

SLIDELL CALL

GRAFORD

••••• 4 DAY FEEDBACK •••••



Graford ISD is going on their 5th year of a 4 day district calendar with ZERO plans to go back

Master Schedules



- Will be shared with Slidell administration
- Schedule 57 minute class periods (at the secondary)
- Our teachers have chosen to use Fridays for UIL practices - these are not required, but what our teachers choose to do and enjoy the time to just focus on coaching extra curricular activities.
 - FFA
 - UIL
 - Athletics
- We have been 7:40 - 4:00, but next year will transition to 7:20 - 4:00.
 - 7:20-7:40 will be used as an intervention time, 1416, UIL, etc. as needed by staff.
 - All other students will report to cafeteria for breakfast

How do your PK-2 students handle the longer days?



- Our littles have done well.
- Our PK still takes naps, but we did extend the nap time slightly to help accommodate the lengthy day.

How have you all handled childcare?



1. We took a poll of who in the community would need it. We had about 30 show up the first 2-3 Fridays, but then there were none that would show up, so it was dissolved.
2. We did start this next year, as school staff day care. This has also been a game changer, and another recruiting option we are able to use.



The first year we implemented the new calendar we tracked every lever for secondary, and they had zero that left due to moving to a 4 day school week.

How has this impacted your academics?



- When we started we were a D-F rating, and now we are an A rating.
- We had to be strict on pacing, supporting teachers with curriculum, and cutting the fluff. Once they saw how much they liked it, they were more inclined to keep the 4 day weeks, so they ensured their lessons, and plans were intentional, and class time protected. We did hire a curriculum instructional coach to put more eyes in the classroom.
- NO WASTED TIME!
- Summer PD days were spent with campus administrators creating pacing guides. They are willing to share if needed
- Our attendance rates increased from 94% to 96.5%-97%

Other than your teachers volunteering their time on Fridays, did you have any other structured Fridays?



Yes, we started with two PD days a six weeks, but have transitioned to one PD day per month. Other than that, it is solely optional. However, we have dedicated teachers that enjoy the time to solely focus on the activities they coach on Fridays, then plan for their next week. They also appreciate this being on their timeline based on their needs. Just to clarify, the Friday coaching is all on my staff wanting to be successful.

Recruitment



We used to be desperate by July/August trying to fill positions. Now we can have positions filled by spring break with numerous quality applicants.

Extra Curricular activities. You mentioned that your staff is volunteering to come up on Fridays for their activities. Did you see a decline at first when students would see other students would have a day off? How do you get students up to the school on Friday? Did you have to offer incentives?



No, our school became an open gym. Staff sent schedules at the beginning of the year so students could plan when they came up to school to practice for any activity they were involved in. It truly has been the best thing all around.

What are your start/stop times?



- Students - Aug 5th - May 21st
- Staff - July 28th - May 21st
 - This is with a 3 week break at Christmas