

**Valley R-VI  
4-Day School Week  
Information**



*If you have any questions,  
please fill out a question sheet.*

**We will have a time later in the meeting for public questions.**

**Goal tonight is not to answer every question.**

**Goals are:**

- 1. Everyone has an opportunity to be heard and questions asked.**
- 2. Information will be shared and questions answered when possible.**
- 3. Questions not answered tonight will be considered and best options sought if our district adopts a 4 day school week calendar .**



# *Calendar Committee Members*

**Maggie Carr - Elementary Teacher**  
**Alyssa Harbison - Elementary Teacher**  
**Kelly Sadler - Preschool Teacher**  
**Caleb Tiefenauer - Elementary Principal**  
**Tiffany Moyers - Paraprofessional**  
**Alisia Wright -Secretary**  
**Nicky Boyer - Transportation Department**

**Katie Tiefenauer - JH/HS Teacher**  
**Jarah McGinness - JH/HS Teacher**  
**Jamie Warden - JH/HS Principal**  
**Chris Byers - Special Service Director**  
**Michelle Province - School Nurse**  
**Mary Johnston - Custodian/Maintenance**  
**Stephanie Nipper - Food Service**





## How did this idea get started for Valley R-VI

- CSIP Committee recommended we consider it to assist CSIP Goal 6 - Recruit and Retain Highly Qualified Staff
- School Board asked that we survey our stakeholders
- Many schools similar to us have transitioned to a 4-day week
- There has been a growing interest in a 4-day week over the past few years
- Parents and staff members have asked for us to investigate this as a possibility for next year

# *What is our “Why” ?*

1. **Spring 2023 - Started from the District CSIP (Continual School Improvement Committee) - Written by district stakeholders (Patrons, Parents, Staff, Students, Administrators)**
  - a. **Goal - Recruit and Retain Highly Qualified Staff**
  - b. **A number asked to consider 4 day school week**
2. **Winter 2023 - Board asked to survey and gather input from community on 4 day school week.**
3. **State statute - must have same amount of instructional hours - ex. 1044 hours per year**
4. **Hourly staff would work same or nearly the same hours with no reduction in pay. Hours would just be reallocated.**
5. **Mrs. Sadler - on the “Why”**



