

LSSD #381

Community meetings

February 5, 7, & 26, 2013

Four day school week review

- o Original premise for moving to the four day school week
 - o Financial savings
 - o To retain both staff and programs

Original proposal

- o Our proposal is to improve cost effectiveness.
- o By moving to the four-day week, we will be reducing our operating costs by reducing transportation costs by approximately 20% for all routes and reducing employee costs by reducing our number of school days from 170 down to 142. (Currently 145 student days)
- o This will reduce the total number of work hours by certain school staff by 20%.
 - o These reductions include our bus drivers, food service workers, housekeepers and some of our paraprofessional staff.

Original proposal

- o We will also reduce our utility costs of operating the buildings as the lights will be off during the non-school days, and the heat will be lowered during those same non-school days.
- o We are also projecting the reduction of substitute teacher costs as a result of the opportunity for teachers to do their personal business on those non-school week days.
 - o The Districts that have been operating on the four-day week schedule have noted a significant reduction in time off for staff, which has resulted in lower substitute teacher pay.

Current Application

- o The Lake Superior School District's proposed Flexible Learning Year program is a four day school week. The school district wishes to continue with the four day school week that it has been operating over the past three school years. The majority of community, staff, students and parents support continuing operating under the four day school week model based on survey results.
- o The primary day off during the week will be Friday.
- o The schools plan athletic activities on Thursday evenings and Fridays to avoid students missing class time at the secondary level.
- o Community education offers childcare on Fridays for families in need of service.

Actual costs savings: Four day week

<u>4- Day School Week Financial Analysis</u>						
		Year 1	Year 2	Year 1	Year 2	Combined
	FY10	FY11	FY12	Savings	Savings	Savings
Substitute Teacher Wages	\$78,678	\$72,672	\$76,789	\$6,006	\$1,889	\$7,895
Custodial / Housekeeper wages	\$415,456	\$384,348	\$388,466	\$31,108	\$26,990	\$58,098
Bus Driver Wages - A	\$280,849	\$257,646	\$266,558	\$23,203	\$14,291	\$37,494
Paraprofessional Wages -B	\$426,257			\$0	\$0	\$0
Food Service Wages	\$141,141	\$120,096	\$126,123	\$21,045	\$15,018	\$36,063
Bus Fuel Purchases				\$33,905	\$51,294	\$85,199
Food Purchases	\$189,555	\$154,773	\$180,143	\$34,782	\$31,059	\$65,841
Milk Purchases	\$42,659	\$38,401	\$39,895	\$4,258	\$6,709	\$10,967
Utility Costs				\$29,464	\$57,904	\$87,368
Garbage Costs	\$32,770	\$26,776	\$19,449	\$5,994	\$2,764	\$8,758
TOTAL SAVINGS				\$189,765	\$207,918	\$397,683

Did the district meet projected savings?

- o Yes, we did achieve the projected savings in many areas, but not all areas.
 - o With any change in school and financial years comes inflation and price of goods changes.
 - o We saved in fuel, but cost for fuel increased. So, we still saved in fuel costs because we consumed less fuel.
 - o We saved in staffing, but staffing salaries and benefits increased, so we paid out more for the group at the same time saved due to a smaller group to pay.
 - o The same scenario occurred in the costs for utilities costs for 4 days versus 5 days.
 - o All savings from the change to the 4 day school year have gone to the general fund unless directly related to a specific program such as food service.

Financial information regarding the cost savings

- Bus Driver Wage savings in year 2 do not include savings from a suspended contract with a local charter school or costs related to the mechanic and dispatcher positions as those hours were not reduced per union contract.
- Paraprofessional wages did not see a reduction in costs. The number of paraprofessional staff has increased over the past 2 years as the need of our student population have increased.

