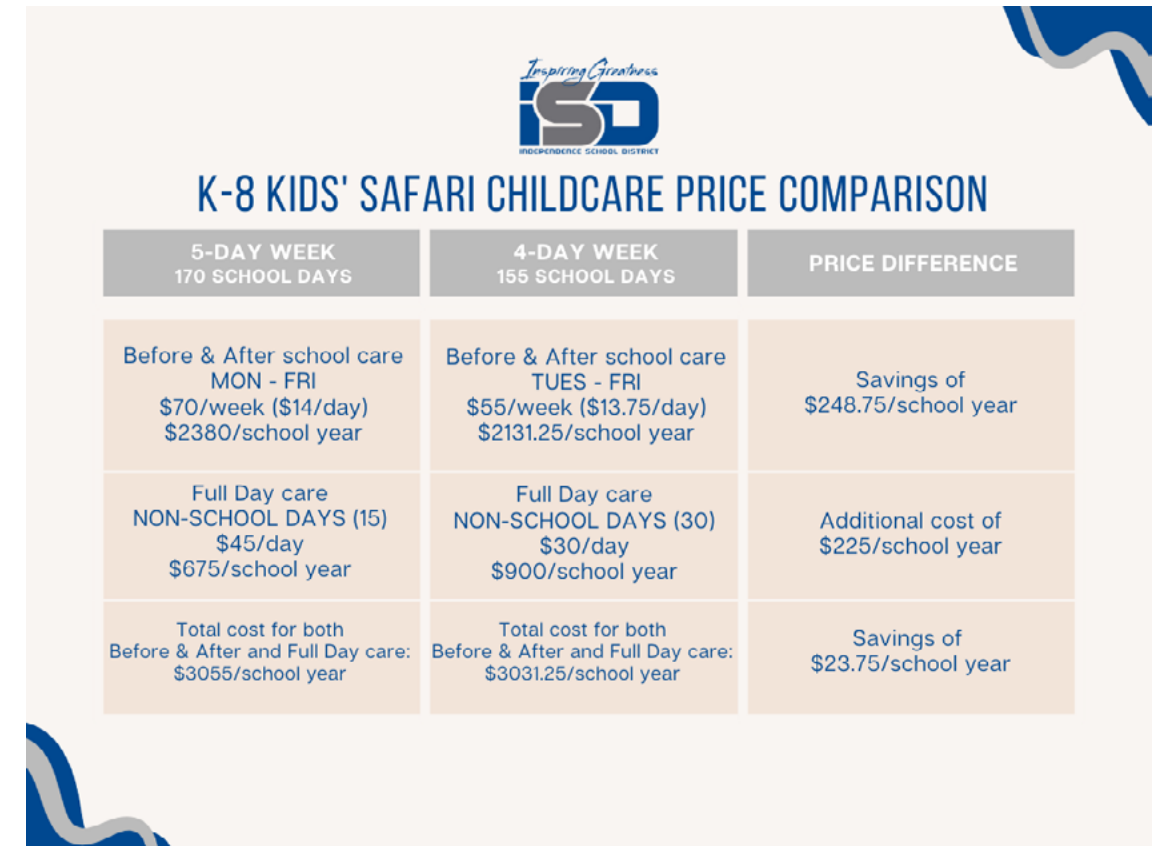
This depends on each family individually and which childcare services they will use. Some families will see a decrease in the amount they pay for childcare due to the information presented below, as well as taking into consideration that some families may no longer need childcare at the end of the school day, due to the fact that the school day is longer.

We have also increased our childcare offerings by providing ten hours of care on each of the 30 days in which school is not in session (6:30 am - 6 pm), as well as the addition of full-day care for Pre-K, which was created to accommodate families who need care on Mondays. ([Register at isdschools.ce.elevo.com](https://isdschools.ce.elevo.com))



PRE-K KIDS' SAFARI CHILDCARE PRICE COMPARISON

5-DAY WEEK 170 SCHOOL DAYS	4-DAY WEEK 155 SCHOOL DAYS	PRICE DIFFERENCE
Mon-Fri \$100/week (school hours) (\$20/Day) Before AND After School Care \$80/Week (\$16/Day) \$6,120/school year	Tues-Fri \$80/week (school hours) (\$20/Day) Before AND After School Care \$65/Week (\$16.25/Day) \$5,618.75/school year	Savings of \$501.25/school year
Full Day care NON-SCHOOL DAYS (15) (Not Available)	Full Day care NON-SCHOOL DAYS (30) \$40/day \$1,200/school year	Additional cost of \$1,200/school year
Total cost for both Before & After and Full Day care: \$6,120/school year	Total cost for both Before & After and Full Day care: \$6,818.75/school year	Additional cost of \$698.75/school year