## Why is the district exploring a 4-day week?

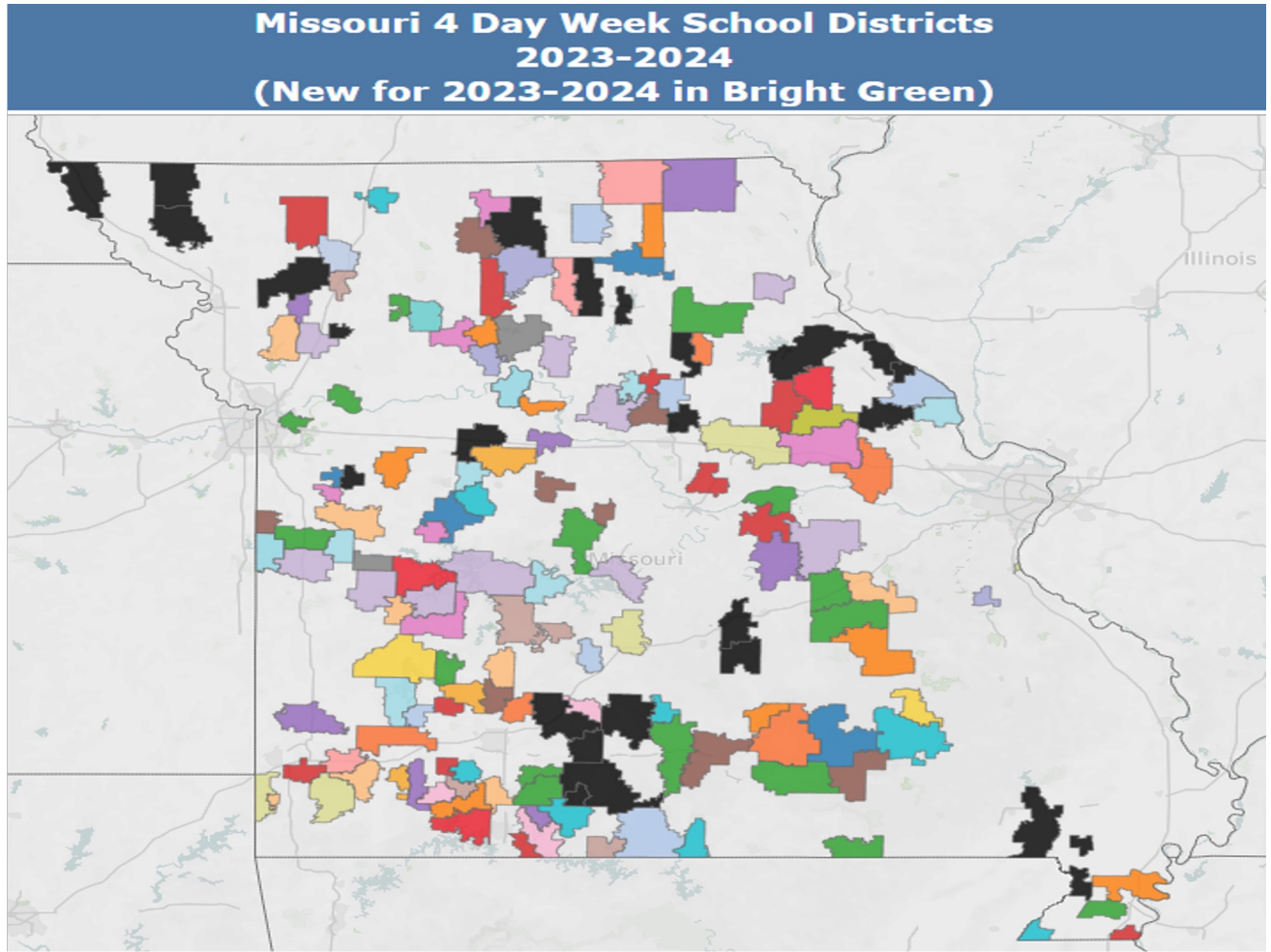
The reasons for considering this include:

- A more consistent yearly schedule
- Ability to attract and retain staff
- More quality time for families
- Increased instructional time
- Improved attendance for both staff and students
- Student work opportunities
- Fewer substitute teachers needed
- A reduction in some district expenditures

