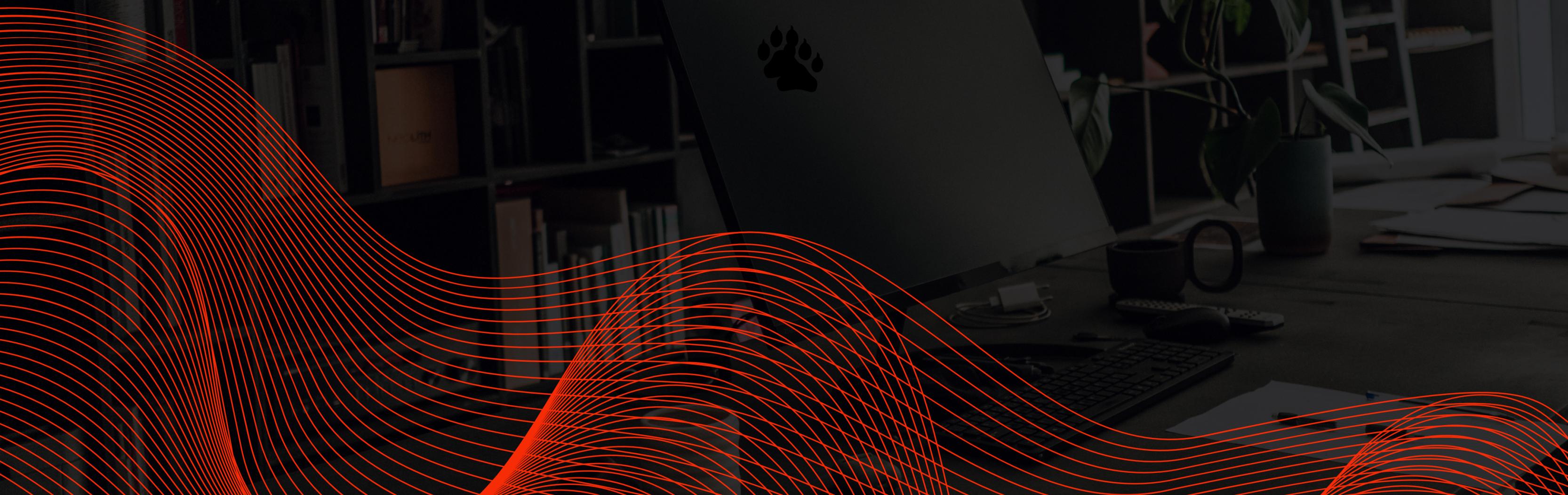




RICHARDS ISD

4 DAY SCHOOL WEEK





4 DAY SCHOOL WEEK

A four-day school week can greatly benefit small rural Texas schools. It helps attract and retain quality teachers with better work-life balance while reducing costs on transportation, utilities, and food services. For students, the extra day off supports rest, enrichment, and family responsibilities, especially in agricultural areas. Studies also show improved attendance, engagement, and reduced burnout. For schools with budget and staffing challenges, this schedule boosts education quality and community well-being.



Richards ISD, in partnership with our community, is committed to providing an enriched environment that promotes life-long learners.



Where Excellence is Expected.

REGION 6 4 DAY WEEK PARTICIPANTS

Apple Springs, 2020

Small, Rural 1A School; Enrollment 207
7:45 am-4:00 pm

Corrigan Camden, 2020

Large 2A; Enrollment 817
7:40 am-4:00 pm

Latexo, 2020

Remote, Rural 2A; Enrollment 497
7:50 am-4:10 pm

Oakwood, 2020

Rural 1A; Enrollment 233
7:40 am-3:50 pm

Crockett, 2023

3A; Enrollment 1203
7:45 am-4:05 pm

Grapeland, 2023

Rural 2A; Enrollment 632
7:45 am-4:05 pm

Groveton, 2023

Remote, Rural 2A; Enrollment 741
7:45 am-3:55 pm

Kennard, 2023

Small, Rural 1A; Enrollment 258
7:45 am-4:00 pm

New Waverly, 2023

Growing 3A with above average performance; Enrollment 1065
7:10 am-3:20 pm

Richards, 2025

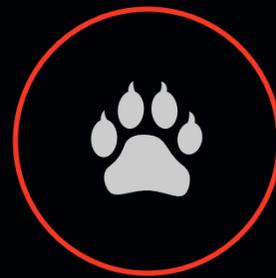
Growing, Rural 1A School with growth potential; Enrollment 248

HOW DOES THIS AFFECT A CHANGE IN TIME?