K-8 KIDS' SAFARI CHILDCARE PRICE COMPARISON

5-DAY WEEK 170 SCHOOL DAYS	4-DAY WEEK 155 SCHOOL DAYS	PRICE DIFFERENCE
Before & After school care MON - FRI \$70/week (\$14/day) \$2380/school year	Before & After school care TUES - FRI \$55/week (\$13.75/day) \$2131.25/school year	Savings of \$248.75/school year
Full Day care NON-SCHOOL DAYS (15) \$45/day \$675/school year	Full Day care NON-SCHOOL DAYS (30) \$30/day \$900/school year	Additional cost of \$225/school year
Total cost for both Before & After and Full Day care: \$3055/school year	Total cost for both Before & After and Full Day care: \$3031.25/school year	Savings of \$23.75/school year

● What are the hours for Kids' Safari Before and After school care?

AM session: 6:30 AM until school begins
PM session: when school is dismissed until 6 PM

● What are the hours for Kids' Safari Full-Day Sessions?

Full-day session: 6:30 AM - 6 PM. These services are offered for Pre-K to 8th grade.

There are 30 weekdays on the 23-24 calendar in which school is not in session. These mostly fall on Mondays, except for Tuesday November 7th and Tuesday January 2nd. There is full-day childcare offered on all 30 of these days, which are marked with a circle on the calendar below. ([Register at isdschools.ce.elevo.com](https://isdschools.ce.elevo.com))

INDEPENDENCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2023-2024 Kids Safari CALENDAR

JULY 2023					AUGUST 2023					SEPTEMBER 2023					OCTOBER 2023					
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	
3	4	5	6	7	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	
10	11	12	13	14	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	
17	18	19	20	21	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	
24	25	26	27	28	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	23	24	25	26	27		
31										30					30	31				
Student Attendance					Student Attendance 9					Student Attendance 17					Student Attendance 17					
					END OF 1ST QUARTER															
NOVEMBER 2023					DECEMBER 2023					JANUARY 2024					FEBRUARY 2024					
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	
6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	1	5	6	7	8	9	
13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	8	9	10	11	12	12	13	14	15	16	
20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	
27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28	29	29	30	31	26	27	28	29					
Student Attendance 16					Student Attendance 13					Student Attendance 18					Student Attendance 17					
					END OF 1ST SEMESTER - DEC 22															
MARCH 2024					APRIL 2024					MAY 2024					JUNE 2024					
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	
4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	
11*	12	13	14	15	8*	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	
18	19	20	21	22	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22*	23*	24*	17	18	19	20	21	
25	26	27	28	29	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	
Student Attendance 17					Student Attendance 17					Student Attendance 14										

A. Contract Days

Required Student Contract Days 155
Required Teacher Contract Days 171
Kids Safari Days 30

Tentative Summer School Start May 29
Graduation May 17 and May 18, 2024
Seniors Last Day May 15

No School / Non Contract
First Day of School/Last Day of School
Parent Teacher Conference Week
No School - Childcare Not Available
No School - Childcare Available

* Weather Make Up Days
* Snow Days # - 1 March 11, #2 May 23, #3 May 24, #4 April 8, #5 April 29

Enrichment

In addition to our childcare offerings as explained above, the ISD is also offering free enrichment programming on the 18 days listed as "Enrichment" in the Kids' Safari/Enrichment schedule, below in this section. These programs are available to students grades K-12 and include both academic and extracurricular activities.

Kindergarten - 5th grade Clubs

Kindergarten - 5th Grade Clubs are free, extracurricular, teacher-led offerings. There is no cost to families. The times and locations of these programs will vary, and that information will be provided at the start of each semester.

There may be additional club offerings at each combined site dependent upon its individual staff and student interests and needs, as well as available space and resources.

There is no district-provided transportation for these activities.

Club options vary by site. Some example activities include: Running/Walking Club, Reading Club, Arts & Crafts Club, Board Game Club, Team Sports Club.

Note: signing your student up for one of these clubs means care is offered only for the duration of the club. If full-day childcare is needed, you must enroll and pay for Kids' Safari full-day childcare for that day.

