

Agenda of Special Meeting

The Board of Trustees Mineral Wells ISD

A Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Mineral Wells ISD will be held Tuesday, May 17, 2022, beginning at 5:30 PM in the District Services Complex.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on this meeting notice. Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

1. **Call to Order/Establish Quorum**
2. **Public Comment**
3. **Discuss, Consider, and Take Any Necessary Action Regarding the Adoption of an Amended 2022-2023 School Calendar** **2**
Presenter: Dr. John Kuhn, Superintendent
4. **PUBLIC HEARING: Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services (RIPICS) Plan** **7**
Presenter: Natalie Griffin, Executive Director of Special Programs
5. **Discuss, Consider, and Take Any Necessary Action Regarding Returning to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services (RIPICS) Plan**
Presenter: Natalie Griffin, Executive Director of Special Programs
6. **Adjournment**



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Agenda Item

MEETING DATE: 5/17/22

MEETING TYPE:

- Regular Meeting
- Special Meeting

AGENDA ITEM TYPE:

- Action Item
- Non-Action Item

BOARD GOALS (check all that apply)

Academic Goals

- Academic Competitiveness
 - Early Literacy (HB3)
 - Early Math (HB3)
 - Other
- Career Certifications (HB3)

Operational Goals

- Promote Community/School Partnerships
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Safe and Secure Schools

TITLE: Discuss, Consider, and Take Any Necessary Action Regarding the Adoption of an Amended 2022-2023 School Calendar

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the Amended School Calendar as presented

BOARD POLICY/STATE REGULATION/LAW REFERENCE (if applicable): EB (LEGAL)

OVERVIEW:

MWISD administration presented a 2022-2023 school district calendar to the Board of Trustees for approval at the March 7, 2022, regular meeting; it was approved unanimously.

MWISD administration is now requesting approval by the Board of Trustees of an amended district calendar for 2022-2023. The main difference between the calendar currently in effect and the new proposal is that the new proposal provides a four-day school week for students, and many Fridays free for employees. This change is being proposed for numerous reasons:

1. To improve teacher recruitment and retention
2. To protect and enhance student enrollment
3. To reduce ISD costs associated with fuel, electricity/utilities, and substitutes
4. To reduce stress for students and teachers
5. To improve attendance rates for students and teachers
6. To create more days for remediation for students who need extra help
7. To create more opportunities for professional development of staff
8. To create a pay raise for hourly employees

FISCAL IMPACT: Savings on bus fuel, utilities, and substitute costs; no reduction in state funding

ATTACHMENTS: Current 22-23 calendar; proposed 22-23 calendar; fact sheet

DEPARTMENT(S) SUBMITTING FORM: Superintendent's office

DEPARTMENT SIGNATURE/APPROVAL:



Mineral Wells Independent School District

906 SW 5th Avenue
Mineral Wells, Texas 76067
(940) 325-6404
Fax (940) 328-6088

May 12, 2022

FACT SHEET Four-Day School Week

Funding

There will be no impact on school funding if we meet the state requirement for instructional minutes offered. The proposed calendar meets that requirement.

Staff Opinion

87% in favor
7% opposed
6% undecided

Parent Opinion (1099 participants as of 2:51pm, 5/12/2022)

69% in favor
25% opposed
6% undecided

Facebook Community Poll

70% in favor
29% opposed
1% undecided

Student Opinion (466 participants as of 2:51pm, 5/12/2022)

73% in favor
22% opposed
5% undecided

Input from Current Four-Day Districts

Universally positive with little/no negative feedback

Length of School Day

The proposed calendar has every school maintaining their same start time. The end of the school day will increase by 25 minutes for elementaries, 10 minutes for MWJH, and 15 minutes for MWHS.

Length of School Year

The proposed calendar will begin six school days earlier than the currently adopted 2022-2023 calendar and will end on the same date as the currently adopted calendar.

Accelerated Learning/Remediation Days

This calendar includes four student remediation days, placed strategically near the end of four of the six weeks' grading periods.

