

4-Day Student School Week

Staff and Student Survey Results



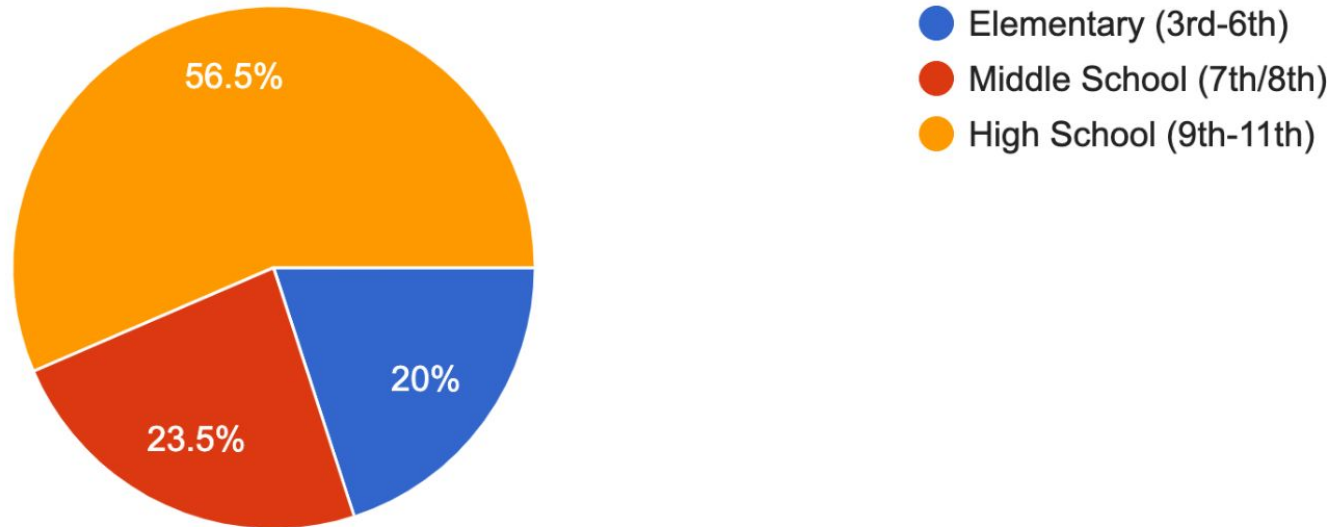
Student Results

A total of 85 students, 3rd-11th completed the survey

Question 1:

What best describes you?

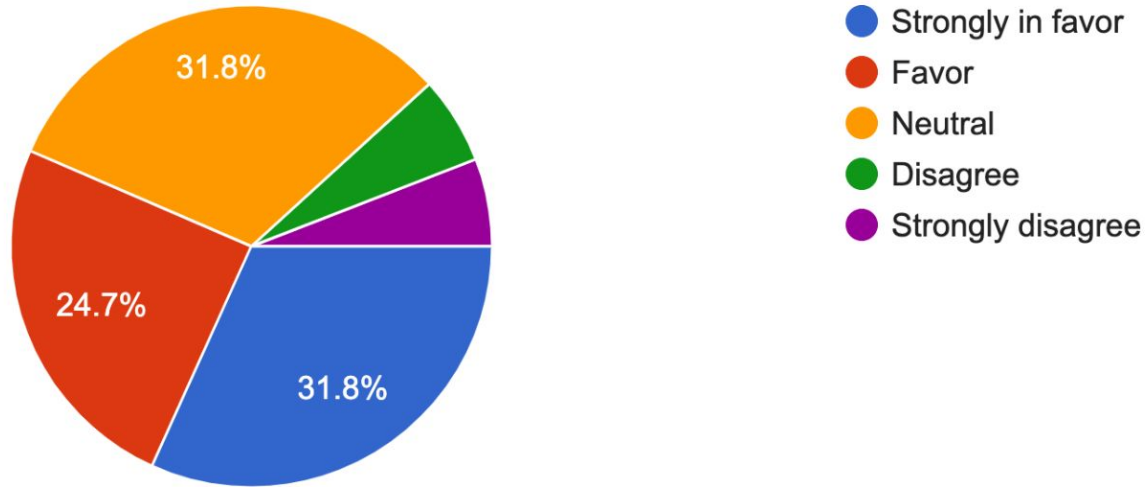
85 responses



Question 2:

The 4-day school week would make the student schedule: 7:50-3:30. How do you feel about this?

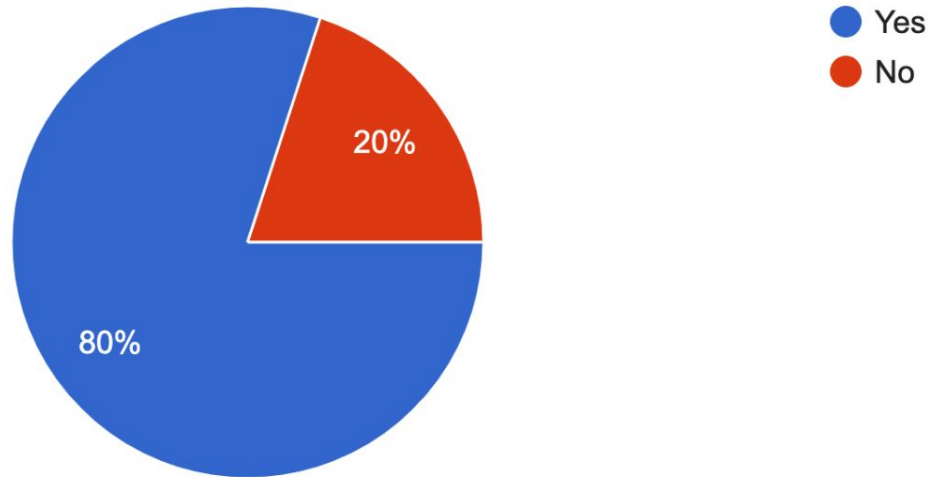
85 responses



Question 3:

Do you participate in school athletics teams (e.g., basketball) or other school-sponsored activities (e.g., FFA) that regularly meet outside of the school day?

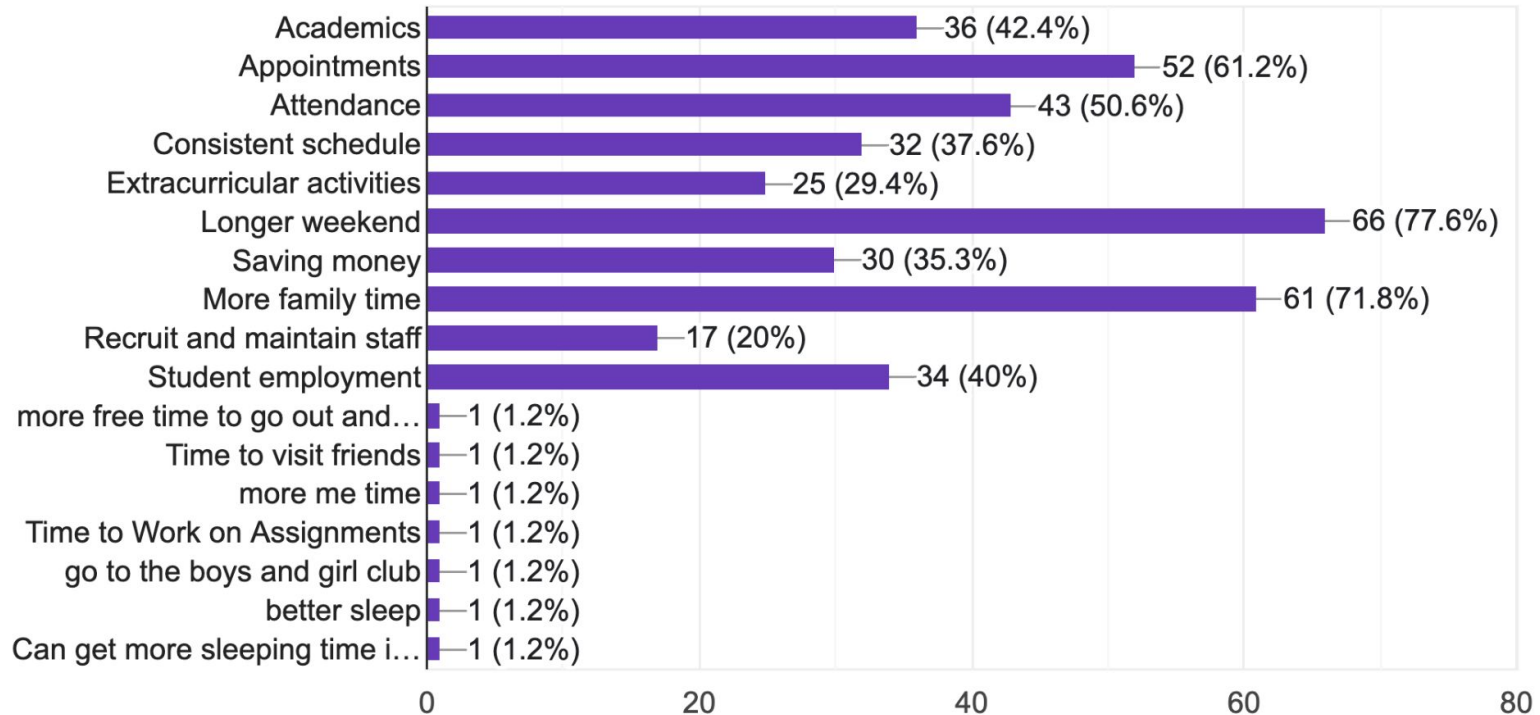
85 responses



Question 4:

Please list positive aspects of a four-day week.

85 responses



Question 4 Continued:

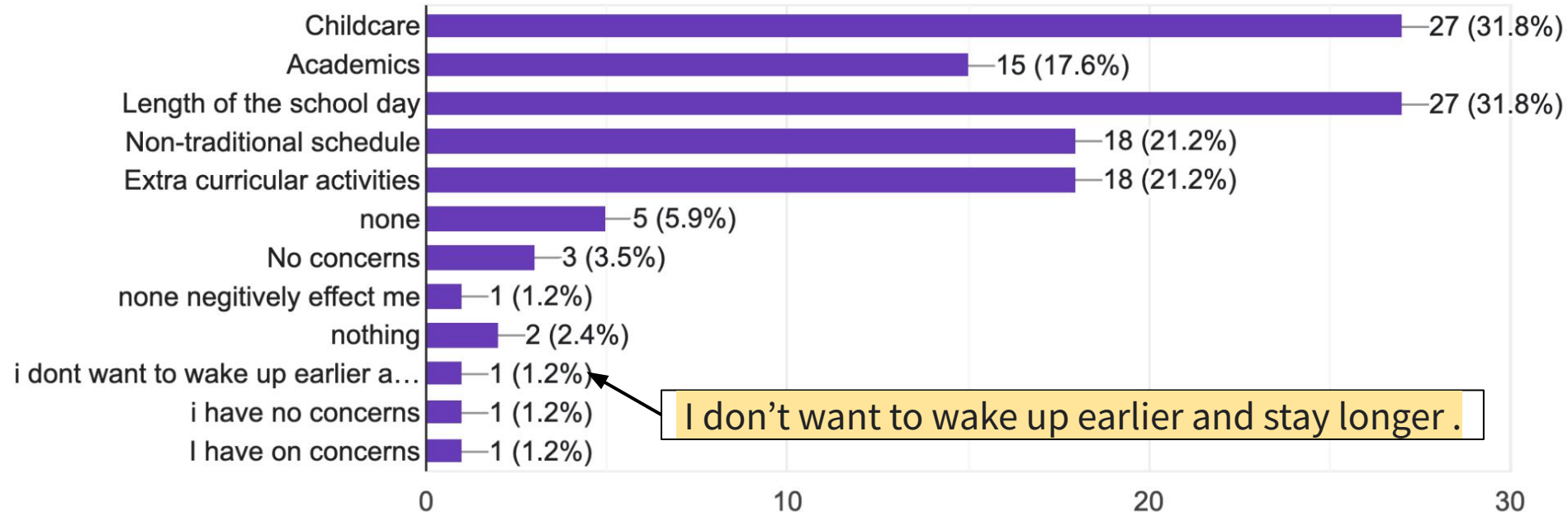
Please list positive aspects of a four-day week.

