

SLIDELL CALL

CHICO

••••• 4 DAY FEEDBACK •••••



Chico ISD is going on their 4th year of a 4 day district calendar



First step - Mrs. Cox visited with Gordon ISD and took a trip to the school district. Their mission was to find out everything that was wrong. This was prior to the survey they sent to community. They spent a whole day there. They spoke to students, teachers, and athletics.

Second step - Surveys were sent out to stakeholders with one question



- Would you be interested in a 4 day school week?
- A comment section to provide feedback was also included with question.
- # 1 feedback was childcare on Fridays. Gordon had the same feedback. Once you put it in place, parents figure it out.



Next Step - They started building their plan. They put together a presentation for the community and held a community forum...it was needed and hard. Be prepared and know all of the negatives beforehand.

After the community forum 88% staff and 73-74% community was for 4 day calendar, but there was one on the board that was hesitant, however the survey won him over.



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.

Moving into year 2 and 3



- There may be some Fridays that they will have to go to school due to minutes.
- They have had to remove being off on President's day for minutes.
- First they were attending Fridays for STAAR just in case, but they haven't needed it, and have since eliminated those Fridays.
 - STAAR scores- they have not improved greatly however not negatively impacted due to 4 day.



Extra Curriculars

No negative impacts for athletics. They do walk-throughs and team meals on Friday around 1:00.



1st year is difficult for teachers to adjust to; veteran teachers will struggle the most, new teachers more flexible

At elementary school be intentional with how you are using minutes.



Offer one PD day per month; we have not found a perfect routine for what that looks like. They are looking at how to make those more effective each year.

The first pd day is crucial - pick it apart; be very transparent who's struggling with what do they need.

Chico will send Slidell a list of everything from master schedules to lesson plan examples.



What is the reason that you are exploring the 4 day school week?

Chico's was to recruit better teachers. They increased their job pool and gained teachers from Paradise ISD.

Enrollment in high school has increased.



Chico is not considering moving back to 5 day; families have adapted to it. You get a lot of family time back.



Chico did not partner with a daycare. The school didn't offer it. A day care did open from the conversations around the community and it has since shut down. It might have had about 5 kids.



The first few years, they did early release on Fridays and they did interventions to the rest of the day and those asked to stay did not. It turned into baby sitting for our staff. Chico did not look at it for interventions after this trial period. If they are out for an extended period of time; there are funds available to pay teachers or credit recovery. Special cases for 1:1



Chico's bell start and stop times are from 7:50- 4:00, and students are getting it.

Calendar- 2026-2027- teachers begin August 3rd and students begin August 6th; Last day for students is May 27th.



No negative feedback for Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten. Administration started with these grade levels when creating the master schedule. Nap time was adjusted and added a snack break.



All hourly employees except for paraprofessionals stay 5 days calendars. Central administration comes in on Fridays.



Weeks that have a holiday on Monday Chico attends on Friday. They will not have any 3 day weeks outside of the first week of school.