Kindergarten - 5th grade Learning League

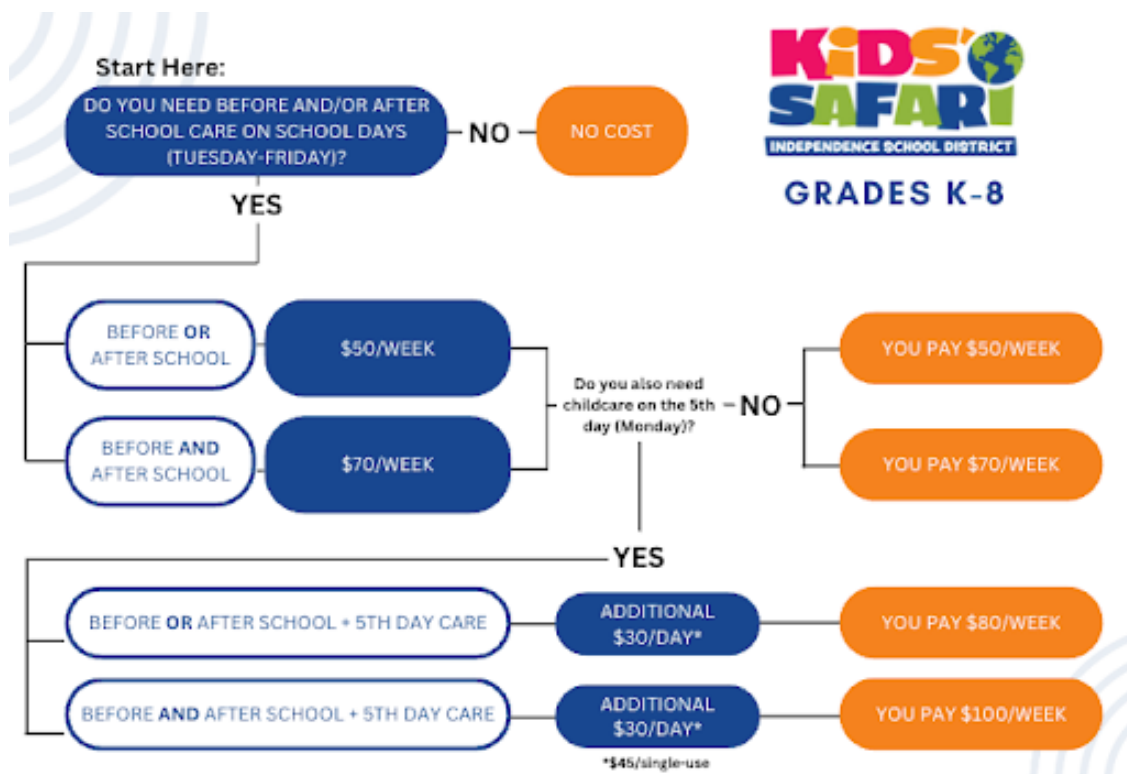
Learning League is a *free, invite-only*, instructional, guided tutoring program intended to help students improve academic performance. Learning League is for students who have been identified as being at least one grade level behind academically.

If your student is invited to participate, you will receive information from the district near the beginning of the school year.

The district will provide transportation services for Learning League.

Please note, Kindergarten Learning League starts October 30, 2023. Also, Learning League (all grades) is **not in session** September 18, October 16, October 23, December 4, January 22, January 29, March 11, March 18, April 1, and May 13.

Note: your student's participation in Learning League means care is offered only for the duration of the program. If full-day childcare is needed, you



must enroll and pay for Kids' Safari full-day care for that day.

● 6th - 12th grade Academic Support Programming

These are free fifth-day offerings for students who choose to participate on Mondays. Programming offered at our secondary level include: **credit recovery, attendance recovery, and tutoring.**

There is no district-provided transportation for these activities.

● 6th - 12th grade Clubs

There may be additional club offerings at each combined site, for our middle school and high school students. These will be dependent upon each site's individual staff and student interests and needs, as well as available space and resources.

Information about these clubs will come from each combined-site location as those clubs are planned and formed throughout the school year.

There is no district-provided transportation for these activities.

Note: your 6-8th grade student's participation in one of these clubs means care is offered for the duration of the club.

There is no Kids' Safari full-day childcare services at Bingham Middle School. Kids' Safari at Latitude (6th-8th grade) is located at Little Blue Elementary.

● 10th - 12th grade ISD + MCC Partnership

ISD high school students in 10-12th grade may take **college courses at MCC**, earning up to 24 college credit hours on Mondays. These courses are in-person or hybrid (combined in-person and online) at MCC-Blue River in Independence. The tuition is deeply discounted to \$181.50 per course, plus there is assistance available to help with that cost through the ISD Foundation.