- More time to go out and about and not be exhausted on Monday.
- Time to visit friends
- More me time
- Time to work on Assignments
- (Ability to) go to the boys and girls club
- Better sleep/Can get more sleeping time.

Question 5:

Please list any concerns you have about a 4- day week.

85 responses



Question 6:

“Please provide any additional input, suggestions, or ideas you may have regarding the potential 4-day school week.”

- Make Friday the day off; “If this does happen, the day we should have off is Friday NOT Monday.”
- “I say go for it , it would make pateros a better school”
- “It may be needed to talk to teachers about how this extra time affects due dates on assignments since one week of work would be less time overall. If this is not addressed it could have the opposite effect on the students leading to more burnout with less time.”
- “I think we should have a four day school day
- “I think it’s a good idea because it gives us more family time, extra day to rest, saves more money for our school/getting less subs”
- “I support it”
- “I think that it would be beneficial for our school and families that travel and like to see family more often.”
- “I agree because it saves up more money for our school, and more work time. only thing i dislike is longer school days.”
- “I really don't care what happens whatever happens I feel would be for the best of the school.
- “I think it is a good idea cause then we would have more time to work on homework.”
- “I would actually want to come to school because of this even though it would be longer.
- “I don't want to stay longer at school, if we get the 4 day week I want friday to be off.”
- “I would like 4-day school weeks cause I'll have more time with my family.”

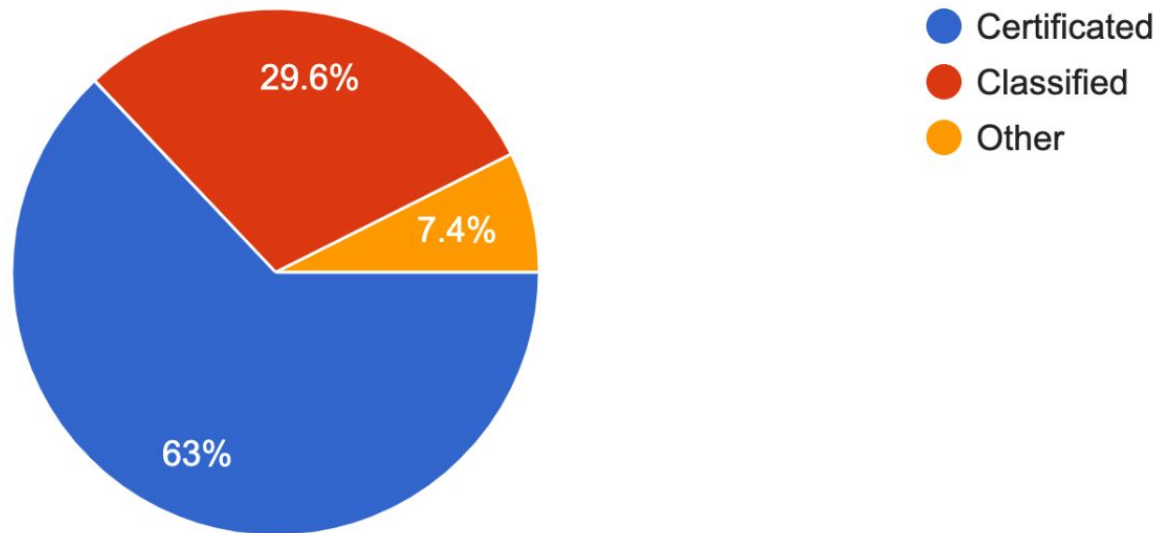
Staff Results

A total of 27 staff members completed the survey

Question 1:

What is your primary work role?

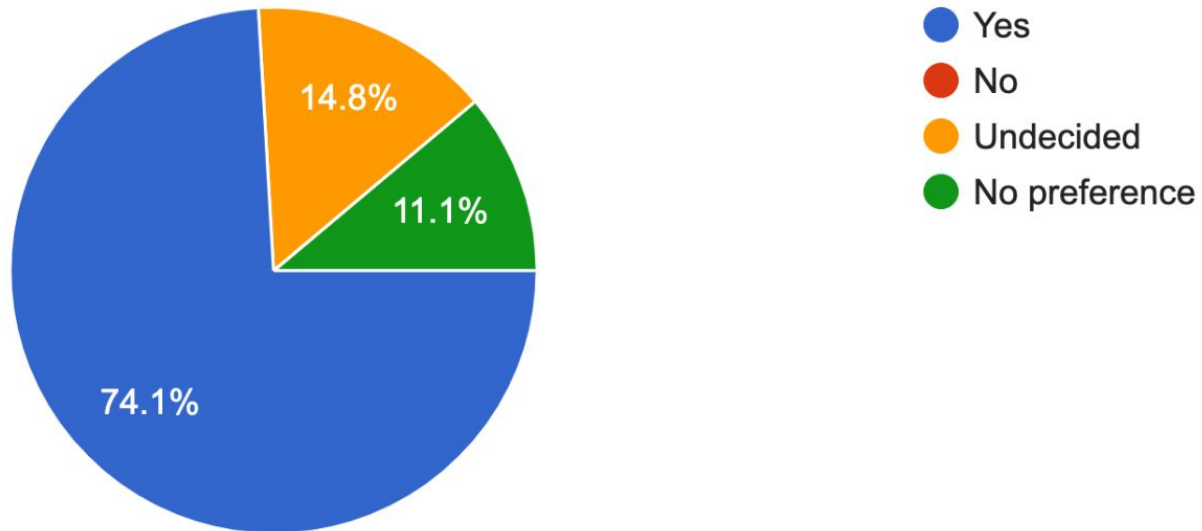
27 responses



Question 2:

Would you be in favor of a 4-day school week?

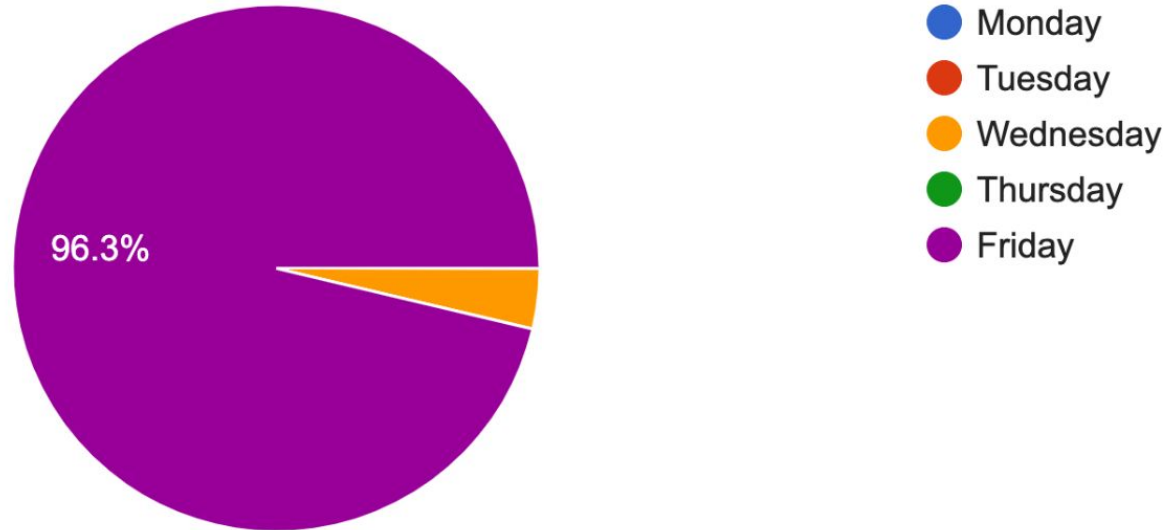
27 responses



Question 3:

Which day of the week would you prefer to be the proposed day off?

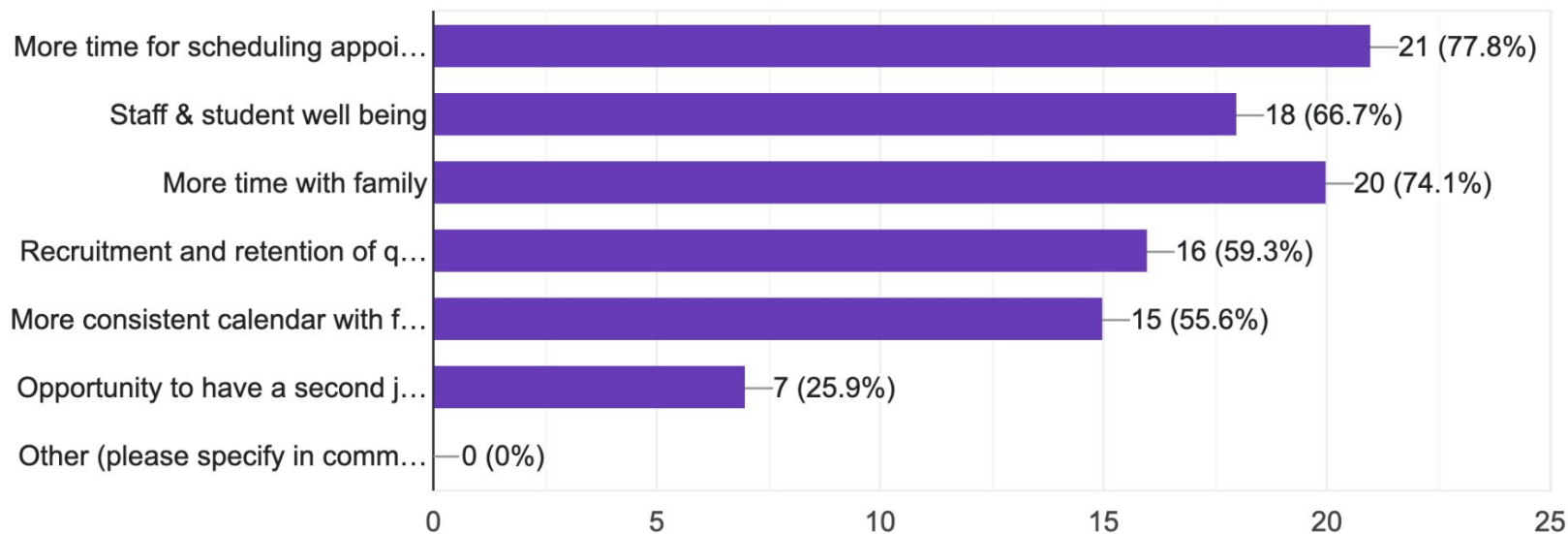
27 responses



Question 4:

Please indicate what you would consider beneficial to you / your family with the possible adoption of a 4-day school week. Check all that apply.