Financial History

- o Actual **expenses**: General fund
 - o 5 day: \$14,603,282
 - o First year 4 day \$14,116,682
 - o Second year 4 day: \$14,054,814

Financial information today

- o Current status of the district funds
 - o Positive fund balance: \$3,313,782
 - o Not possible without the savings due to the 4 day week and wage freeze for 2 years.
- o Current year 2012/2013 budget:
 - o Deficit spending approximately \$800,000
- o Trend of deficit
 - o 2011-2012 deficit spent: (\$309,730)
 - o Land sale of \$50,000 reduced it to \$259,730
 - o 2010-2011 grew balance: \$472,441

Financial information today

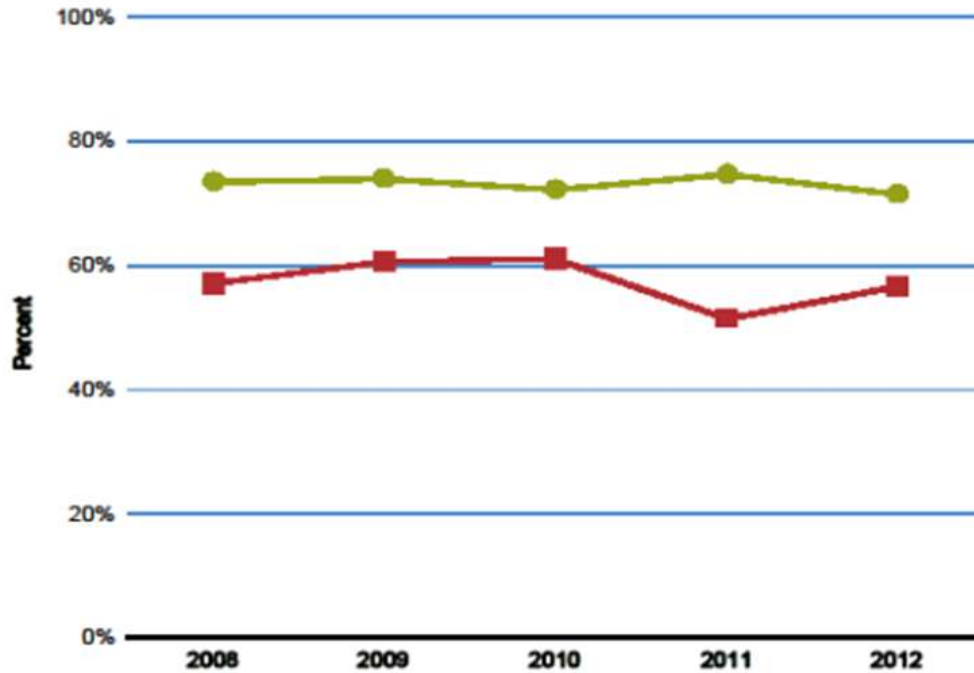
- o Both the food service and community education programs are operating stronger. Both have positive cash flow.
- o The district is still in a situation in which we need to be cognizant of our expenses compared to our revenues.
- o We have deficit spent the last two school years to keep programs and staff in the district.
- o The costs in all areas have increased and in order to balance our budget cost savings measures will need to be addressed.



Student Performance

Student test proficiency and state wide
proficiency trends in Math and Reading

District Math/Reading Proficiency Trends for All Accountability Tests
Lake Superior Public School Dist.
All Grades
All Students



