



# Balanced Calendar Committee

4 Day Calendar

# Committee Members

- **Brandon Searles:** Committee chair/ Music Teacher
- **Kassie Kaufman:** Committee chair/ Preschool Teacher
- **Brandice Graney:** Committee Member/ Paraeducator/ Parent
- **Brook Shull:** Committee Member/ Parent/ Board member
- **Terrie McPherson:** Committee Member/ Food Service Director
- **Trey Plesha:** Committee Member/ Student



# Pro's and Con's of 4 Day Calendar

## Pros

- No increase in budget, over time (5+ years)  
district saves money
- 150 day school year (165 staff days)
- Less student/teacher burnout
- Less student/teacher absences
- More time spent on content=deeper understanding
- Standardized scores went up
- More teacher/student time overall
- Number of referrals stayed the same or was less.

## Cons

- Working families need child care on Fridays
- Field trips are optional on Fridays only (in Bickleton)
- More impactful if they miss a 4 day over 5 day (20% 5 day)(25% 4 day)
- Classified staff go from 32-40 hours to 28 hours (current staff members grandfathered in for previous hours)
- Late sports practices and games still landing on Fridays (Waterville)
- ESD doesn't have PD offerings on Fridays
- No food service on Fridays

# Bickleton and Waterville Data


## Bickleton

- 106 Students Pre-K - 12th Grade (Even smaller than us!)
- Attendance improved significantly (avg 9 absences/student to 5/student)
- No major changes in Discipline
- Elective classes at end of day for less impact on academics with sports
- No extended year; still 150 days
- Less teacher/student burnout= everyone more well rested; things run more smoothly
- Field trips only on Fridays (voluntary/optional)
- Flexibility in scheduling
- PD scheduled on Fridays teachers already want to come in for grading and what not.
- More student/teacher time.
- More time for content=deeper understanding
- Hard on the younger students only at first
- Off on a Monday for a Holiday= Friday school
- Standardized scores followed the same trend as before
- Has an advisory class 1 day a week on Thursdays for 100 minutes

## Waterville

- 266 Students Pre-K - 12th Grade (Very similar numbers to us)
- Attendance improved significantly (Students were at school 92% of days on average)
- Discipline stayed the same. In some grade levels even went down.
- Late sports practices ending at 6:45/7:45 and games on Fridays
- Less teacher/student burnout= everyone more well rested; ready to learn: more patience with behaviors
- Very minimal budget impact
- HS Students viewpoints: Once you establish a routine doesn't feel like a long day at all. Also, like to have Fridays off for more time to work a job.
- Hard on the younger students at first, but once a routine is established it's better.
- No half days. Conferences are after school
- No extended year; still 150 school days
- Standardized scores improved for several years and then leveled off
- Advisory on Monday mornings for 55 minutes

# Why it will help the students

- Less student burnout = well rested and more focused on learning
  - More time on content = better and deeper understanding of content
  - Less absences = more growth and continuity
  - More one on one time with the teacher
  - School/Life balance is much better
  - Job opportunities for HS Students on Fridays and weekends
  - Field trips don't detract from learning time
  - Teachers are more efficient and available to students
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# Potential Schedule

## Secondary Schedule

1st Period	8:15 - 9:08
2nd Period	9:11 - 10:04
3rd Period	10:07 - 11:00
Lunch	11:00 - 11:40
4th Period	11:40 - 12:32
5th Period	12:35 - 1:27
6th Period	1:30 - 2:22
7th Period	2:25 - 3:17
Advisory	3:20 - 3:40

## Elementary Schedule

K-2 Elementary	3-5 Elementary
8:15 - 9:30 Homeroom	8:15 - 9:10 Homeroom
9:30 - 9:45 Recess	9:10 - 9:25 Recess
9:45 - 11:02 Homeroom	9:25 - 10:05 Homeroom
11:02 - 11:55 Specialist	10:05 - 10:58 Specialist
11:55 - 12:40 Lunch/Recess	10:58 - 11:55 Homeroom
12:40 - 1:30 Homeroom	11:55 - 12:40 Recess/Lunch
1:30 - 1:45 Recess	12:40 - 1:55 Homeroom
1:45 - 2:40 Homeroom	1:55 - 2:10 Recess
2:45 - 3:00 Recess	2:10 - 3:40 Homeroom
3:00 - 3:40 Homeroom	

# Sample 2023 - 2024 SY Calendar

August							September							October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				
November							December							January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4						1			1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8		7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15		14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22		21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29		28	29	30	31			
							31													

**Key**

- Staff Training Days
- School Days
- Federal Holiday
- Teacher Mandatory Days (4hrs - 8 AM - 12 PM)
- Conferences
- Half Day



# Sample 2023 - 2024 SY Calendar (Cont.)

Key	February						March													
<span style="background-color: #FF00FF; color: white;">■</span> Staff Training Days	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						
<span style="background-color: #008000; color: white;">■</span> School Days					1	2	3					1	2	3						
<span style="background-color: #FFD700; color: white;">■</span> Federal Holiday	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10						
<span style="background-color: #000000; color: white;">■</span> Teacher Mandatory Days (4hrs - 8 AM - 12 PM)	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	16	17						
<span style="background-color: #FF0000; color: white;">■</span> Conferences	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	23	24						
<span style="background-color: #0000FF; color: white;">■</span> Half Day	25	26	27	28				25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
April	May						June													
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4							1
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
29	30	31				26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
													30							



# Financial Impacts

## Positive Impact

- Saving money on transportation (less or no buses running on Fridays)
- Classified staff will have less hours per week most weeks (except for grandfathered in staff - deferred benefit)
- Less teacher absences = Less money on Subs

## Neutral

- Utilities mostly unchanged
- Teacher/admin salaries wouldn't change

## Negative Impact

- Classified staff would have 3 weeks with paid holidays in addition to 4 day work week

# Caveats and Conditions

- Educational time has to be considered as a high priority by teachers, administrators, parents, and students. As such, the time needs to be protected. Both schools gave examples of athletics, field trips, and half days.
- Families need to be proactive with doctor appointments and vacation plans
- Community buy-in was a huge factor in making this work for both Bickleton and Waterville, especially regarding Friday solutions

# Potential Friday Solutions

- Outdoor Education (Farm, Garden, Trail, etc)
- Field Trips
- HS job opportunities
- Mentorship (from community members or older students)
- Small business or community sponsored events
- Community Service Hours for HS students
- Projects and/or enrichment for grandfathered classified staff
- Away sporting events scheduled for Fridays (for bus drivers and coaches)

# Q&A

- What benefits and obstacles do you see?
- This fit other small schools well - does it fit Thorp?
- What are some potential solutions for Fridays?