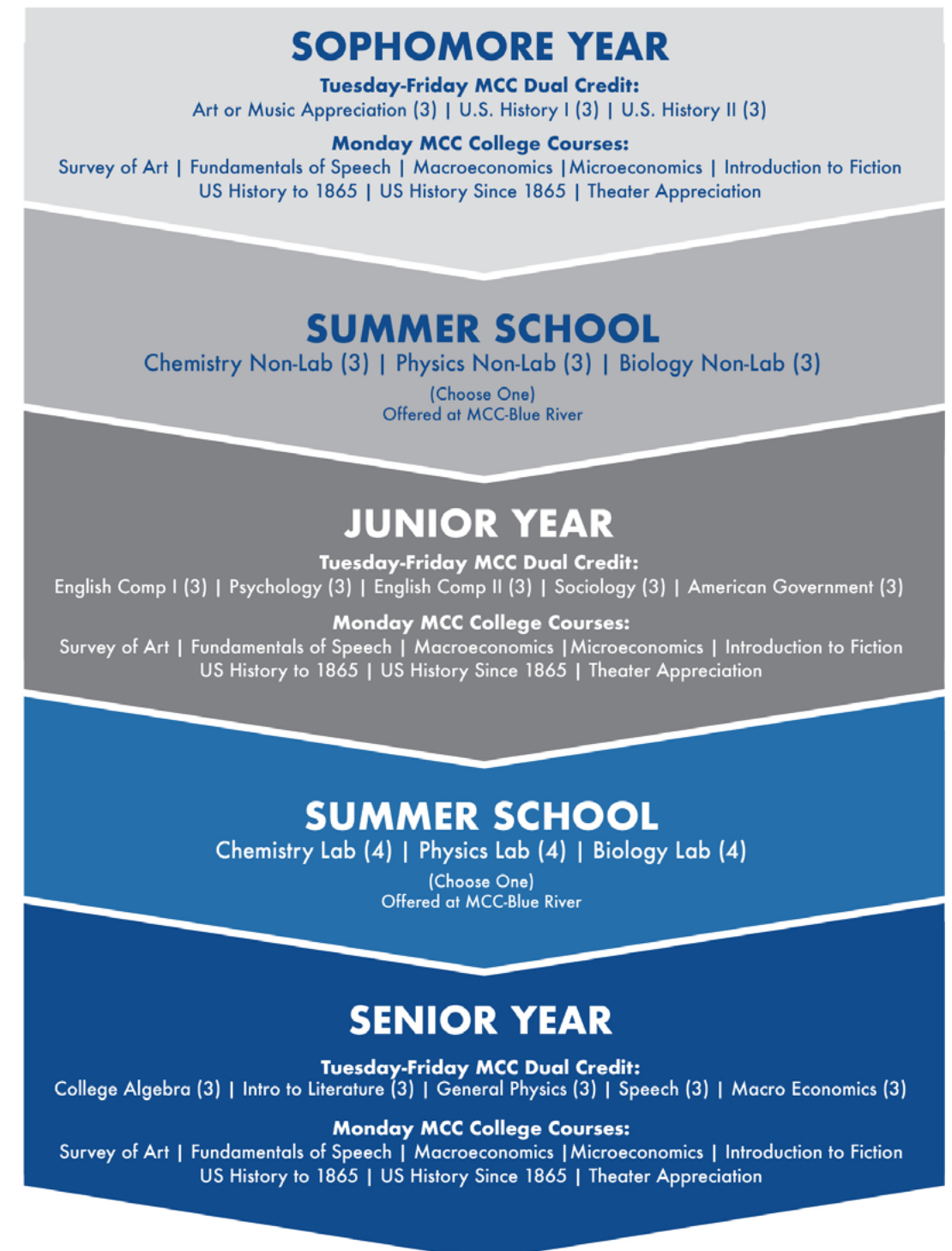
There is no district-provided transportation for these activities.

If interested, your student should contact their high school counselor or email Keith Stiffler, Enrollment Manager at MCC-Blue River: keith.stiffler@mccckc.edu.

[View the Core 42 sequence document on the next page at ISDschoools.org/enrichment-opportunities/](#) as well as understand how these MCC classes fit into the ISD Core 42 Sequence.

Core 42 Sequence

The Core 42 Sequence includes all Independence School District academic core classes guaranteed to transfer one-to-one among all public colleges and universities in the state of Missouri. Students may complete Core 42 Sequence courses in addition to courses corresponding with their ISD Academy Pathway.