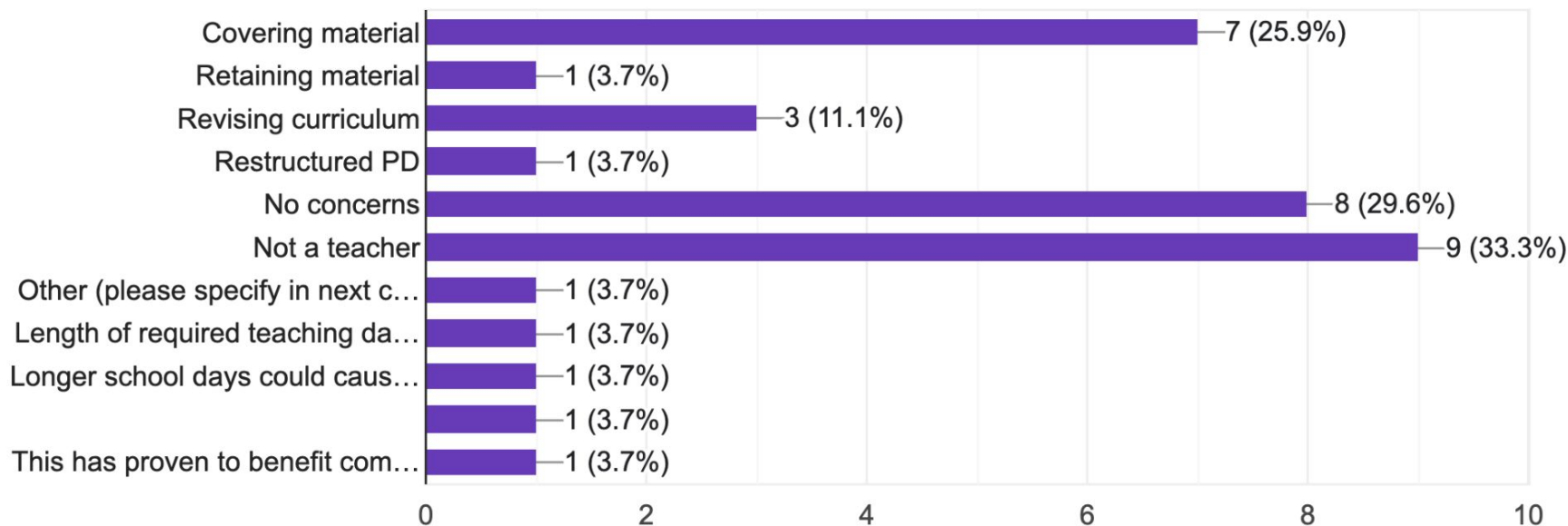
27 responses



Question 5:

What are the major concerns you have with a 4-day school week?

27 responses



Question 5 (Continued):

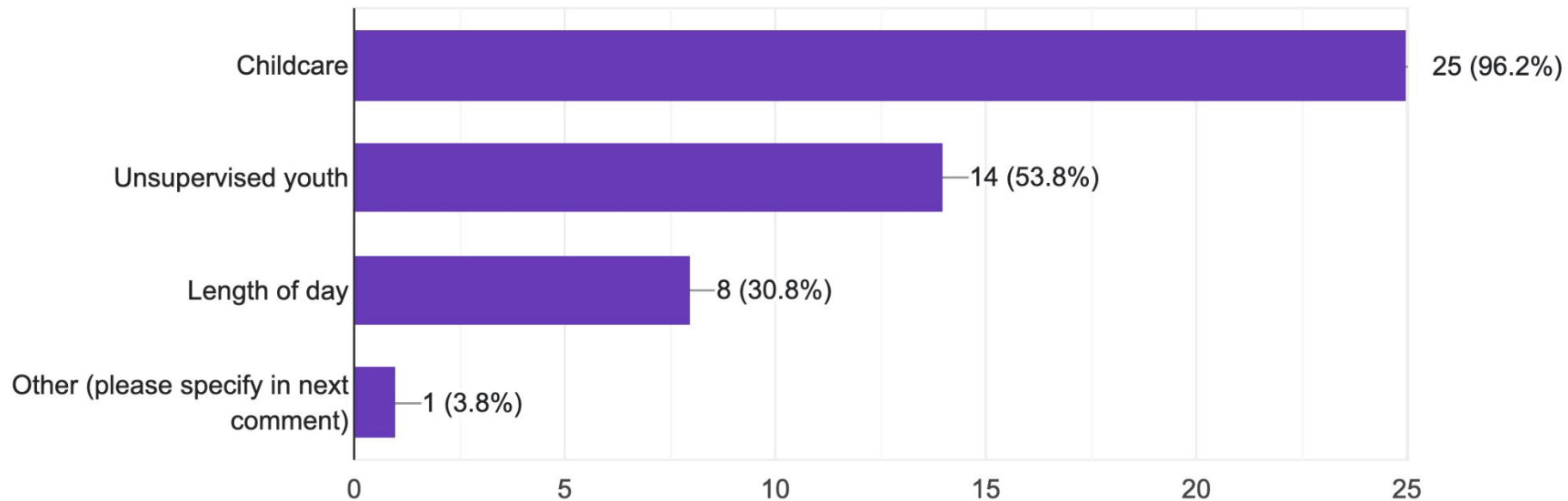
What are the major concerns you have with a 4-day school week?

- “Length of teaching day.”
- “Longer school days could cause longer period of burnout towards the end of the day for staff and students.”
- “This has proven to benefit communities in many research studies.”
- “If we will lose enrollment”
- “Student engagement with the longer day - Younger elementary students specifically”
- “A student absence one day in a week would make up 25% of the week missed rather than 20%. 4 day week = 25%, 5 day week = 20%”

Question 6:

What do you believe are the potential parent/community major concerns?

26 responses



Question 6 Continued:

What do you believe are the potential parent/community major concerns?

- “Not wanting their kids to lose classroom time.”
- “Childcare clarification: some say a 4 day week would increase the potential for family time. That is only true if the parents work schedule coincides with the 4 day week. Even if parents also work 4 days a week there’s no way to ensure that they will work the same four days school is in session. If they work on different days then a 4 day school week may potentially decrease available family time because students would be in school for a longer school day.”

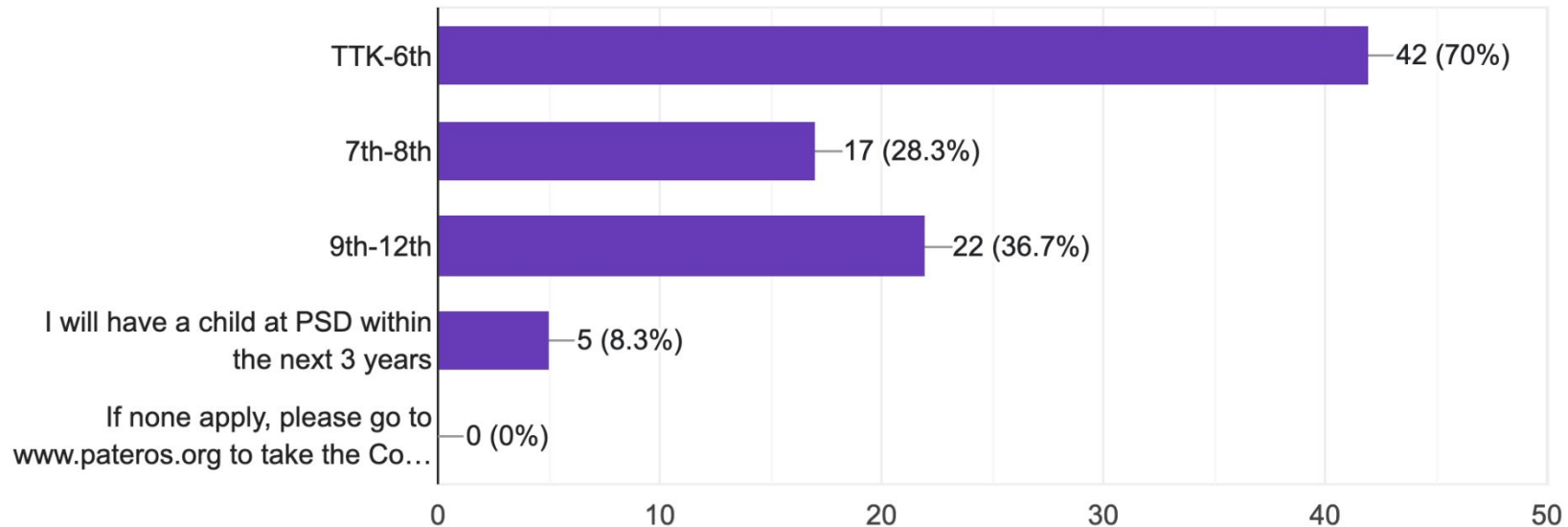
Parent Results

**A total of 63 parents completed the survey in
English and in Spanish**

Question 1:

What grade is your child/ren in? (Check all that apply)

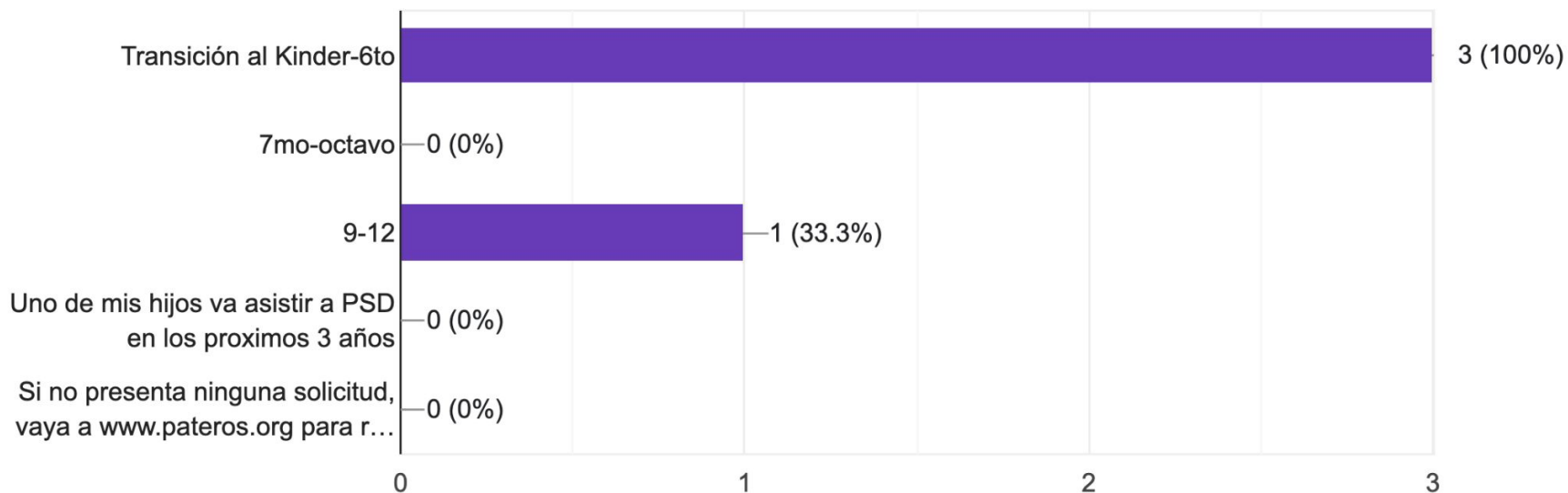
60 responses



Pregunta 1:

¿En qué grado está su hijo/s? (Marque todo lo que corresponda)

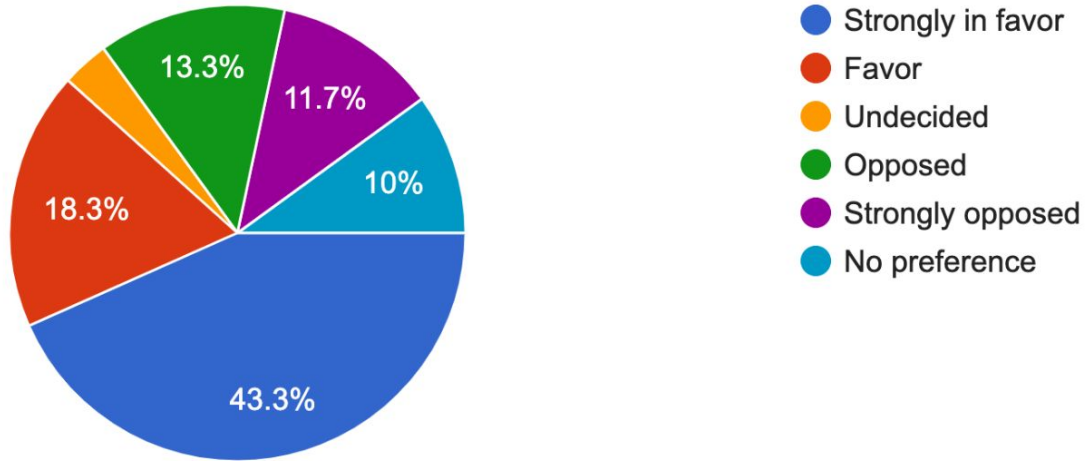
3 responses



Question 2:

Would you be in favor of a 4-day school week?

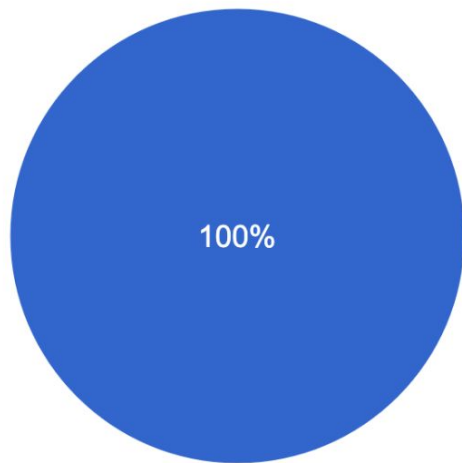
60 responses



Pregunta 2:

¿Estaría usted a favor de una semana escolar de 4 días?

3 responses

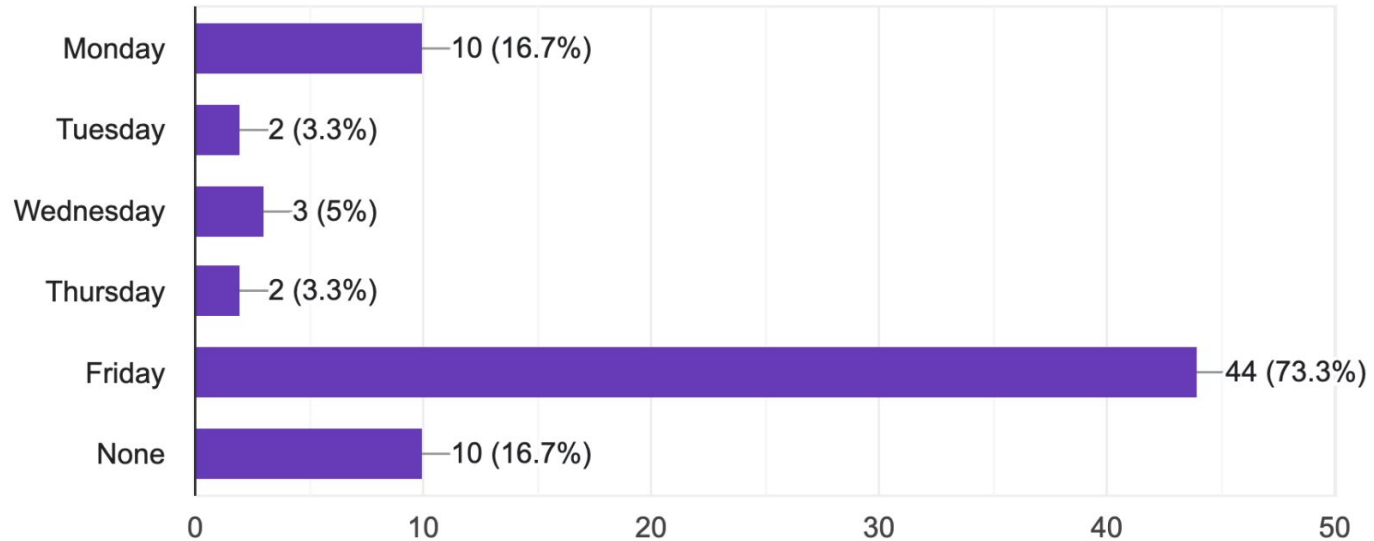


- Totalmente de acuerdo
- Aceptar
- Indeciso
- Opposed
- Fuertemente opuesto
- Sin preferencias

Question 3:

Which day would your family prefer for the eliminated school day?

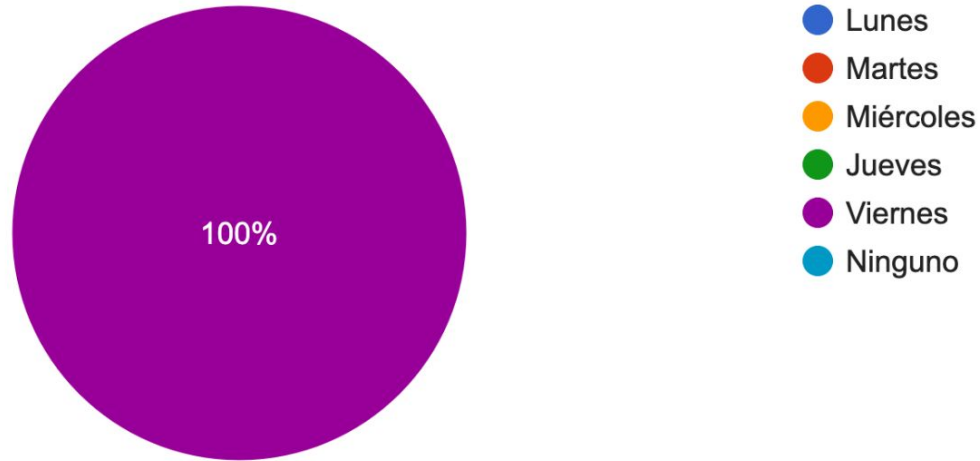
60 responses



Pregunta 3:

¿Cual dia de la semana prefereria para el dia propuesto de eliminar de la semana escolar?

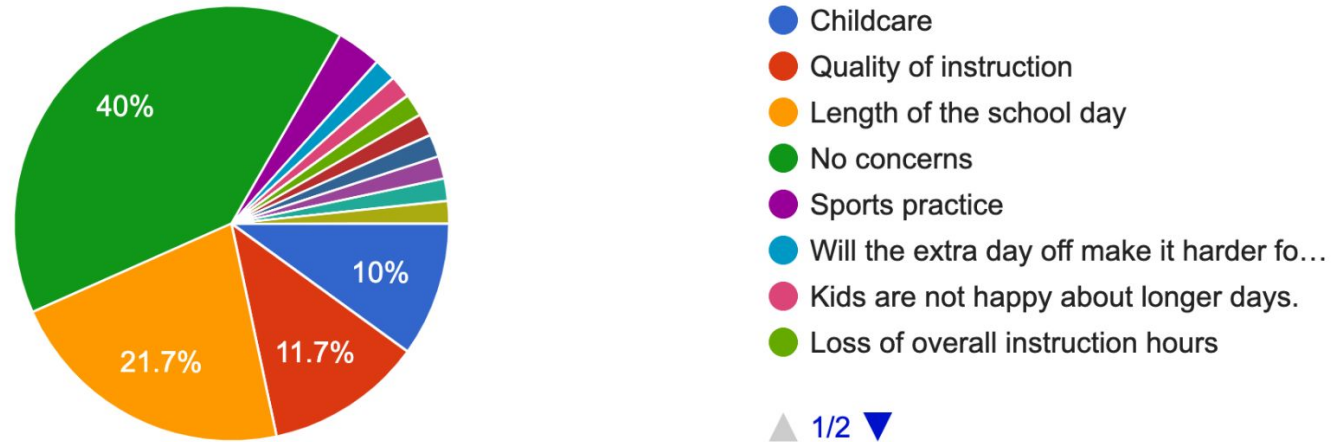
3 responses



Question 4:

What is your greatest concern with a 4-day school week?

60 responses

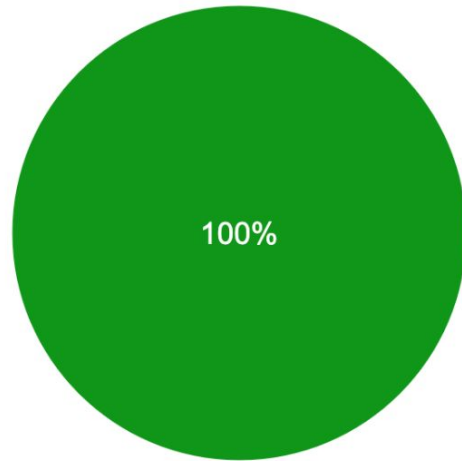


- Will the extra day off make it harder for my student to stay on track? Also, will this mean practices during the week would run later into the night since there's only one gym, one field?
- The longer days my kids get on the bus at 6:50am and don't get home till 3:45 now this would have them getting on the bus at 6:30 and not getting home till 4:30 ish. That is not counting the later time if they are playing sports
- I feel like the information that is being given isn't enough to make me confident that this is a necessary change.
- Too much free time for students while parents are at work. Middle School and High School students will not be going to the Boys and Girls Club. They need to be in school 5 days a week.
- Transportation to events/practices/meetings held on the day off for students who live outside of Pateros. Especially those whose parents will still have to work.

Pregunta 4:

¿Cuál es su mayor preocupación con una semana escolar de 4 días?