Professional Development Days

This calendar includes five PD days before school begins for students and three more each semester, for a total of eleven PD days during the year.

Feeding Students

Meals for Friday can be sent home on Thursday. We plan to do this.

Pay Raise

This would amount to an increase in the hourly wage paid to our hourly employees, and it would allow many lower-wage MWISD employees who moonlight to earn more on the side, helping them support their families.

Recruitment/Retention

We currently have multiple openings for elementary teachers that we need to fill. Anecdotal testimony from four-day schools indicates applications doubled and tripled. They also saw reductions in teachers leaving.

Friday childcare

We do not recommend providing childcare on Fridays, for several reasons. Childcare is not being offered in any school we know of that has a four-day week in Texas, and we have consulted with several locally and across the state. There are several reasons for this, including:

- 1.) Testimony from current four-day districts that it isn't a significant issue
- 2.) Legal complications:
 - a. Is it a school day? Or are we a day care?
 - b. If it's a daycare:
 - i. Daycare licensing requirements?
 - ii. Insurance
 - iii. Employee liability
 - c. If it's a regular school day:
 - i. Special education requirements?
 - ii. Transportation requirements?
 - iii. Diabetic care requirements (UDCA training)?
 - iv. Free and reduced lunch program requirements?
 - v. School security requirements?
 - vi. Attendance requirements?
- 3.) Extra personnel costs
- 4.) Blunts morale boost and recruitment enhancement purposes of the recommendation
- 5.) Availability of babysitters (high school and college students available on Fridays)
- 6.) Availability of government assistance for daycare for low-income families
- 7.) We do not offer childcare during summer vacation
- 8.) From August 8 through May 25, the currently adopted 22-23 district (five-day) calendar has 46 professional development days, teacher workdays, early release days, or student holidays. We have not offered childcare on any of these days.
- 9.) For the same dates, the newly proposed 22-23 district (four-day) calendar has 59 professional development days, teacher workdays, early release days, or student holidays. This is an addition of only 13 new days for which some parents would need to find childcare.
- 10.) Numbers
 - a. Only 111 MWISD kids need after-school daycare currently (out of over 3200 students)
 - b. Many students have grandparents, extended family, neighbors, friends, or older siblings who can provide care one day per week
 - c. Many of our students are old enough to care for themselves or even go to work on Fridays, helping local employers



Mineral Wells Independent School District

2022-2023 Academic Calendar

Aug.									
8	8	First Day of School							
26	PD	Professional Development/Student Holiday							
Sept.									
5	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
16	16	Accelerated Instruction Day							
Oct.									
7	PD	Professional Development/Student Holiday							
28	28	Accelerated Instruction Day							
Nov.									
4	PD	Professional Development/Student Holiday							
21 -- 25	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
Dec.									
19 -- 30	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
Jan.									
2 -- 6	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
16	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
27	PD	Professional Development/Student Holiday							
Feb.									
10	PD	Professional Development/Student Holiday							
17	17	Accelerated Instruction Day							
Mar.									
13 - 17	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
24	PD	Professional Development/Student Holiday							
31	31	Accelerated Instruction Day							
May									
12		Bad Weather Day							
19		Bad Weather Day							
25	25	Last Day of School							
26	WD	Staff Workday/Student Holiday							
26		GRADUATION							

[] Start/End of 6-Week Grading Periods

MISSION

Mineral Wells Independent School District is committed to building a community of life-long learners in a student-centered climate emphasizing character and responsibility.