This schedule outlines enrichment opportunities available on the 30 non-school Mondays. [View the calendar PDF at ISDschoools.org/calendars.](https://isd.schools.org/calendars)

Kids' Safari/Enrichment Schedule

Non-Instructional Mondays	Kids' Safari	Enrichment Programming (Clubs/Learning League/ Academic Support)	ISD + MCC
September 11, 2023	✓		✓
September 18, 2023	✓	✓ No Learning League	✓
September 25, 2023	✓		✓
October 2, 2023	✓	✓	✓
October 9, 2023	✓	✓	✓
October 16, 2023	✓		✓
October 23, 2023	✓		✓
October 30, 2023	✓	✓ Kindertgarten Learning League Starts	✓
November 13, 2023	✓	✓	✓
November 27, 2023	✓	✓	✓
December 4, 2023	✓		✓
December 11, 2023	✓	✓	✓ MCC Final Exams
December 18, 2023	✓	✓	✓
January 22, 2024	✓	✓ No Learning League	✓
January 29, 2024	✓		✓
February 5, 2024	✓	✓	✓
February 12, 2024	✓		✓
February 26, 2024	✓	✓	✓
March 4, 2024	✓	✓	✓
March 11, 2024*	✓		✓
March 18, 2024	✓		✓
April 1, 2024	✓		✓
April 8, 2024*	✓	✓	
April 15, 2024	✓	✓	✓
April 22, 2024	✓	✓	✓
April 29, 2024*	✓	✓	
May 6, 2024	✓	✓	✓
May 13, 2024	✓	✓ No Learning League	✓ MCC Final Exams

* Designated Weather Make-Up Day

Please note: ISD + MCC classes will not occur on November 6 and March 25 as these days are ISD instructional Mondays.

Where are these services offered?

The chart below lists the buildings that will be open on Mondays, where ISD students can participate in fifth-day offerings. These are also the locations where any child or ISD parent/guardian with the need for a meal may come to get food on Mondays.

The buildings listed on the left are open combined sites, and the schools and programs listed on the right will feed into those locations on Mondays.

Combined Site	Schools Attending Combined Site
Hanthorn Early Education 1511 S Kings Highway Independence, MO 64055 816-521-5485	Pre-K (Ages 3-5) Kids' Safari Only
Cassell Park Elementary 10401 East 31st Street Independence, MO 64052 816-521-5540	Fairmount; Korte; Procter; Three Trails
Little Blue Elementary 2020 Quail Drive Independence, MO 64057 816-521-5480	Blackburn; Randall; Spring Branch; IA Elementary; Elementary Special Education Programs: LS, CBSS, and FS; Kids' Safari at Latitude (6th-8th grade)
Mallinson Elementary 709 N Forest Avenue Sugar Creek, MO 64054 816-521-5530	Benton; Bryant; Mill Creek; Ott; Sugar Creek
Sycamore Hills Elementary 15208 E 39th Street S Independence, MO 64055 816-521-5465	Glendale; Luff; Santa Fe; William Southern
Bingham Middle School 1716 S Speck Road Independence, MO 64057 816-521-5490	Bridger; Nowlin; Pioneer Ridge; IA Middle School; Middle School Special Education Programs: LS, CBSS, FS *No Kids' Safari at Latitude (6th-8th grade) at these locations
William Chrisman 1223 N Noland Road Independence, MO 64050 816-521-5355	Truman; Van Horn; IA High School

Early Education

How much does this cost?

The enrichment programming is free to ISD students.

- My child is Birth - age 5. What are my childcare options?