# Map of 4-Day Districts for SY 23-24

168 total Districts over 30% of MO Schools

- |                   |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Adair Co. R-I     | Hickory Co. R-I   | Pettis Co. R-V    |
| Adair Co. R-II    | Higbee R-VIII     | Pheps Co. R-III   |
| Adrian R-III      | Holcomb R-III     | Pierce City R-VI  |
| Albany R-III      | Holiday C-2       | Pike Co. R-III    |
| Appleton City R.  | Hurley R-I        | Plainview R-VIII  |
| Aurora R-VIII     | Independence :    | Pleasant Hope .   |
| Ava R-I           | Iron Co. C-1      | Rails Co. R-II    |
| Bakersfield R-IV  | Jasper Co. R-V    | Raymondville R    |
| Ballard R-II      | Johnson Co. R.    | Reeds Spring R.   |
| Bevier C-4        | Keytesville R-III | Renick R-V        |
| Billings R-IV     | Kingsville R-I    | Ridgeway R-V      |
| Blackwater R-II   | Kirbyville R-VI   | Rock Port R-II    |
| Bond R-X          | La Monte R-IV     | Roscoe C-1        |
| Bosworth R-V      | La Plata R-II     | Sarcosia R-II     |
| Bradleyville R-I  | Laclede Co. C-5   | School Of The .   |
| Breckenridge R-I  | Lakeand R-III     | Schuyler Co. R-I  |
| Bucklin R-II      | Lathrop R-II      | Scotland Co. R-I  |
| Butler R-V        | Linn Co. R-I      | Seneca R-VII      |
| Cabool R-IV       | Louisiana R-II    | Seymour R-II      |
| Calhoun R-VIII    | Lutie R-VI        | Shelby Co. R-IV   |
| Centerville R-I   | Macon Co. R-IV    | Sherwood Cass.    |
| Chadwick R-I      | Madson C-3        | Silex R-I         |
| Clever R-V        | Malden R-I        | Southern Reyn.    |
| Climax Springs .. | Maries R-V        | Southland C-9     |
| Clinton Co. R-III | Marion Co. R-II   | Southwest Livl.   |
| Community R-VI    | Marion C. Early.  | Sparta R-III      |
| Cooter R-IV       | Marion Co. R-II   | Spokane R-VII     |
| Couch R-I         | Marshfield R-I    | Steelville R-III  |
| Crane R-III       | Maysville R-I     | Stockton R-I      |
| Crawford Co. R-I  | Meadville R-IV    | Stoutland R-II    |
| Crawford Co. R-I  | Miami R-I         | Strasburg C-3     |
| Crystal City 47   | Milan C-2         | Sturgeon R-V      |
| Delta C-7         | Miller R-II       | Summersville R    |
| Diamond R-IV      | Mirabile C-1      | Sunrise R-IX      |
| Drexel R-IV       | Montau Co. R      | Sweet Springs .   |
| East Lynne 40     | Montgomery C.     | Taneyville R-II   |
| East Newton C...  | Montrose R-XIV    | Tina-Avalon R-I   |
| Elsberry R-II     | Morgan Co. R-II   | Twin Rivers R-X   |
| Eminence R-I      | Mountain Gov..    | Van-Par R-I       |
| Everton R-III     | Mountain View.    | Verona R-VII      |
| Fair Grove R-X    | New Bloomfield    | Walnut Grove R    |
| Fair Play R-II    | Newburg R-II      | Warren Co. R-II   |
| Fayette R-III     | Newtown-Harr.     | Warsaw R-IX       |
| Forsyth R-III     | Niangua R-V       | Weaubleau R-II    |
| Gainesville R-V   | Nodaway-Holt .    | Wellsville Middl. |
| Galena R-II       | North Callaway.   | West Nodaway      |
| Gasconade Co...   | North Pemiscot.   | Westview C-6      |
| Green Ridge R...  | Northwestern R    | Winona R-III      |
| Greenfield R-IV   | Oreanville R-IV   | Winston R-VI      |
| Grundy Co. R-V    | Orrick R-XI       |                   |
| Hale R-I          | Osage Co. R-I     |                   |
| Halfway R-III     | Osage Co. R-II    |                   |
| Hallsville R-IV   | Ozborn R-O        |                   |
| Harrisburg R-VII  | Oscola            |                   |
| Hartville R-II    | Oterville R-VI    |                   |
| Henry Co. R-I     | Pattonburg R-I    |                   |





## **168 Missouri School Districts Now Use the 4-Day Week Calendar**

This is over 30% of Missouri School Districts using the 4-Day Week. Only two schools have transitioned back to a 5-Day Week after making the change. There have been considerable increases over the past four years.





## What steps have occurred to collect data?

- Surveys were conducted with parents/patrons, staff, and students specific to the 4-Day School Week
- Administration met with small groups across the District and Community to discuss the 4-Day School Week and gather feedback
- Public Informational Meetings were held for input
- A sample calendar was shared for the 4-Day Week

“*When making the switch to a four-day calendar, school districts maintain the same number of instructional minutes with students and teachers working longer days.*”



## What have we learned from the comments?

- People are for it because of the consistency it will create, the flexibility of having the longer weekend to do things as a family, the opportunity to schedule appointments on Mondays and avoid missing school days, allowing kids to have the extra day with parents / grandparents, an extra day for HS kids to work or job shadow.
- People are against it because childcare could/would be an issue, kids won't have access to free meals, it is different from what we are use to, the later dismissal will create less family time in the evenings, the long days could create student fatigue, long weekends will be hard to recoup from on Tuesdays, getting younger athletes to and from Monday practice may be an issue.