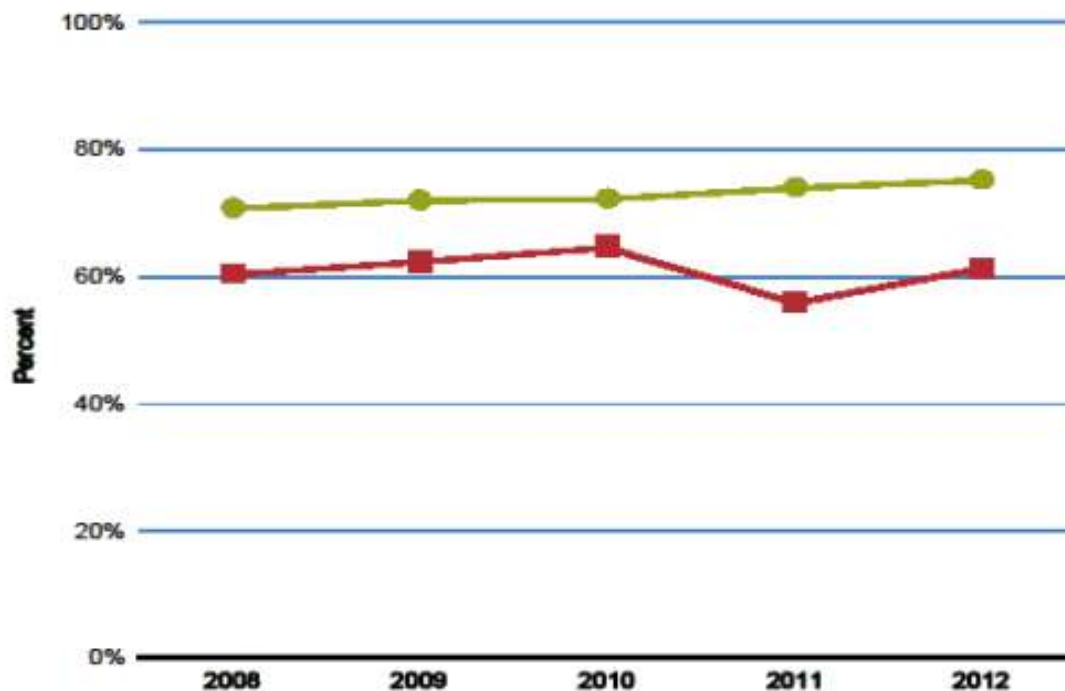
Proficiency Percents

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
MATH	57.1%	60.6%	61.1%	51.5%	56.6%
READING	73.6%	74.0%	72.3%	74.8%	71.6%

Proficiency Counts

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
MATH	458	453	439	383	404
READING	596	544	546	540	509

Statewide Math/Reading Proficiency Trends for All Accountability Tests
Statewide
All Grades
All Students



Proficiency Percents

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
■ MATH	60.4%	62.3%	64.7%	56.0%	61.3%
■ READING	70.7%	72.0%	72.4%	74.0%	75.3%

Proficiency Counts

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
■ MATH	256354	264797	275827	239183	263827
■ READING	301723	306238	308653	316663	323699



District by School

View District by Grade
Run this report for a different term

District: Lake Superior School District #381

Roster Term: Fall 2012



	Projected Performance and Growth Distribution				Growth		Projected Performance		Median
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Spring 11 - Spring 12		Spring 2012		Percent
					Count/Percent	Count/Percent	Count/Percent		
Reading	18.0	4.6	40.3	37.1	486	41.6	665	73.5	62.1
Minnehaha Elementary	5.7	1.9	48.1	44.3	217	43.1	290	89.7	74.8
William Kelley Eleme	17.4	4.3	41.3	37.0	72	34.7	113	72.6	46.9
Two Harbors High Sch	24.6	6.9	34.9	33.7	179	42.5	230	67.0	55.2
William Kelley High	27.8	-	44.4	27.8	18	44.4	32	62.1	50.0
Mathematics	22.4	6.2	33.0	38.3	482	37.8	662	66.0	62.1
Minnehaha Elementary	6.5	1.9	41.7	50.0	219	39.9	290	89.7	75.5
William Kelley Eleme	24.4	13.3	17.8	44.4	71	26.8	113	58.1	44.2
Two Harbors High Sch	33.3	7.1	26.8	32.7	173	34.7	227	55.2	53.7
William Kelley High	11.1	5.6	77.8	5.6	19	84.2	32	69.0	62.5



Local Student Assessment Data

Students were assessed in Math and Reading using the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) assessment. They earn a RIT score.