3 responses

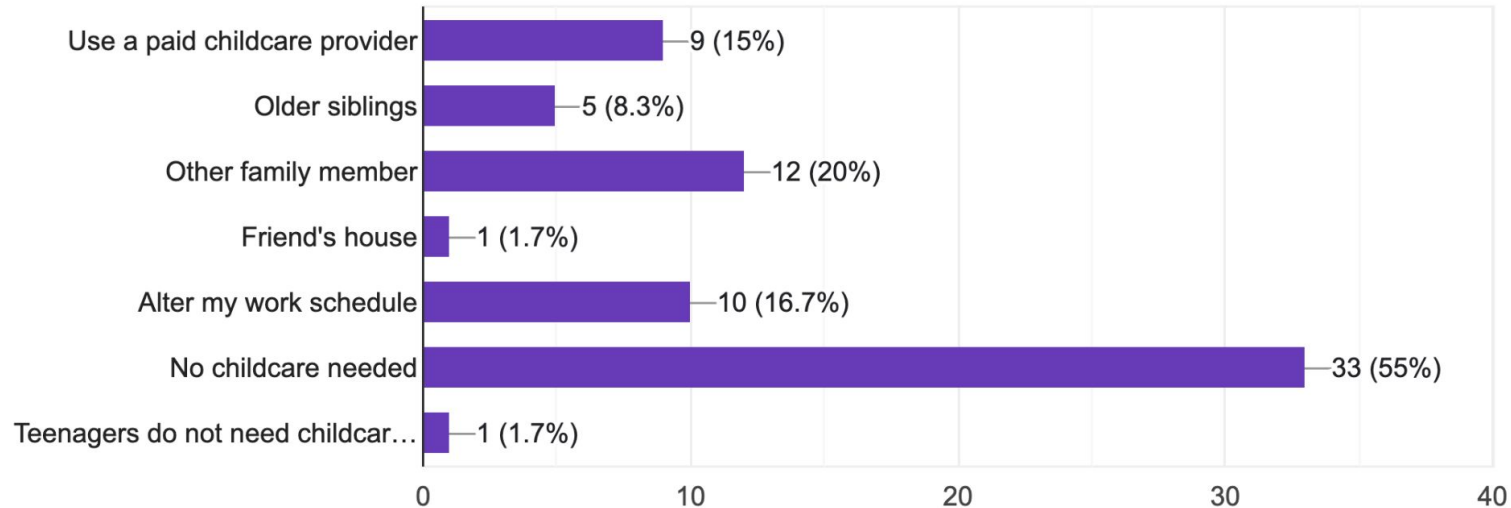


- Cuidado de niños
- Calidad de la instrucción
- Duración del día escolar
- Sin preocupaciones

Question 5:

What childcare method(s) would you most likely use on the weekday when school was not in session?

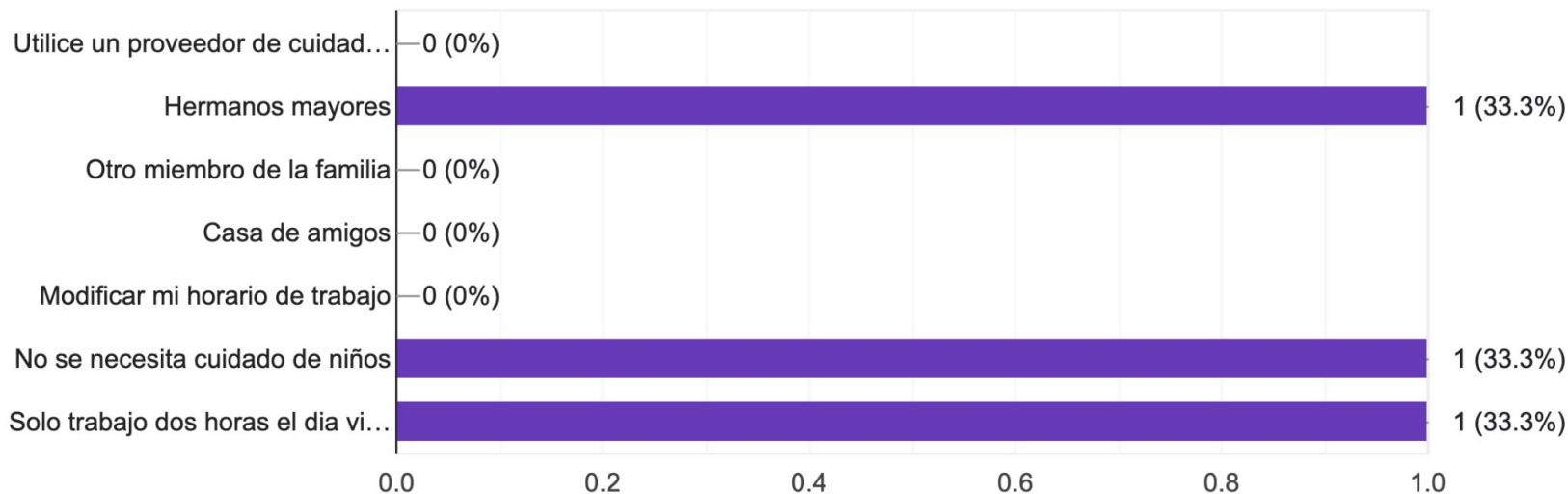
60 responses



Pregunta 5:

¿Qué método(s) de cuidado infantil probablemente usaría en un día laborable cuando no hay clases?

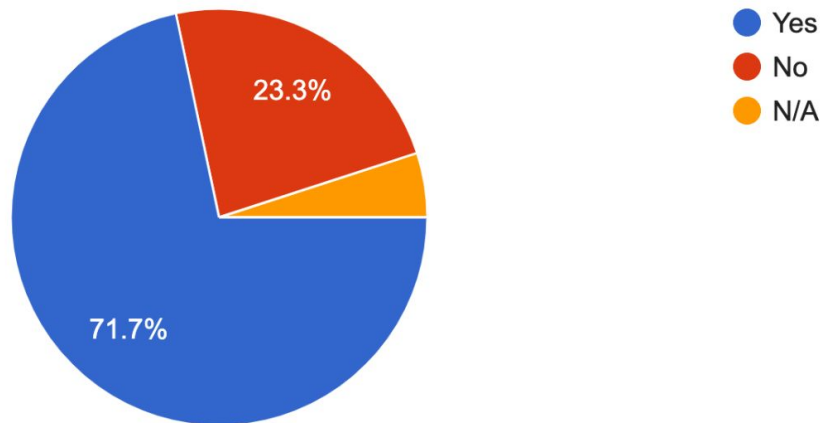
3 responses



Question 6:

Does your child participate in school athletics teams (e.g. basketball) or other school-sponsored activities (e.g. FFA) that regularly met outside of the school day?

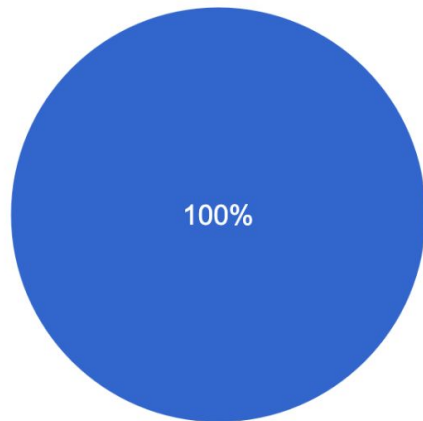
60 responses



Question 6:

¿Participa su hijo en equipos deportivos escolares (por ejemplo, baloncesto) u otras actividades patrocinadas por la escuela (por ejemplo, FFA) que se reúnen regularmente fuera del día escolar?

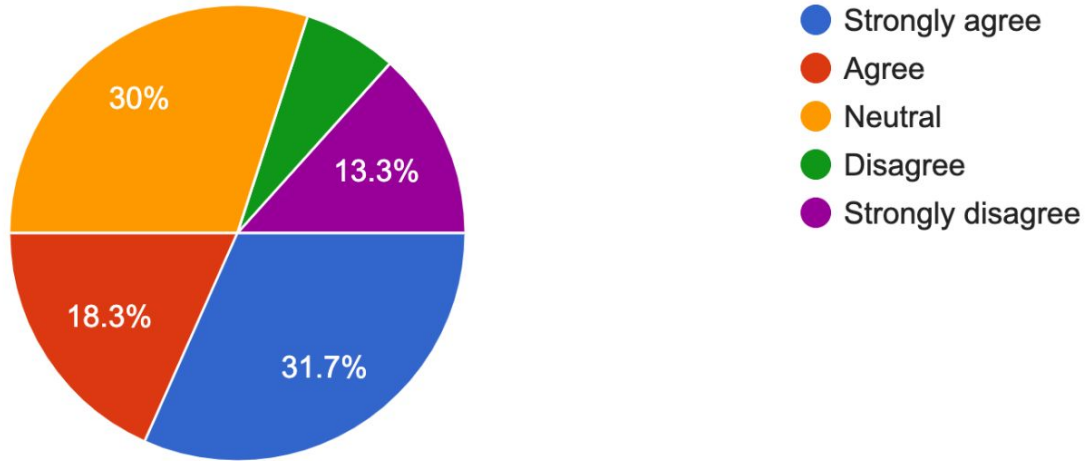
3 responses



Question 7:

A 4-day week will impact my family in a positive manner.

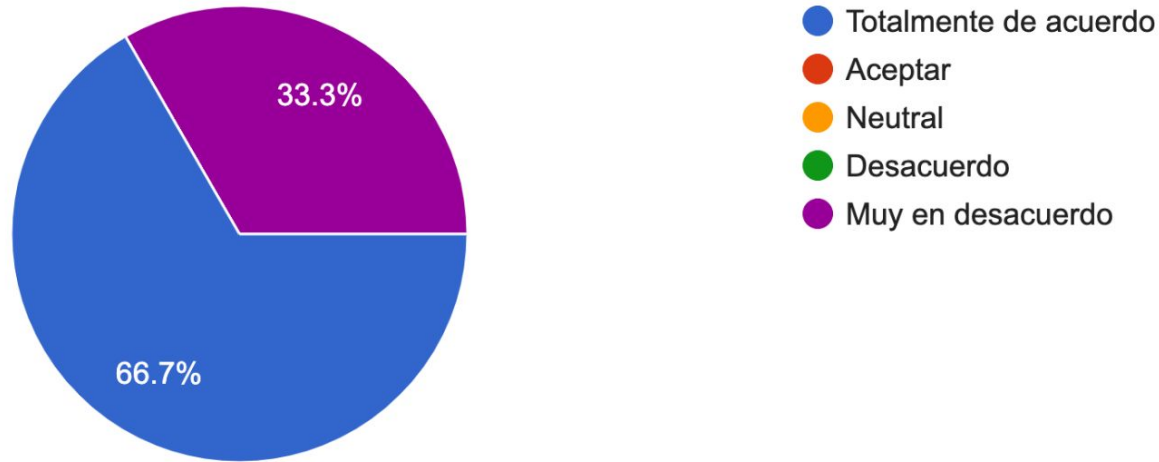
60 responses



Pregunta 7:

Una semana de 4 días tendrá un impacto positivo en mi familia.