## 4-Day Week and 5-Day Week: What is the same?

- 1104 hours of instruction per year
- Two Week Christmas Break
- Wednesday-Friday Off for Thanksgiving
- Good Friday Off
- All Snow Days Built in-No Make-up days



## 4-Day Week Pros

- Staff Recruitment and Retention
- Improved Attendance
- Consistent Schedule
- Additional Time for Cleaning and Maintenance
- Some Reduced Costs (Busing and Utilities)
- Longer Instructional Time (Project-Based Learning)



## 4-Day Week Possible Benefits

- Parents can Schedule Appointments for Days Off
- Reduced Teacher Burnout
- More Quality Family Time
- Students More Rested and Prepared for the Week
- Increased Teacher PD Time Throughout the Year
- HS Students have a Full Day to Work or Job Shadow



## 4-Day Week Cons

- School schedule may not match parent's work schedule
- Longer days (in our case 31 additional minutes)
  - ▶ 7:45 A.M.-3:32 P.M. compared to now 7:56A.M. -3:12 P.M.
- Monday sports practice for non-drivers
- Students relying on school meals will miss this resource on Monday (at school)
- Difficulty with one day of child care



## 5-Day Week Pros

- Traditional schedule that students and parents are accustomed to
- Matches the traditional 5 day work schedule
- Ensures students get more meals provided on 5th day (during school)
- Less chance for childcare costs to parents





## 5-Day Week Possible Benefits

- Shorter day
- Shorter weekend break, less chance for learning loss
- Matches 5 day schools
- Possibly easier to accommodate sports practice schedules



## 5-Day Week Cons

- Less Consistent Schedule
- Shorter time harder for project-based learning
- Nothing to create a distinction for our District that can help attract and retain staff
- Only able to maintain routine cleaning processes
- More attendance issues related to appointments
- Less flexibility for families



## How a 4-Day Week Could Increase Not Decrease Instructional Time

With a few more minutes added to each class period per day, there are more minutes spent towards instructional time, while maintaining the same amount of non-instructional time during the week for transitions and lunch in all schools.

This allows teachers to get more in-depth in the content with students, which typically yields higher academic achievement.

Calendar years, whether a 5-Day or 4-Day, are based on 1044 hours of instructional time and/or 1104 hours with snow days built in.



## How a 4-Day Week - IEP and 504 Minutes

The IEP and 504 team (which includes parents/guardians) will still determine the minutes of Specialized instruction per day. Students total minutes per week should remain the same or similar. Accommodations and Modifications would not change.

A 4 day week provides a 5th day for additional tutoring, intervention, and enrichment while allowing the student to still have a two day weekend if this would assist an IEP, 504, or any student - again depending on the student's and family's needs and teacher availability.



## How a 4-Day Week Could Increase Not Decrease Instructional Time

A typical day at the Elementary consists of teachers settling students in for the morning, traveling throughout the day to specials, lunch, recess, packing up at the end of the day, etc.

Less transitions from these major activities will result in less loss of learning time in a calendar with less days and more minutes each day.

Elementary teachers will still vary activities in their classrooms through centers, cooperative learning, brain breaks, and recess that can promote student movement and transition.



## How is a 4-Day Week More Consistent?

The 5-Day calendar has days off scattered throughout the year (three day weekends, four day weekends, long breaks, PD days & Parent Teacher Conference days vary, etc.). Moving nearly all days off to being strictly on Mondays makes it easier for families to plan around the school calendar and provides more routine for our students.