RIT Scores

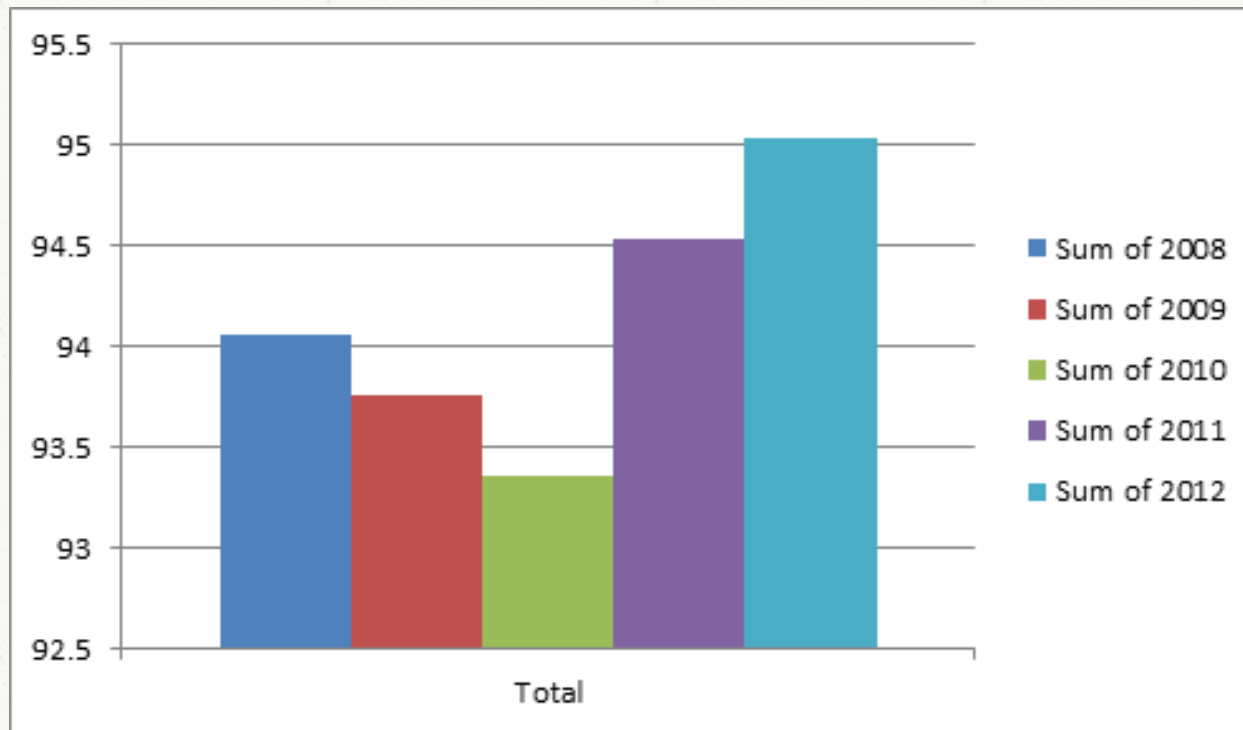
- A student's RIT score indicates that the student was answering questions correctly 50% of the time at that level of difficulty.
- NWEA's normative data charts the average RIT score for Fall and Spring testing for students at each grade level.
 - There are "typical" RIT scores for each grade level, but every student is different. The RIT scale allows for students to be accurately measured regardless of their grade level.
 - If a 3rd grade student earns a 210 on the Reading NWEA, and an 8th grader also earns a 210 on the Reading NWEA, these two students are at the same instructional level.

MATH SPRING TO SPRING RIT				
GRADE	S 2010	S 2011	S 2012	S NORM
K	164	165	164.1	159.1
1	184.8	185.4	183.9	179
2	197.8	197.6	193.7	191.3
3	205	208.5	207.2	203.1
4	216	217	215.1	212.5
5	222.9	226.4	222.6	221
6	232.4	228.3	228.1	225.6
7	na	236.1	227.8	230.5
8	na	234.2	241.4	234.5

READING SPRING TO SPRING RIT

GRADE	S 2010	S 2011	S 2012	S NORM
K	159.7	162.1	160.6	157.7
1	183.2	183.3	183.2	176.9
2	195.1	na	190.6	189.6
3	200.9	203.6	203.3	199.2
4	208.3	211.3	210.1	206.7
5	213.6	216	215.4	212.3
6	218.4	216.7	215.7	216.4
7	na	219.5	216.1	219.7
8	na	222.6	223.9	222.4

District Attendance Rates



District Graduation Rates

- Our graduation rate dipped below the state average in 2008 and then has been above the state average from 2009-2011 with the rate of 88.5% in 2011 (info from MDE web site).
- Looking at the data we stayed about the same after the first year of implementation and rose in 2011.
- The state average is 76.9% for the same time period.