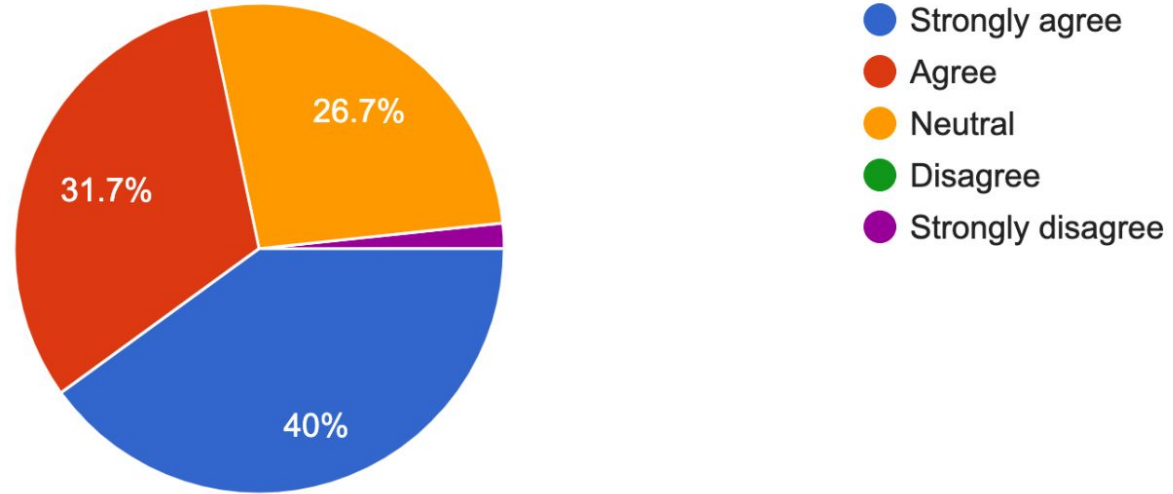
3 responses



Question 8:

A more consistent school week will benefit student learning.

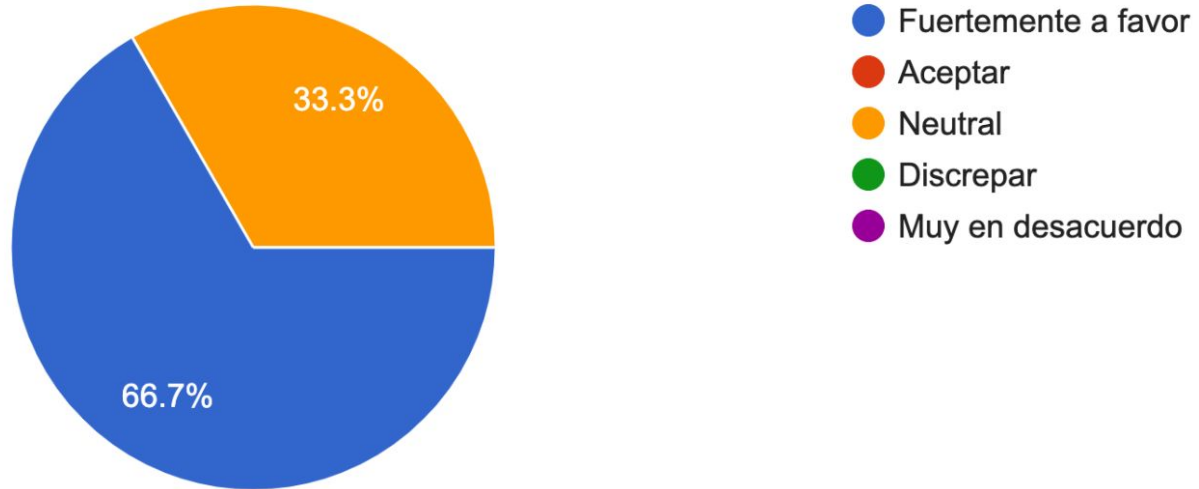
60 responses



Pregunta 8:

Una semana escolar más consistente beneficiará el aprendizaje de los estudiantes.

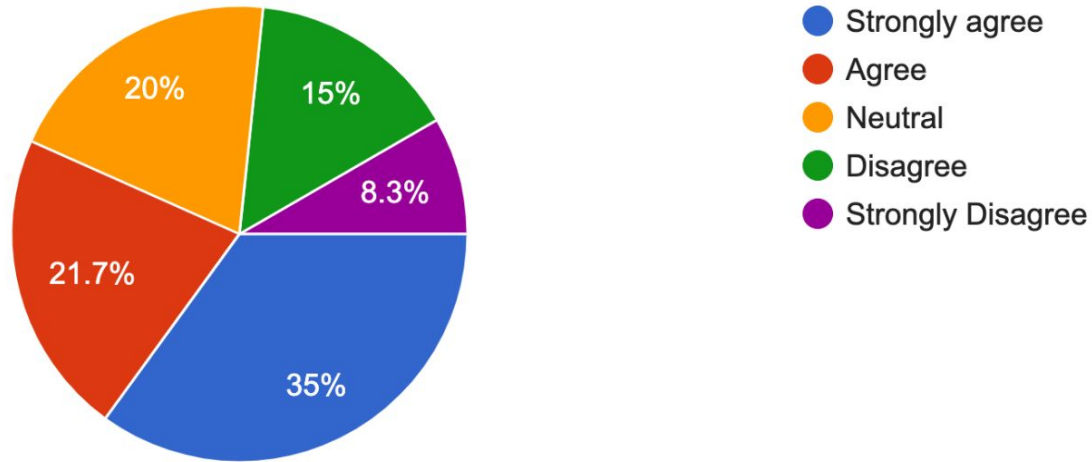
3 responses



Question 9:

The 4-day school week will improve student attendance.

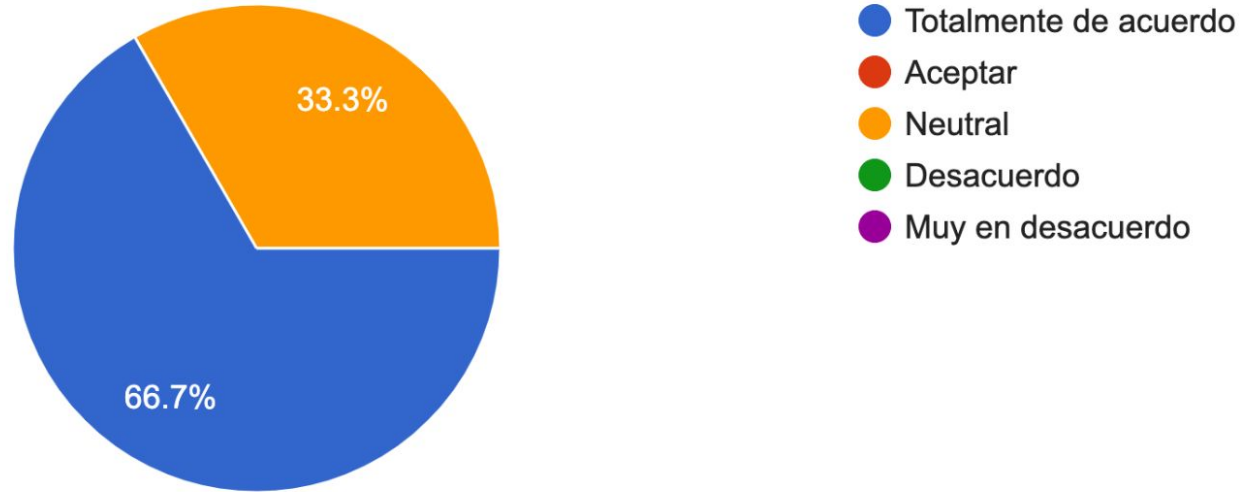
60 responses



Pregunta 9:

La semana escolar de 4 días mejorará la asistencia de los estudiantes.

3 responses



Question 10:

Please provide any additional input, suggestions, or ideas you may have regarding the potential 4-day school week.

26 responses

This works for the Waterville school district, we are similar in size, so I think it will work for pateros!

I wonder how many more days we would need to add to keep our current school times.

I love the idea of having an extra day with my sons. Having an open Friday for possible traveling to see family in other states without cutting into school time would be nice. Flexibility to schedule dental appointments, which are usually in Wenatchee and take up a whole day of missing school. I do worry about trying to cram more learning into a school day and how that would reflect on learning and retaining information and test scores as a whole school. I do see potential in drawing student back who have left for Brewster or have homeschooled due to the changes we underwent with staffing and budget problems during covid. I think we have nothing to loose in trying a 4 day week out for the next school year since we can always revert back to a 5 day.

I like the idea of starting at 8 and end at 3:40 so bus times are not any earlier.

-I don't like the idea of my kids being at school for longer in the day
-there isn't enough info on how sports practices and games would work
-the teachers say they would do more things on Fridays involving students (clubs ect..) but if it isn't required for them to be there but one Friday a month than what's holding them to actually following through with that idea
-we love having our kids in Pateros school, at this time I just don't feel like I have enough information to feel confident in the change.

Can we confirm if Boys and Girls Club will be able to staff our extra day off?

If no schools that are currently enrolled have dropped out, it seems like an opportunity that is worth trying. And while change is hard I think this change would end up being a positive overall.

In our personal situation I think it will make things more challenging at home with work schedules but I'm in favor of trying it, and navigating how to adapt to the 4 day school week.

Question 10:

It would be interesting to see if possibly adding days instead of hours to the day. I am thinking this as far as kids who have to be picked up so early and those who then would get dropped off at home much later as well. It takes 45 minutes for my child to get home after school.

I like the idea of staying with the time schedule we currently have and just adding a few days to the end of the year. That way the kids aren't burned out from the longer days, it would keep the late nights to a minimum for sports and still give the kids and teachers their Fridays

As my job is flexible, this will be fine for my family either way, however, my son does not like the idea of longer days.

Sometimes school is a safer place for students to be than their home living situation. There is concern for those students.

Please remember that there are students and families who rely heavily on a structured school setting 5 days a week. Remember, many families and students will not come out and tell you that. They don't want to stand out from what everyone else is doing. Please remember those who aren't saying one way or another.

Concerned about students who are struggling with mental health. Not having eyes on those students or a check in for 3 full days could be worry-some.

As a taxpayer, how will staff be paid? How does this impact hourly and salaried employees? How do you justify the same pay for less days? Will salaries be reduced?

Is this really for the kids or is this just more convenient for the adults in that system?

Question 10:

4 day school week I see no benefit for the kids other than to have an extra day off. And to those kids that school is a safe place now have an extra day to not feel safe. As far as having an extra day to schedule appointments some offices are closed on Fridays. For our Latino community this 4 day school week would really be a burden on them especially when they have to work during the busy and long hours of harvest season.

I've got many opinions and it'd be too lengthy to type them. Bottom line is we all have to adjust to what our society is calling for and try to at least go into this possible change with an optimistic attitude.

Both students and teachers will benefit from this. No more burnout and less kids and teachers missing school for appointments.

My concern is for the grade school and jr high age students. They need repetition to learn and they will be missing the repetition necessary. The school week is consistent whether it's 4 day or 5 day attendance. The articles/surveys I have read about 4 day school, indicates 3rd to 8th grade over time regresses and the loss of education compares to the loss during covid.