## Why won't the 4-Day Week Help Us More Financially?

The District will see some financial savings although most 4-Day District report this to be anywhere from 1% to less than 5% of the annual budget. With this change we will not pay teachers or support staff less which is the most significant part of the budget. Since support staff could work slightly less hours over the course of the year then we will be able to raise the pay scale without as much impact to the budget. This will help us be more competitive on our hourly rate of pay with other businesses during this challenging employer market.

The main savings will be to our transportation system. We will be able to reduce the wear and tear on the buses and use less diesel fuel. Our utilities for all our buildings will also decrease and create some savings.



## I'm concerned about childcare, do I have any options?

- Most schools who have transitioned to 4-Day Weeks have found limited interest from the parents for childcare, programs have been started and usually by November are discontinued due to minimal attendance.
- In some communities area churches and organizations assist with programs.



## **Are we taking away learning time from students? How will we make it up?**

As the opening slides highlighted the calendars are based on hours/minutes and not days. No time is taken from the students. The instructional time is just spread out differently.

## **How will this help the students?**

Studies show that academic achievement is not significantly impacted by 4-Day Weeks that have the same amount of instructional time. Studies do show that attendance rates in a 4-Day Week are higher than 5-Day Week schools. Overwhelming studies show that parents like the 4-Day Week schedule and feel it benefits their families. Many older students work and the 4-Day Week could give them an opportunity to work on a Monday and then not have to carry as many late shifts during the remainder of the week. Also, job shadowing programs could be implemented on Mondays.





**Will the Summer School schedule be 4 or 5 day?**

We already currently run a 4 day per week summer school program. Our plan would be to continue this if possible.

**Will we consider a block schedule?**

One of the benefits of this change is the longer class periods. We will likely keep a 7 class period day at the JH/HS. These are typically sufficient instructional blocks. The district could also consider block schedules that would create longer instructional blocks of approximately 90 minutes per period.



## **Will the teachers cover all the content?**

The same grade level and course content will still be covered over the course of the school year. Teachers will begin planning & training for this change as soon as a decision is made. The extra PD days would ensure that teachers plan accordingly and stay on track.

## **What will happen at school on days off?**

Currently, our custodians clean mornings, during the day, and evenings after each school day. During these Mondays off the staff will continue to work, but will be able to do more in depth cleaning, sanitation processes, and maintenance. The teachers will have PD days more often than on the 5-Day schedule. This will allow for more collaboration, data analysis, planning, and learning for the teachers.



## **How will this impact students going to Arcadia Valley Technical School?**

AV Tech students would have an additional 35 minutes of instruction on each of the four school days. Viburnum students already do this. Bunker students will begin this next year. Our students could also go to AV Tech on 5th days they are in session on their own for additional instructional time then we currently have now.

## **What impact would this have on sports?**

We will host as many events on Tuesday through Friday as possible, but games at home and away will continue to be held on some Mondays. We could try to schedule longer away trips on Mondays (for less missed instructional time) in the future if this works with the other school. Coaches may have flexibility with Monday practices, but we will need to see how this affects our students, families, and facility maintenance.



## **Why Mondays instead of Fridays?**

Mondays line up with the three federal holidays already off as well as the PD days we are already accustomed to having off. More doctors seem to take Monday appointments over Friday which could help improve attendance. The majority of 4-Day Week schools have Mondays off so networking with these other schools will be beneficial during this transition process.

## **What about students needing school lunches?**

We are still in discussion about this and will remain committed to ensure our student's food needs are met. We will still work with the Elks Club to send the backpack food program home with students on Fridays. Please provide input to your school if you have a need or suggestions.



# **SURVEY RESULTS**

**STUDENT SURVEY**

**STAFF SURVEY**

**PARENT/GUARDIAN/PATRON SURVEY**





# **DR. JON TURNER**

**MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY  
PROFESSOR.**

**RURAL EDUCATION ADVOCATE AND 4 DAY  
SCHOOL WEEK RESEARCHER**

**WILL SPEAK AND TAKE QUESTIONS WITH  
US THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCE**





Questions?



**Closing**

**Mr. Samples - Valley R-VI  
Superintendent**

