

STAFF FAQ

- **Q: Why is Cityscape Schools considering a 4-day school week?**
A: The primary reasons are to retain and attract quality teachers; improve student well-being; give back family time; improve school life balance for employees; and improve student outcomes.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, what days are students out of school?**
A: Under a 4-day school week, students would attend school Monday-Thursday. Students are off most Fridays with a few exceptions that are identified on the school calendar.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, will the school day be longer?**
A: Yes. A 4-day school week would extend the school day by approximately 1 hour.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, will it shorten our holidays or breaks during the year?**
A: No. There would be no changes to existing breaks, including Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Spring Break.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-Day School Week, will it lower teachers' salaries?**
A: Teacher salaries would remain the same.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, would this lower the pay of hourly staff?**
A: No. The annual pay of hourly staff would not be affected.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, will teachers and staff be required to work on Fridays?**
A: There will be one professional development day scheduled each month (with additional PD scheduled for August (return to school) and state assessment months (TELPAS/STAAR trainings). Additional PD days would be planned in August to prepare for the start of school.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, how many days would teachers work?**
A: Teachers and most paraprofessionals currently work 190 days. Under the 4-day school calendar, they would work 169 days, which includes approximately 9 designated professional development days scheduled on Fridays.

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- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, how many days would other staff work?**
A: Most staff positions would be adjusted accordingly and would follow a Monday-Thursday schedule.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, will school be open on Fridays for students?**
A: Yes. **Many parents work, and day care is very expensive.** Therefore, Cityscape Schools will provide at **NO COST** to parents an all-day **Foresight Friday Camp** for student learning opportunities, enrichment activities (sports, art, music, e-sports, karate, dance, etc.) Cityscape Schools will also provide at **NO COST** to parents after-school (Monday–Thursday).
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, will meals be available on Fridays?**
A: Yes, for students who attend Foresight Friday Camp, breakfast, lunch and a snack will be provided. Cityscape Schools is exploring a solution for other families who do not attend Foresight Friday Camp.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, will snacks be provided in the afternoon?**
A: Yes, snacks would be provided in the afternoon on school days.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, what are the most likely reasons staff would have to work on a Friday**
A: Foresight Friday will be staffed with a combination of new full- and part-time employees, and current teachers and staff will be allowed to apply for these assignments to have the opportunity to earn additional money for the time worked.
On the district’s proposed 4-day calendar, both Labor Day and MLK Day fall on Mondays. For these two holidays, students and staff will attend school on Friday of the same week.
Also, on the same proposed calendar, on the first week after Christmas Break, there will be a Monday PD day, and students and staff will attend school on Friday.
Any regularly scheduled duties and job functions associated with extracurricular activities would still be required on Fridays.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, would this affect available state and local leave days?**
A: No. All district employees would still receive 5 state leave days and 3 local leave days per academic school year.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, would we start school earlier in the year?**
A: On the proposed Cityscape 4-day calendar, classes begin August 7, 2023.



Exploring Possibilities of 4-Day School Week

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- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, would this cause us to go to school later in the year?**
A: On the proposed Cityscape 4-day calendar, classes end May 30, 2024.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, would students lose instructional time?**
A: No. Texas measures instructional time by minutes rather than days. Students would attend school more than the required 75,600 minutes required by the State of Texas without sacrificing any learning time for students.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, why would students be out on Fridays and not Mondays?**
A: Districts who have implemented a 4-day school week have found that Fridays off better meet the needs of students.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, what would be the start and end times at my school?**
A: Currently Cityscape is looking at multiple possibilities for the bell schedule. One possibility would be the following:
 - ECC: 7:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 - EGP Elementary: 8:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
 - EGP Middle: 8:15 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
 - BP: 8:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, is this change being made to save money?**
A: No. Cost savings are negligible because Cityscape Schools is choosing to prioritize competitive pay and benefits to keep quality teachers and staff.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, when will a proposed calendar and schedule be available?**
A: As previously mentioned in this document, there is a proposed district calendar and schedule for the 2023-2024 school year. Several of the proposed calendar highlights have been discussed in previous

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questions. If the decision is made to move to a 4-day school week, the calendar will be available to families and staff as soon as possible and after Board approval.

- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, how will it affect extracurricular activities on Fridays (games, etc.)?**
A: All extracurricular activities proceed as normal.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, are athletic events still held on Fridays?**
A: Yes. Athletic and other extracurricular events would take place as scheduled. The coaches/sponsors will communicate what time students need to be at the school on Fridays.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, how will it affect academic performance?**
A: Schools who have moved to a 4-day school week have shown similar academic performance compared to a 5-day school week while improving the well-being of students and staff. Meanwhile, a 4-day school week would allow more time in the school calendar for targeted assistance for students throughout the school year to improve student outcomes.
- **Q: If Cityscape Schools moves to a 4-day school week, would students have to make up days due to inclement weather or other campus closures?**
A: As normal, two makeup days are scheduled at the end of the school year, if needed.