Extracurricular

- o We can schedule jr high football, JV football, and boys and girls soccer games on **Thursday evenings** as needed to alleviate field shortages, since we don't have school on Fridays.
- o Thursday night is one of the heaviest scheduled nights in all sports
- o Away games that are longer trips try to be scheduled on Thursdays if possible.
- o With no school on Fridays we can schedule overnight trips on the weekend without missing school
- o Jr high teams have an opportunity to use the gym for practice on Fridays which usually wasn't an option for them on a 5 day week.
- o We have more practice time available on Fridays since teams can practice at any time during the day
- o Robotics program meeting on Fridays
- o Student council will meet on Fridays

- o In regards to transportation...
- o Baseball and softball teams will share a bus a minimum of 6 times this spring for away games.
- o Boys and girls basketball will share a bus 3 times this winter (coach bus to Int. Falls, school bus to Eveleth and Silver Bay)

Time in School

- Students continue to meet the same number of minutes during the 4 day week as they did during the 5 day week (more at elementary)
- They are in school from 7:50 – 3:40 at THHS with a 25 minute lunch. (440 minutes)
- $440\text{mn} \times 145 \text{ days} = 63,800 / 60 \text{ min} = 1063 \text{ hours per year}$
- State requirement is 1020 per year for secondary students.

Elementary time

- o 5 day time 8:00- 2:30; 5:45 hours 45mn
(45 min lunch/recess)
 - o $345\text{mn} \times 170 = 58,650 / 60\text{mn} = 977.5\text{hr}$
- o 4 day time 7:50 – 3:30
 - o 6hr 45mn
 - o $405\text{mn} \times 155 = 62,775 / 60\text{mn} = 1046.25\text{hr}$
- o State requirement for elementary is 935 hours per year

Survey data

- o The district surveyed the past two years
- o The surveys were with the following groups of stakeholders:
 - o Parents
 - o Students
 - o Staff
 - o Community
- o The following data is from the 2012 spring survey

Parent Survey Results

FOUR-DAY SCHOOL WEEK PARENT SURVEY







1. Please indicate the number of children you have enrolled in the Lake Superior School District.

	1	2	3	4	5	Response Count
K-3	74.4% (61)	25.6% (21)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	82
4-6	85.5% (65)	13.2% (10)	1.3% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	76
7-8	89.5% (77)	10.5% (9)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	86
9-12	70.9% (83)	24.8% (29)	4.3% (5)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	117
answered question						247
skipped question						0






2. How well has your child or children adapted to the four-day school week?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Has adapted with no problems	76.9%	190
Has had some difficulty adapting	16.6%	41
Has had major problems adapting	5.7%	14
I don't know	0.8%	2
Comments:		43
answered question		247
skipped question		0





3. How do you feel your child or children's school work has been affected by the four-day school week?

		Response Percent	Response Count
The four-day school week has positively affected school work		27.3%	67
The four-day school week has negatively affected school work		21.6%	53
The four-day school week has not affected school work		44.5%	109
I don't know		6.5%	16
	Comments:		25
		answered question	245
		skipped question	2

4. How has the four-day school week affected your child or children's participation in extra-curricular activities?

		Response Percent	Response Count
The four-day school week has positively affected participation		24.6%	60
The four-day school week has negatively affected participation		9.4%	23
The four-day school week has had no impact on participation		45.9%	112
My child does not participate in extra-curricular activities		16.8%	41
I don't know		3.3%	8
		answered question	244
		skipped question	3

5. How has the four-day school week impacted your family life?





		Response Percent	Response Count
The four-day school week has had a positive impact on our family life		50.6%	124
The four-day school week has created problems for our family life		23.3%	57
The four-day school week has had no impact on our family life		24.9%	61
I don't know		1.2%	3

Comments: 45

answered question 245

skipped question 2

6. How has the four-day school week impacted the transportation needs of your family?



		Response Percent	Response Count
Positively		19.2%	47
Negatively		11.4%	28
No impact		67.8%	166
I don't know		1.6%	4

Comments: 12





answered question 245

skipped question 2

7. How has the four-day school week affected your child or children's liking towards school?

		Response Percent	Response Count
The four-day school week has helped my child/children like school		51.0%	125
The four-day school week has caused my child/children to dislike school		6.9%	17
No impact		39.2%	96
I don't know		2.9%	7
	Comments:		18
		answered question	245
		skipped question	2




8. How has the four-day school week affected your child/children's homework?

		Response Percent	Response Count
The four-day school week has been helpful in completing homework		27.7%	67
The four-day school week has caused problems with completing homework		25.6%	62
The four-day school week has had no impact on completing homework		43.0%	104
I don't know		3.7%	9

