

4-Day Instructional Week Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

1. What day would we be out?

- The students would go to school Monday to Thursday, and be off on Friday.
- Teachers and Paraprofessionals would work 1 Friday per month. At a minimum, half of this time would be devoted to Lesson Planning.
- CISD employees would be off and have at least three Fridays each month to spend with family, schedule appointments, rest, take care of personal business.

2. Will this lower the pay of teachers?

- Absolutely not! CISD will not lower the pay of teachers.

3. Will this lower the pay of support staff (bus drivers, maintenance, custodians, cafeteria, secretaries, and aides)?

- Absolutely not! CISD will not lower the pay of support staff.

4. Will our days be longer?

- Yes, we have a 440 minute instructional day now. We would add 50 minutes to the school day.

5. Would we start school earlier in the year?

- Just a little. The calendar we are working on has teachers reporting on August 2nd and students would start on August 9th

6. Would this cause us to go to school later in the year?

- No. Student's last day would be May 26th
- Teacher's last day would be May 27th
- Everyone would be out before Memorial Day.

7. Will we lose instructional time?

- We would only lose 560 minutes of instruction (this is less than 2 full days) for the school year.

8. Why would students be out on Fridays and not Mondays?

- We partner with Angelina Community College for our Dual Credit courses. These students must attend college Monday - Thursday. We chose Fridays off to accommodate this program.

9. Will a 4 Day week shorten our holidays during the year?

- No!
- Thanksgiving Break will be a week.
- Christmas Break will be the same length.
- Spring Break will be a week.
- We would take off Labor Day and the Friday of Trinity Co Fair and the following Monday after the fair.

10. How will this affect Extracurricular Activities on Fridays (ball games, etc.)?

- We will play games and participate in other competitions that are on Fridays just as we always have.
- The upside to this is that a Junior High student that travels to ballgames on Thursdays to play, and gets home very late, will not have to wake up early to attend school on Friday morning.
- In addition, coaches that travel on these same trips will not have to be at work at 7:00 a.m. on Friday either. (We do understand that coaches and other staff will have to work on Friday game days. We will work as a district to come up with a way for this to be equitable for all employees)

11. How many days will students go to school?

- Students would go to school 156 days. They would get 76,440 minutes of instruction. This is 560 fewer minutes (less than 2 full days) of instruction than our traditional calendar.
- This meets the State's required 75,600 minutes of instruction.

12. How many days will teachers and paraprofessionals work?

- Teachers and paraprofessionals that are not on extended contracts will work 170 days.

13. What would be the start and end times at Centerville ISD?

- School will start at 7:20 a.m. Breakfast would be from 7:20 a.m. until 7:40 a.m. The school day would end at 3:30 p.m.

18. Is this change being made to save money?

- This change is not being made as a way to save money.

19. What are the reasons for this change?

- One reason to move to a 4-Day Instructional Week is to help recruit and retain certified, highly qualified teachers.
- We are unable to pay our employees the same salaries as the larger school districts that are in our area. We feel this would help give CISD a competitive edge in hiring employees.
- We have found that other schools that have 4-Day Instructional Weeks are able to fill all positions with high quality teachers, aides, bus drivers, etc.
- By being able to hire and retain the highest quality teachers and support staff, we feel the quality of our instruction and student success will increase.
- We feel that a 4-Day Instructional week will attract more students to our district.
- We are also making this change to keep student and staff morale high.
- We feel that having off one day a week will help with attendance rates of students and staff alike.

20. How will the school know if this is successful?

If we move forward with the 4-Day Instructional Week, it would be as a 3-year Pilot Program. We would look at the following data to determine if it is successful or not:

- Student academic success (STAAR Tests, Reading levels, Math skill levels, completing Dual Credit college hours before graduation, earning an industry based certification before graduation, ASVAB scores, ACT and SAT scores, graduation rates).
- Student enrollment numbers
- Student attendance rates
- Employee attendance rates
- Percentage of students participating in extracurricular activities
- Employee retention rate
- Numbers of certified and highly qualified applicants for each open position
- Parent climate surveys
- Student climate surveys
- Employee climate surveys

We will post a sample school calendar for a 4-Day Instructional Week for 2021-2022 soon. If you would like to speak with a District Administrator, feel free to call 936-642-1597. We will be more than happy to answer questions, and provide information.