SCHOOL HOURS

Elementary	7:50-3:55
Junior High - 7th	8:05-4:10
Junior High - 8th	8:10-4:15
High School	8:10-4:15

SPONSORED BY

July 2022

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August 2022

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September 2022

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January 2023

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February 2023

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May 2023

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June 2023

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Mineral Wells

Independent School District

2022-2023 Academic Calendar

Aug.									
17		First Day of School							
Sept.									
5	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
16	PD	Professional Development/Student Holiday							
Oct.									
7	PTC	Parent/Teacher Conferences/Student Holiday							
10	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
31	WD	Staff Workday/Student Holiday							
Nov.									
21--25	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
Dec.									
20	ERS	Early Release (Secondary Only)							
21	ER	Early Release (All Students)							
22--30	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
Jan.									
2--6	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
9	PD	Professional Development/Student Holiday							
10	WD	Staff Workday/Student Holiday							
16	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
Feb.									
17	PD	Professional Development/Student Holiday							
20	WD	Staff Workday/Student Holiday							
Mar.									
10		Bad Weather Day							
13--17	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
Apr.									
7	H	Student/Staff Holiday							
May									
19		Bad Weather Day							
24	ERS	Early Release (Secondary Only)							
25	ER	Early Release (All Students)							
25		Last Day of School							
26	WD	Staff Workday/Student Holiday							
26		GRADUATION							
]		Start/End of 6-Week Grading Periods							

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August 2022

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September 2022

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October 2022

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November 2022

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December 2022

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January 2023

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February 2023

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March 2023

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April 2023

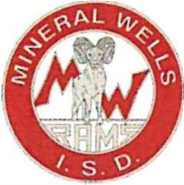
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES Agenda Item

MEETING DATE: 5/17/22

MEETING TYPE:

- Regular Meeting
- Special Meeting

AGENDA ITEM TYPE:

- Action Item
- Non-Action Item

BOARD GOALS (check all that apply)

Academic Goals

- Academic Competitiveness
 - Early Literacy (HB3)
 - Early Math (HB3)
 - Other
- Career Certifications (HB3)

Operational Goals

- Promote Community/School Partnerships
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Safe and Secure Schools

TITLE: PUBLIC HEARING: Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services (RIPICS) Plan

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Review (RIPICS) Plan and make changes if necessary based on public comment.

BOARD POLICY/STATE REGULATION/LAW REFERENCE (if applicable):

OVERVIEW:

Review our Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

ATTACHMENTS: (RIPICS) Plan

DEPARTMENT(S) SUBMITTING FORM: Special Programs

DEPARTMENT SIGNATURE/APPROVAL: [Handwritten Signature] [Handwritten Signature]

MINERAL WELLS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services (RIPICS) Plan



Reviewed November 29, 2021

The guidance in this document is authorized by Executive Order GA-34, which has the effect of state law under Section 418.012 of the Texas Government Code. Executive Order GA-34 provides TEA with the legal authority to publish requirements for the operation of public school systems during the COVID-19 pandemic. The MWISD Prevention and Response Protocol has been revised to reflect the contents of the TEA's School Health Operations Requirements, found at <https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/SY-20-21-Public-Health-Guidance.pdf>.

This document takes effect June 5, 2021, replacing all prior guidance. TEA recommends that public school systems consult with their local public health authorities and local legal counsel before making final decisions regarding the implementation of this guidance.

This guidance addresses:

- On-campus instruction
- Administrative activities by teachers, staff, or students that occur on school campuses
- Non-UIL extracurricular sports and activities
- Any other activities that teachers, staff, or students must complete

Required Actions if Individuals with Test-Confirmed Cases Have Been in a School

1. If an individual who has been in a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must notify its local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
2. Upon receipt of information that any teacher, staff member, student, or visitor at a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must submit a report to the Texas Department of State Health Services via an online form. The report must be submitted each Monday for the prior seven days (Monday-Sunday).

Health and Hygiene Practices: Masks

Per GA-36, school systems cannot require students or staff to wear a mask. GA-36 addresses government-mandated face coverings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Other authority to require protective equipment, including masks, in an employment setting is not necessarily affected by GA-36.

School systems must allow individuals to wear a mask if they choose to do so.

Additionally, as a reference for practices recommended by the CDC, see [here](#).

Facility Cleaning

Upgraded cleaning procedures will continue throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

Continuity of Services: including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs.

All services will be face-to-face for all students beginning 8/18/2021.