Comments: 31

answered question	242
skipped question	5

9. Should Lake Superior School District stay with a four-day school week or return to a five-day school week?










		Response Percent	Response Count
Stay with a four-day school week		63.6%	157
Return to a five-day school week		27.1%	67
No preference		9.3%	23

Comments: 44



answered question	247
skipped question	0

Student Surveys




1. Please indicate your current grade:

	Response Percent	Response Count
4 	2.7%	17
5 	4.5%	28
6 	11.9%	75
7 	19.7%	124
8 	9.5%	60
9 	16.2%	102
10 	12.7%	80
11 	12.4%	78
12 	10.3%	65
answered question		629
skipped question		2

2. When you think about having time to work on and complete homework for this school year, are you more or less stressed than last year?

	Response Percent	Response Count
More 	23.3%	147
Less 	76.7%	484
Briefly explain why		511
answered question		631
skipped question		0



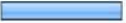
3. When thinking about how you feel physically this school year with the four-day school week in comparison with a five-day school week, are you.....

		Response Percent	Response Count
More tired		6.7%	42
Less tired		63.1%	396
No change		30.3%	190
answered question			628
skipped question			3


4. Has family time (time you spend with your family) increased with the four-day school week?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		83.1%	518
No		16.9%	105
answered question			623
skipped question			8



5. The four-day school week has created the need to change practice time for athletics. How do you feel about these changes?

		Response Percent	Response Count
I like the change		62.6%	393
I do not like the change		8.8%	55
I do not participate in athletics		28.7%	180
answered question			628
skipped question			3



6. Do you have time during the school day to work on your homework?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		92.3%	574
No		7.7%	48
answered question			622
skipped question			9

7. Do you finish your homework during the school day?



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		72.3%	451
No		27.7%	173
answered question			624
skipped question			7

8. Have you used your Fridays off to schedule events such as dental and medical appointments, part-time employment or other educational opportunities?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		85.2%	534
No		14.8%	93
answered question			627
skipped question			4

Student Survey results

9. Overall, do you like the four-day school week?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		97.5%	613
No		2.5%	16
	Please explain why		547
	answered question		629
	skipped question		2

Staff Survey Results

FOUR-DAY SCHOOL WEEK TEACHER SURVEY






1. The time students have to do school work at school is:

		Response Percent	Response Count
More		38.9%	21
Less		16.7%	9
About the same		44.4%	24
Comments:			1
		answered question	54
		skipped question	1

2. The quality of homework students are doing is:

		Response Percent	Response Count
Better		25.0%	13
Worse		7.7%	4
About the same		67.3%	35
Comments:			3
		answered question	52
		skipped question	3




3. Student behavior is:

		Response Percent	Response Count
Better		35.2%	19
Worse		7.4%	4
About the same		57.4%	31

Comments: 2

answered question	54
skipped question	1




4. The productivity of my classroom teaching is:

		Response Percent	Response Count
Better		59.3%	32
Worse		5.6%	3
About the same		35.2%	19

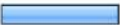


Comments: 4

answered question	54
skipped question	1




5. The amount of lesson planning time I have is:

		Response Percent	Response Count
More		12.7%	7
Less		27.3%	15
About the same		60.0%	33
	Comments:		3
	answered question		55
	skipped question		0








6. During one semester, the amount of material I cover with my students is:

		Response Percent	Response Count
More material		25.5%	14
Less material		7.3%	4
About the same amount of material		67.3%	37
	Comments:		3
	answered question		55
	skipped question		0

7. Would you prefer staying with a four-day school week or returning to a five-day school week?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Stay with a four-day school week		70.9%	39
Return to a five-day school week		12.7%	7
I have no preference		16.4%	9
Comments:			6
answered question			55
skipped question			0

8. Please indicate your primary reason for preferring one school week schedule over the other:

		Response Percent	Response Count
Student achievement		38.6%	17
Impact on school budget		61.4%	27
Sports & clubs		15.9%	7
Scheduling of federal holidays		4.5%	2
The length of the school day		20.5%	9
Time children are at home		18.2%	8
Student employment		4.5%	2
Other (please specify)			13
answered question			44
skipped question			11