Afterschool activities wouldn't align with the new school hours

One missed school day due to sickness will have much more of an impact. Longer school day will mean practices get out later. Away sports games will have a larger impact on student class time than it does now, they'll potentially miss an entire period and 25% of the learning that week. Less social time for the kids during the week if they don't go to a daycare or other program. This seems to benefit teachers more than anyone, as their pay will not decrease but the amount of hours per month will go down significantly. I would rather my children be in an academic setting 5 days a week instead of 4, and then daycare or boys and girls club where there is less structure

Question 10:

I see the desired attendance improvement but don't see how it's possible for all doctor, dentist, or other appointments to be scheduled on one day of the week. Also, speaking from personal experience teaching in a different district, families don't just take Fridays off when they plan trips or vacations.

The idea of my children being home unattended, for 38 full days while I'm working, is very stressful. I trust my older child's ability to be home with her younger sister, but I am not comfortable with either of them being out of school that much. I feel like it's going to make Mondays and getting up and getting ready for school even harder.

Change is hard for most people, and you have to get used to it, but the early release Wednesday schedule was different than my districts Late Start Mondays (which didn't impact me as a staff member). This potential 4-day school week would be a much different schedule than I currently have and make it stressful and difficult for childcare when my older child participates in sports. It will also impact me financially if I have to find childcare that I currently don't have.

What about student mental health? 38-40 days home on their own is a lot. Some children should not be home by themselves for this amount of time.

I believe the school days are already long enough, especially for the younger kids. Adding 40 minutes to the school day will be hard on my youngest.

I also don't know how this might encourage more enrollment at our school. A majority of parents work 5 days a week. If they don't have any childcare options, or can't afford \$40 a month for the Boys and Girls Club, I can see them taking their kids somewhere else. I personally have heard from one that claims they will do that. I also wonder how many parents will just leave their kids home alone. Probably not the best idea, especially with Pateros having almost zero police presence.

I do feel like it would be great for the staff but would negatively affect most students. At the end of the day, school should be about the kids.

Question 10:

Can see the positive effect both mentally and emotionally of a 4 day week. Kids can have more time with family, to decompress and have a better school/life balance. I can see this as a huge draw to getting students to return or come to Pateros. Would be good to let families know how many spots will be open at the boys and girls club and Pateros daycare, as was stated at the meeting. That way families don't have to wonder if there's room.

Are teachers and staff going to get paid as much as if they worked 5 days? Really, teachers only have to go to work on ONE of the days off per month, yet they are paid the same as teachers in other districts working 5 days a week? I sure hope you don't run a school levy any time soon. My family has always supported the school with our vote, but will not support if the district goes to a 4 day week.

With the amount of money that the school has received over the years via levy & maintenance operation ballot approval requests, I believe that the school building needs to continue being utilized five days a week and accessible for special community events on weekends if need be. There's nothing wrong with the status quo. Enrollment is declining in other districts across the state. People whom are advocating the change to a four-day school week should think about single parents with children whom don't have the luxury to afford childcare or have other family nearby to rely on. Please note that sometimes there's a disconnect between people whom have grown up in Pateros and others that didn't even go to school here trying to tell the rest of us how to live our lives.

Pregunta 10:

Favor de proporcionar aportes, sugerencias, o ideas adicionales relacionados con la semana escolar potencial de 4 días.

- Descartar el viernes una gran oportunidad para practicar deportes y fines de semana largos en familia
- Creo que es una gran oportunidad de pasar tiempo extra con mis hijos y aprovechar el buen clima de primavera y verano para tener fines de semana largos y acampar, en mi caso personal ya no sera nesesario que asistan a cuidado por que el nuevo horario permitira que mi esposo pueda esperarlos y recogerlos afuera de Boys and girl club

Translated:

- “Discarding Friday a great opportunity to practice sports and long weekends with the family”
- “I think it is a great opportunity to spend extra time with my children and take advantage of the good spring and summer weather to have long weekends and camp. In my personal case it will no longer be necessary for them to attend care because the new schedule will allow my husband to pick them up outside the Boys and Girl Club.

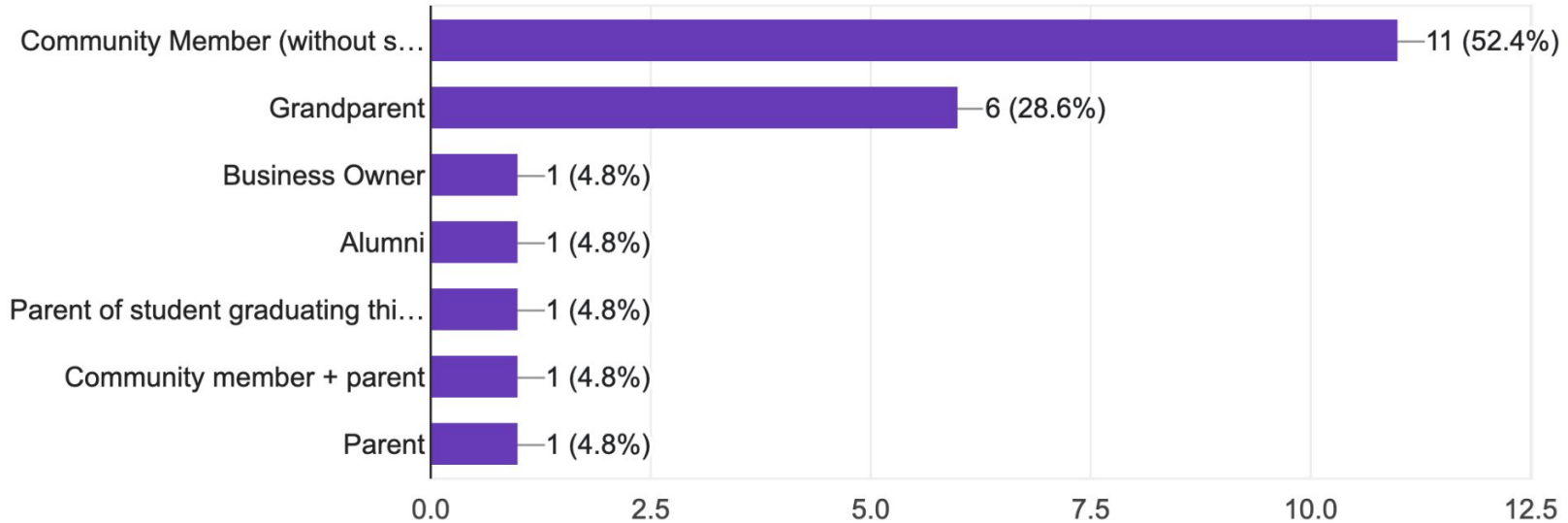
Community Results

A total of 21 staff members completed the survey

Question 1:

I am a...

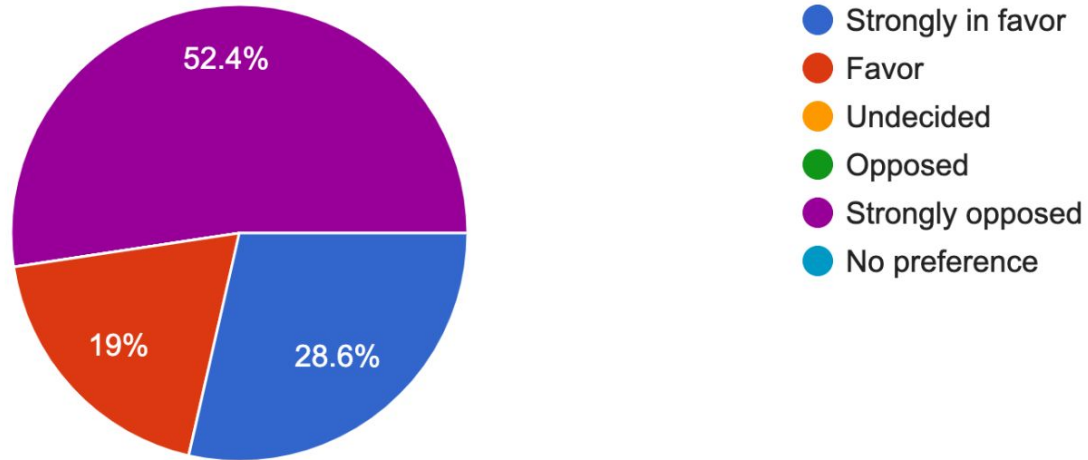
21 responses



Question 2:

Would you be in favor of a 4-day school week?

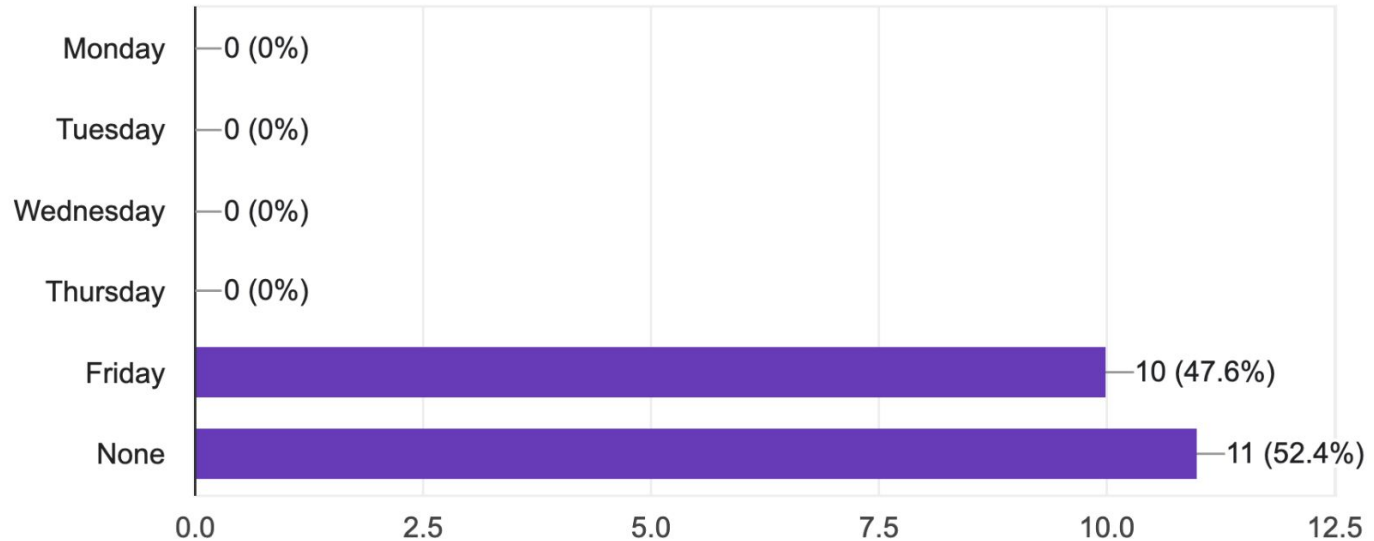
21 responses



Question 3:

Which day would your family prefer for the eliminated school day?

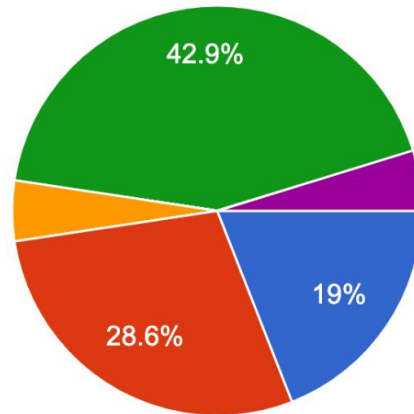
21 responses



Question 4:

What is your greatest concern with a 4-day school week?

