

## STRASBURG C-3 SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Chrystal Mayfield, Superintendent

### 4 Day School Week

The Strasburg C-3 School District has been looking at different ways to increase professional development time for our teachers (without taking them from the classroom), add time for intervention to our daily schedule, and to cut expenses. One such avenue is to look at a four day school week.

In 2009 the state passed legislation that would allow school districts to go a four-day week to help budget expenses. While the state passed a four-day week option, there are still requirements that have to be met. The requirement of the amount of time that students are at school remains the same, 1044 hours. The requirement of the number of days is reduced from 172 to 148. Strasburg currently has 172 days and 1111.2 hours of student attendance. Moving to the four-day school week would allow for 1,106 hours of student attendance in just 148 days. There is also a stipulation that if academic achievement decreases in two subject areas in two consecutive years, then the district must return to a five-day week calendar.

Currently, there are over 100 school districts in the state that follow a four day school week, and more have adopted one for next school year. Here are some things that those districts have discovered: student achievement is generally not affected either positively or negatively; student and teacher attendance improves; student disciplinary referrals decrease, students and teachers benefit from less interrupted class time as a result of longer class periods and fewer transitions at all grade levels which leads to increased efficiency of instruction; significant savings on items such as utilities and fuel bills, substitute teacher pay, bus transportation, and building repairs.

Naturally, there are a lot of things that have to be considered and therefore I am asking for your input and feedback. I would appreciate it if you would take some time and think about this concept, review the information regarding the four day week, then complete the survey that is posted on the school district website.

Respectfully,  
Chrystal Mayfield