Community Survey Results





1. Do you believe the four-day school week helps or hurts Lake Superior School District's overall school program?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Helps		38.1%	16
Hurts		16.7%	7
No impact		19.0%	8
I don't know		26.2%	11
Comments:			6
answered question			42
skipped question			0




2. Do you believe students are academically doing better or worse in school with the four-day school week?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Better		19.0%	8
Worse		7.1%	3
About the same		31.0%	13
I don't know		42.9%	18
Comments:			5
answered question			42
skipped question			0

3. Do you believe the four-day school week has helped or hurt student participation in activities?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Helped		33.3%	14
Hurt		11.9%	5
No impact		26.2%	11
I don't know		28.6%	12
Comments:			4
answered question			42
skipped question			0

4. Should the Lake Superior School District stay with the four-day school week or return to a five-day school week?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Stay with a four-day school week		51.2%	21
Return to a five-day school week		22.0%	9
I have no preference		26.8%	11
Comments:			2
answered question			41
skipped question			1

5. If you are supportive of the four-day school week, please indicate your main reason by checking the appropriate blanks below:

		Response Percent	Response Count
Student achievement	<input type="checkbox"/>	31.0%	9
Impact on school budget	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	86.2%	25
Sports & clubs	<input type="checkbox"/>	13.8%	4
Scheduling of federal holidays	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.9%	2
The length of the school day	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.9%	2
Time children are at home	<input type="checkbox"/>	17.2%	5
Student employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	17.2%	5
	Other (please specify)		9
	answered question		29
	skipped question		13

Teachers

- o Teachers are using the one Friday each month to meet in Professional Learning Communities (PLC)
 - o Focused on best practices
 - o Focused on student improvement
- o Teachers attend workshops on Fridays instead of during the week

Research

- o Research from: Anderson, Mark (2012). *Does Shortening the School week Impact student Performance? Evidence from the Fur-Day School Week*. P. 22.
- o In a time of tough budget situations for most public school systems, a variety of cost-saving measures have been adopted. To relieve financial pressures, a growing number of smaller and more rural school districts are switching from the traditional Monday through Friday school week to a four-day-week schedule. One concern, however, is that student academic performance may be compromised by such a switch. The results presented in this paper illustrate that academic outcomes are not sacrificed under the four-day week; in fact, we provide some evidence that math and reading achievement scores in elementary schools actually improve following the schedule change.

Research

- o Below research is from the National Conference of State Legislatures with the link to the research:
- o <http://www.ncsl.org/issues-research/educ/school-calendar-four-day-school-week-overview.aspx>
- o **Four-Day School Weeks Overview**
- o With strapped state budgets and alluring promises of significant reductions in overhead and transportation costs, the four-day school week has been an increasingly attractive option for legislators seeking to cut education costs. For small, remote school districts, instituting a four-day school week may provide a savings by reducing transportation, heating, and staff costs. Supporters of the shortened week also boast of improved morale and increased attendance (by both students and teachers); open Fridays for sporting events and doctor appointments, and more time to spend with loved ones. Opponents of the four-day school week cite problems with long, exhausting class days and finding day care for children whose parents work outside the home. Additionally, educational experts worry longer weekends could lead to a regression in learned concepts while also making it more difficult to offer elective classes. However, the jury is still out on many of these issues, as there is a lack of comprehensive studies.

Future

- o Applying for Area Learning Center (ALC) status
 - o With an ALC we can provide programming for grades K-8
 - o Summer program
 - o After school
 - o Friday programming
 - o Applying to be able to provide lunch and snack on Fridays

Future

- Planning on adjusting the school schedule to address students specific needs
 - Assigned to specific location for assistance in reading or math
- Provide time in the day to allow for prescribed student learning opportunities in reading and math
- After school and Friday time for skill development courses

Response to needs of community

- o Relationship with Mesabi Range Community College
 - o Welding program at THHS
 - o Millwright program at WKS
 - o CNA program in the works for TH area
- o AEOA using THHS welding shop on Fridays for welding class

Questions?

- o All questions that were not addressed at the community meeting this evening will be answered and posted on the district web site.
- o If you have further questions please call, email, or stop by the district office.
- o We request that you complete the community survey. The link to the survey is on the front page of the district web page.



Thank you for coming this
evening.