Calendar

- Fewer Days
- 40 More Minutes per day
- Early August-Late May with Thanksgiving Break, Christmas Break, & Spring Break
- No School on most Fridays



School Schedule

- New Bell Schedule
- Additional Instructional Time during school day



Days & Minutes

- Based on 75,600 Instructional Minutes
- Altered Days for Auxiliary & Professional Staff
- Flex Weather Days in May

STUDENT BENEFITS

A four-day school week is a relatively new and innovative idea gaining popularity with students and teacher across the United States. For some, the advantages of attending school only four days per week far outweigh the potential disadvantages.



Increased Work Quality

An increase in academic achievement also has been associated with a four-day school week. In one system, the impact of only two years of a four-day school week caused test scores to improve.



Academic Outcomes

Another school has seen a gradual increase in its graduation rate since adopting the new school week.



Optimistic Attitudes

Students feel the four-day school week provides an opportunity for extra rest and a less stressful environment. Being out of school one extra day per week allows students to relax or to be more productive.



Extracurricular Focus

Students who are athletes don't miss as much class and have less work to make up when events occur on a day off. This includes Rodeo and Travel Ball.



Decrease in Disciplinary Issues

During one year the discipline referral frequency of students attending school only four days per week fell 73 percent. Students are more rested and focused and therefore less likely to disrupt class, be off task or engage in other behaviors requiring discipline.



Independence

The four-day format provides opportunities for an extra work day at an after-school job, engaging in volunteer activities or pursuing additional educational goals.



Attendance

4 Day week districts reported statistics indicating that their attendance improved as much as 20 percent over a two-year period.

RISD BENEFITS

Proponents of a four-day school week argue that it offers several benefits, including cost savings, improved student attendance and increased teacher morale. By reducing the number of school days, schools can save money on transportation, food and energy costs. This can be especially important for rural districts where students may need to travel long distances to get to school. District administrators also claim that the appeal of a four-day work week helps recruit teachers in areas where it is consistently difficult to attract new staff.



Teacher Retention & Recruitment

A three-day weekend allows teachers more time to rest, recharge, and pursue personal interests, which can lead to increased job satisfaction. This model also makes these districts more attractive to potential hires, offering a better work-life balance.



Cost Efficiency

The four-day week can possibly reduce operational costs related to transportation, utilities, and school meals fairly significantly, as much as 20%.



Environmental Impact

Fewer school days mean fewer bus routes and reduced energy consumption.



Home Life

Most students in the four-day districts—80 percent of high school students and 90 percent of elementary students—spent their “off day” at home.



Teacher Morale

A four-day school week can help to boost teacher morale. With an extra day to plan lessons, grade assignments and attend professional development opportunities, teachers can feel more prepared and engaged in their work.



Safer Schools

Shortened schedules can lead to calmer and safer schools.



Revitalize Richards

Drawing attention to the school and community can provide opportunities for neighboring students to grow RISD.

9 WEEK GRADING PERIOD



**Increased focus on learning;
Decreased focus on Grades**

Three summative (Test) grades per 9 weeks grading period; Less focus on testing and more focus on GROWTH!



**UIL-No Pass/No Play Benefits:
Fewer Grade Checks;
More time to Recover**

Allows time for Reteach/Retest or Corrections for better understanding of curriculum



Allows for Project Based Learning and Extended Time Research Projects

Data collection is more aligned with BOY, MOY, and EOY assessments



CALENDAR CHANGES:

- **RISD would move from 6 week grading period to a 9 week grading period to accomodate a 4 day week.**
- **Most Fridays are off during the school year, with the exception of extracurricular activities.**
- **Fridays in May would be Flex Weather Days for make up time, allowing for up to 5 Missed Days of instruction.**
- **Teachers would have professional development days throughout the school year. Students do not attend on these Fridays.**
- **Each 9 Weeks would consist of 2 Progress Reports and 1 Report Card.**
- **Return to school in early August and End school in Late May--2 Full months off.**





CONTACT



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Social networks
[Richards-Independent-School-District](#)

RESOURCES PAGE

Source: <https://education.seattlepi.com/advantages-four-day-school-week-1548.html>

Source: <https://myelearningworld.com/4-day-school-week/>

Source: <https://www.ncsl.org/education/four-day-school-week-overview>

Source: <https://www.edweek.org/leadership/4-day-school-weeks-new-research-examines-the-benefits-and-drawbacks/2021/10>