Birth - age 2

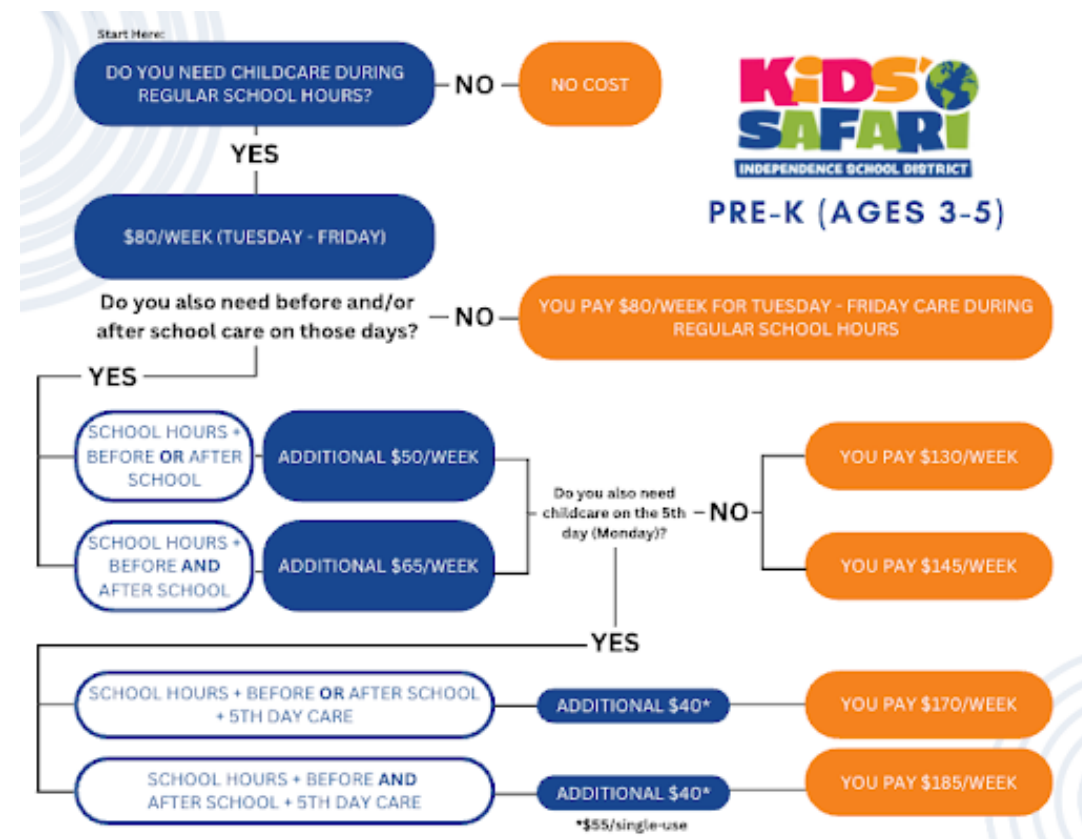
The move to a four-day instructional week does not impact those from birth - age 2 in our Early Education program. The hours of care for those ages will remain Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost is \$210/week. Qualifying families might be eligible for financial assistance.

[Begin online registration at registration.isdschools.org/#/](http://registration.isdschools.org/#/) then call ISD Early Education at 816-521-5314 to set up a screening appointment to complete the

Pre-K (ages 3 - 5)

The Pre-K program will follow the four-day school week schedule, Tuesday - Friday. The hours of the program will align with the bell schedule of the school in which your child attends. The cost is \$80/week. Qualifying families might be eligible for financial assistance. There is also Kids' Safari Before and After School care for Pre-K at select sites. [\(Register at idschools.ce.elevo.com/\)](http://idschools.ce.elevo.com/)

Pre-K Kid's Safari Full-Day care is also offered on non-school days at Hanthorn. Please see the Kids' Safari/Enrichment Schedule above for a list of those 30 non-school weekdays. [\(Register at idschools.ce.elevo.com/\)](http://idschools.ce.elevo.com/)



Meals

- Will meals be provided on the Mondays that we don't have school?

Meals will be provided at the following locations when school is not in session: Bingham, Cassell Park, Hanthorn, Little Blue, Mallinson, Sycamore Hills, William Chrisman. Breakfast will be served 8 - 9:15 AM. Lunch will be served 10:20 - 12:40 PM.

We will serve free meals to any child or ISD parent/guardian who arrives at these sites with the need for a meal. These meals will be served as a grab-and-go format. The serving times will match the meal service of the buildings on Tuesday - Friday, and that information will come from the buildings closer to the start of the school year in August.

Staff

- Will employees lose pay?

No; for most classified employees (non-teachers), the number of hours will remain the same. Instead of working five days, an employee will work four longer days. Some departments will remain on a five-day week. The ISD has made adjustments to salary schedules in all other employee groups to ensure that no one loses any pay.

- Do teachers have to work on Mondays?

During most months, teachers are contracted for one Monday for purposes of professional development or teacher work time.

Additionally, every teacher is assigned to work one Monday per school year, thus creating a rotating schedule which ensures our Monday activities for students are staffed. Teachers are surveyed for their assigned work day preference and assignments are sent out at the beginning of the year.

Teachers may choose to work additional Mondays, which gives them an opportunity to earn additional pay if they wish.