

Comment:

Starting school late on Wednesdays will result in a loss of prime learning time.

Response:

There is no loss of instructional time with the elimination of five half days. We believe the benefits of additional team collaboration time outweighs any benefit of the 30 minutes of instruction at the beginning of the day on Wednesdays.

Comment:

Children need consistent routines to thrive.

Response:

We took into consideration the importance of routine. Our initial plan called for an hour late start every other Wednesday but the Board felt that late start every Wednesday was a more consistent schedule.

Comment:

Offering a daycare option using a third party vendor is not comforting to parents.

Response:

The district will provide supervision on late start days for families with no other option for care.

Comment:

Eliminating half days will increase absenteeism and have a negative financial impact on the school district.

Response:

Our data illustrates that absenteeism is very high on half days in our current schedule. We believe eliminating half days may actually improve attendance. The new school funding formula uses enrollment rather than attendance to calculate aid to schools.

Comment:

We should start school later in August.

Response:

The Board agreed to move the start of school back by two days for the 2019-2020 school year. The Board requested additional time to gather stakeholder feedback regarding later start dates and concerns regarding alignment with District 230's calendar.