21 responses



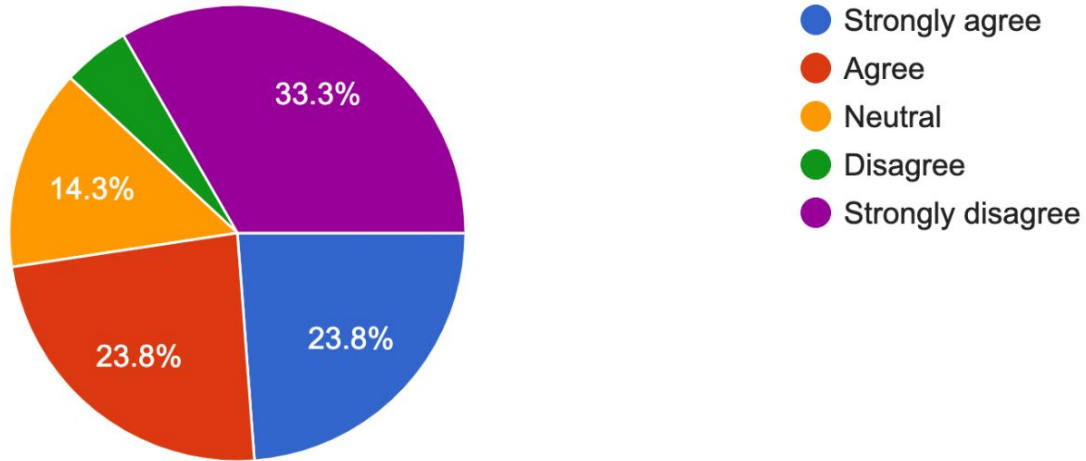
- Childcare
- Quality of instruction
- Length of the school day
- No concerns
- As a tax payer paying into a public identity, a school needs to be open & working for students 5 days a week. It is not a holiday. It is 5 days of working & learning for the children. Consistency is important. And we know where are chi...

- As a tax payer paying into a public identity, a school needs to be open & working for students 5 days a week. It is not a holiday. It is 5 days of working & learning for the children. Consistency is important. And we know where are children are as a community. 4 days of instruction and 3 days off will be too much of a challenge. By Monday, they will have to start all over again.

Question 5:

A 4-day week will impact my family in a positive manner.

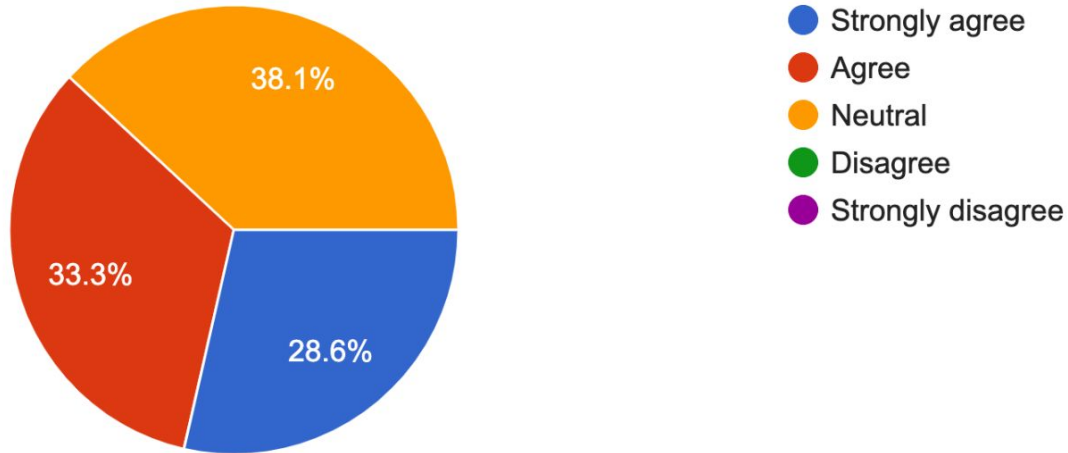
21 responses



Question 6:

A more consistent school week will benefit student learning.

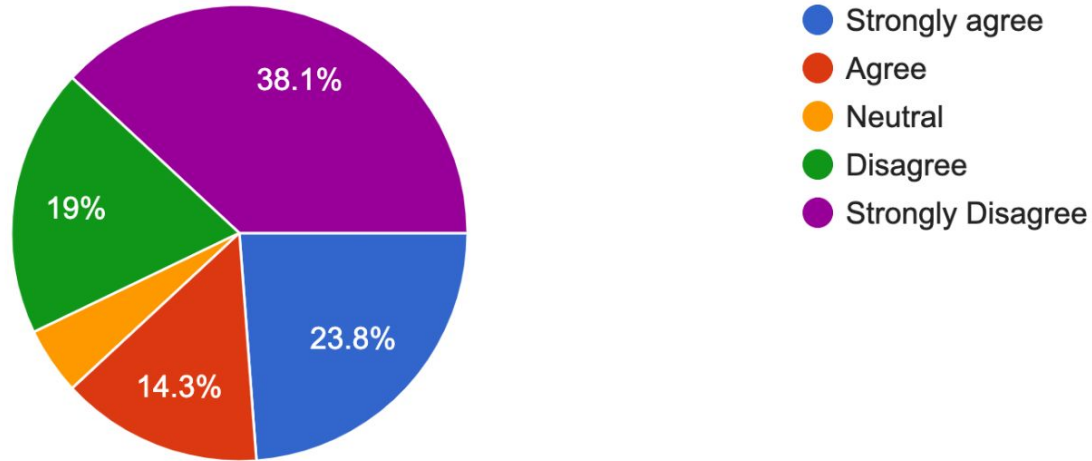
21 responses



Question 7:

The 4-day school week will improve student attendance.

21 responses



Question 8:

Please provide any additional input, suggestions, or ideas you may have regarding the potential 4-day school week.

12 responses

I think it is worth trying.

As an alumni of Pateros High School, I was compelled to reach out once I heard about the prospect of implementing a four-day school week. I am gravely concerned about quality of education. Test scores aren't where they should be. This isn't just a Pateros issue. Students need more time in the classrooms, not less. Spring break should be eliminated while keeping the five-day school week. In my line of work as a bank teller, I've encountered teenagers/young adults who don't even know how to fill out a deposit slip, count loose change, or endorse a check. How are they supposed to excel in society if they can't even do simple tasks? Home economics and budget financing classes need to be brought back to Pateros. The state of Washington needs to start investing into the development and education of young people. Also, some parents work five days a week. If their kids only go to school for four days, the parents may not have the financial means to pay for a babysitter and may not be comfortable leaving their kids at the boys and girls club in Brewster. The city of Brewster has a real credibility problem. Plus, they also have a graffiti problem. How about homework in this four day a week scenario? Set a hard limit on the maximum amount of homework a teacher can assign.

Question 8:

Hello. My name is Ina (Craig) Fritz, PHS class of 1972, a twelve-year senior, and a third generation graduate. Thank you for putting this survey out for the community. I am looking forward to seeing the results from this proposal. I believe in quality education and that education entails being in the classroom. Enrollment is decreasing due to lack of job opportunities for parents. Thank you for your time. -Ina F.

I am concerned about how tired the elementary students already are at the end of the day before adding additional time.

I am concerned about the kids having an additional unsupervised day where they might make poor choices.

I am concerned about daycare for working parents.

Why would we run a bus to the boys and girls club in Brewster when our students could be taught an additional day by our certified teachers?

Are we looking at what's best for kids or is it what the staff desires--a four day work week?

Question 8:

I graduated from PHS in 2005. When I was in high school, the class enrollment was over three-hundred students. I am concerned about the declining enrollment but I don't see an influx of new pupils coming to Pateros simply by moving the school days to only four-days a week. The school still has overhead costs to pay regardless if people are in the building or not. For example, heating & cooling, and electricity. People are leaving Okanogan County due to lack of stable, year-round, full-time jobs. I live in Pateros but currently commute to Wenatchee for my job. Housing is too expensive in the Wenatchee Valley, otherwise I would buy something there. At some point I think we as a community need to accept the fact that school district consolidation may be the only financially responsible path going forward. I'm thinking about ten to twenty years long-term scenarios. Thank you for your time.

Overall just want to express concern over the 4-day week. Primarily, concerned about the low-income percentage of students and the impacts on their learning and needs. 67% of students currently enrolled in Pateros are identified at low-income. Switching to a 4-day week has potential to negatively impact these students. Food costs, gas, and rent/taxes has increased. To ask these families to only pay \$10 for the Boys and Girls club on Fridays is inappropriate. Times that by multiple Fridays in a month the cost rises and that's only for one child. These children and their families need the current 5 day schedule. If this goes through, these families will be forced to make difficult decisions about childcare on Fridays. These children need and deserve to have the current schedule in place and have access to certified educators 5 days a week. Its a large percentage of students to consider when making this decision and this group is also identified as "at risk" for various social, emotional, and academic concerns. Has this been considered?

Question 8:

This decision is only to benefit adults and employees not families and students. Don't expect a levy or bond to ever pass again if you go to a four day work week.

This sounds like post COVID adults not wanting to work. This gives a really bad impression of the adults working at the school. This will be a hardship for parents for childcare. \$10 a week is \$40 month. \$40 parents do not have to pay under the 5 day week. Boys & Girls club is not the best place to send kids. My grandchildren will not be going there. Just by making the arrangements for the Boys and Girls Club, you are admitting that students need to be at school 5 days a week. You worry about summer learning loss - what kind of learning loss will this create?

This is not in the best interests of students and quality instruction. Will employees be paid the same amount as they do now? Teachers will not be working the same number of days and paras won't be working the same number of hours. Sounds like a boon to the adults and a loss for students and parents.

As a business man in this community for 52 years, working with the government bureaucracies that have gone to 4 days per week is noncompatible for the tax paying working class. Out of the 10 hours per day, you will never reach anyone in the office before 8 AM or after 330 PM and yet they are ALL on the payroll.

And what about the KIDS? A 3 day break in learning is will not beneficial to the kids.

The only benefit to this idea is to the staff that is supposed to do their job. This is not efficient. And on those days off, if anything comes up it will be OVERTIME. That will eat up any payroll savings.

As a tax payer, if this 4 day work week passes, you will never have support from me on a school levy.

Steve Varrelman
cc Facebook

Question 8:

I am from a family of educators so I understand most concerns. but I see several benefits to the 4 day school week, especially for a small school. First, the early releases will be eliminated. As a grandparent, who shares the child care on these days - a set day each week would sure eliminate -confusion and scrambling around that occurs on half days. Secondly, kids work hard at school. They deserve a day to focus their energy on different things. Its a change but if grandparents can change, surely parents and kids can too. Change can be difficult but I say give it a try. If low enrollment is a concern - Pateros needs to offer something that neighboring school districts do not.

Lack of childcare options. Daycares are full and understaffed. Boys and Girls club have staffing shortages and staffing for one day a week with a max capacity of 62 doesn't seem feasible. Kids left alone at home all day until 5-6pm if the family can't afford or find childcare. I highly oppose this for elementary students.