



4-Day School Week

The Livingstone Range School Division Board of Trustees will decide if implementing a 4-day school week is in the best interest of student success, budget efficiencies, and staff retention and recruitment.

WHERE DID THIS IDEA COME FROM?

- Comments from parents on a November 2020 school year calendar survey showed interest in an adjusted school week
- Results of a March 2021 survey where 41% of parents and 49% of staff were in favor of exploring a 4-day school week
- Comments from an October 2022 school year calendar survey where 68% expressed interest in a 4-day school week

HOW WILL A DECISION BE MADE?

The Board of Trustees will consider the effect on student engagement, will use budgeting models to look for projected efficiencies, and will gather stakeholder feedback. The Trustees will use this information to make the best decision in alignment with our Mission, Vision, and Core Values. It is anticipated that a decision will be made in February 2025. A final report will accompany the decision announcement.

WHAT DOES A 4-DAY SCHOOL WEEK LOOK LIKE?

We are considering a true 4-day school week where students are in class 4 full days each week. Typically this is a Monday-to-Thursday schedule, but where there is a statutory holiday during the week students will be in class four days that week (with Friday being a full day). Each day is lengthened by an average of 14 minutes to accommodate the Alberta Education requirements of annual hours. Teaching staff will work a fifth day approximately twice each month to effectively meet their professional responsibilities.

HOW WOULD A 4-DAY SCHOOL WEEK WORK AT HUTTERITE COLONY SCHOOLS?

Students at Hutterite Colony schools would have their Livingstone Range School Division teacher for the 4-day school week schedule. Individual colonies would make arrangements for students on the Friday that would work best in their context.

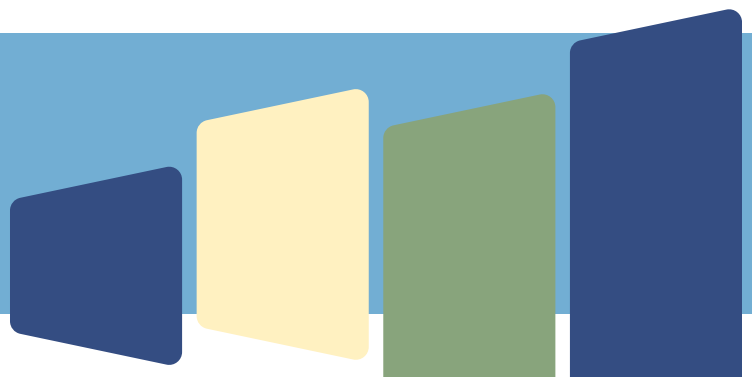
ARE OTHER JURISDICTIONS RUNNING A 4-DAY SCHOOL WEEK?

Some schools in Alberta run a four-day week, such as Champion School (K-9), Brant Christian School (K-12), Hays School (K-9) and Lomond Community School (K-12). Veteran School in Prairie Land School Division has operated on a 4-day school week for over 30 years. Currently there are no full school divisions in Alberta that run a 4-day school week.



Livingstone Range
SCHOOL DIVISION

www.lrsd.ca/4dayweek
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LIVINGSTONE RANGE SCHOOL DIVISION

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR CONSIDERING AND IMPLEMENTING A 4-DAY SCHOOL WEEK?

Since November 2020, the Trustees have been looking at available research and modeling regarding a 4-day school week. From May to November 2024, the Trustees will seek feedback from families, students, staff, indigenous partners, pre-Kindergarten parents, union executives, and community a. This information will be compiled and reported to the Trustees in January 2025. It is anticipated that the Trustees will make a decision in February 2025 whether or not to proceed with a 4-day school week.

If the decision is in favor, a 4-day school week would begin in the 2025-2026 school year in all schools across Livingstone Range School Division.

COULD WE INSTEAD HAVE A 5-DAY WEEK AND END THE SCHOOL YEAR EARLIER IN JUNE?

Alberta Education sets the dates for diploma exams and provincial achievement tests (PATs). Because we cannot change those dates or administer those exams earlier in June, it is necessary to have a school calendar that includes the latest exam dates for students.

WHAT WOULD A POTENTIAL SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR LOOK LIKE?

A potential draft calendar for the 2025-2026 school year has 157 instructional days for students. For comparison, the 2023-2024 school year has 180 instructional days. Those days would be made up by increased instructional time each day (on average, it would be an increase of 14 minutes) and creating efficiencies in school timetables.

To accommodate for religious holidays on weekdays in the 2025-2026 school year (Ascension and Pentecost), the Hutterite Colony calendar has some modifications. A full draft calendar and simplified calendar for parents are included with this information packet.

HOW CAN I PROVIDE COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK?

The Division is exploring this idea, not promoting it. The Trustees will seek feedback from stakeholder groups to understand their perspectives and concerns. This information, along with budgeting models and the effect on student engagement will be considered as the Board makes its decision, likely in February 2025.

We invite staff, parents, and community members to provide comments and feedback by email to 4dayweek@lrsd.ab.ca or by phone to 403-625-3356 (ask to speak to Karly Bond).