



ALA Four-day School Week Survey Q & A

Parents,

Many of you have taken the opportunity to watch a short video produced by the school introducing a proposal from ALA on a four-day school week. I would like to provide a question and answer.

Does the four-day school week extend the school year?

This would completely depend on how we establish the calendar. The current proposal would be for school to start at 8:15 AM and let out at 3:15 PM. Under this proposal it would extend our school year by 1 ½ weeks. The calendar could be almost the same as it is now by starting at 8 AM and ending at 3:15 PM. Most of the local secondary schools start before 8 AM and for those with a 0 hour class they time would be adjusted as needed.

Is ALA proposing to take Friday off or Monday?

The feedback received from the parent advisory committee and our teacher survey recommended we take Friday off. This option would increase student attendance at school, because students would not miss class as often due to school related travel and activities we will still take the federal holidays off that fall on Monday.

Will students be required to do more homework due to the shortened week?

In the ALA proposal it is not anticipated that students would be required to do more homework.

Will the day be eaten up with extra rehearsal, and practices?

It is anticipated that students involved in extracurricular activities will likely use the Friday for travel, and practice. However, the practices and rehearsal should not be any more extensive than they have been on the five day school week.

Will there be something at the school on Fridays for my students who need additional academic support?

In the ALA plan students who qualify for at risk programs will receive subsidized academic support on Fridays. For students wanting enrichment or parents who need a place for their students to attend on Friday there will be fee-based instruction focusing on math, language arts, and science.

Why is ALA looking at the four-day?

Many schools across the country that are doing the four-day school week have implemented it as a cost-saving measure. The five primary reasons we are considering a four-day school week are as follows.

1. Increases student and staff morale.
2. Increases student and staff attendance.
3. Provides additional time for professional development and teacher training, which leads to higher student achievement.
4. Provides additional academic options for students and families in the 21st century.
5. Provides a day for intensive tutoring and enrichment.

We appreciate you taking the time to provide us your feedback on the four-day school option.