

FOUR DAY SCHOOL WEEK

Drexel R-IV School District

LEGAL BACKGROUND

- Prior to 2010 the law required 174 school days and 1044 hours of attendance.
- SB291 (2009) created Missouri Revised Statute 171.029
- SB291 stipulates that schools still have to provide the same number of student hours (1044), but may do so in as few as 142 days.
- SB291 further stipulates that a school district must return to a five day (174 day) calendar if academic achievement drops over two consecutive years.

FIVE DAY/FOUR DAY COMPARISONS

▪ Five Day Calendar

- Student attendance days – 168
- Student attendance hours – 1064.25
- Daily schedule, Monday – Friday, 8:12 a.m. – 2:58 p.m.
- Early dismissal days – 3
- Teacher contract days – 176
- Teacher contract hours – 1,310
- Professional development hours - 56

▪ Four Day Calendar

- Student attendance days – 150
- Student attendance hours – 1065
- Daily schedule, Tuesday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Early dismissal days – 0
- Teacher contract days – 166
- Teacher contract hours – 1,312
- Professional development hours - 112

POTENTIAL ADVANTAGES VS. DISADVANTAGES

▪ Advantages

- More professional development time
- Consistency in the calendar – five day calendar 23/38 uninterrupted weeks, four day calendar 37/38 uninterrupted weeks
- Family time on Mondays
- Attendance improves (staff and students)
- Financial savings

▪ Disadvantages

- Longer day – student fatigue
- Child care issues for some families
- Some employees receive less pay
- Free/reduced population will not be fed school lunches on Monday

ADVANTAGES VS. DISADVANTAGES CONTINUED

▪ Advantages

- Student and staff morale
- Fewer substitute teachers needed
- Student attitude/atmosphere on early dismissal days
- Less child care on school days
- Reduce the need for other program cuts

▪ Disadvantages

- Change is difficult and often unpopular