

COVER SHEET

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Waiver of Administrative Rule

UAC R277-121 allows an LEA to request a waiver from a Board rule.

LEA: **Wayne County School District**

SCHOOL(S): **Hanksville Elementary, Loa Elementary, and Wayne High School**

RULE REQUESTING TO BE WAIVED: **R277-419-4 Minimum School Days**

REASONING/JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUESTED WAIVER:

Wayne High School was on a four-day school week for much of the 1990's. The schedule was very popular and many were disappointed when State Superintendent Laing informed the district that the high school would have to go back to a 5 day school week. All Wayne County schools are currently Necessarily Existent Small Schools or considered remote and are not located near many conveniences. The county contains very limited options for shopping, dining, health services, eating out and entertainment that are readily available in more populated areas around the state. Most people have to travel a minimum of 50 miles to access many of these services on a regular basis. This often pulls students and staff out of school during the work week for appointments and other events requiring travel outside of the county.

Whole child development is a major priority in the mission of Wayne County School District. The school district believes that the time a student spends with grandparents in neighboring counties, doing chores around the house, working with family on a cattle drive, or participating in their community are essential parts of their development. The 4 day school week gives parents more access to their children and greater ability to schedule activities important to their development.

Participation in athletics is high at Wayne High School. Even without modifying athletic calendars, students would be in class for more hours attending a 4 day school week. Every Friday tournament and other all day Friday events take large numbers of students out of school for the entire day, compared to half an hour to two hours for an evening event. Friday school days are attended at the lowest rate even when controlling for school athletics. The 4 day school week would help us better protect instruction time.

The bus ride from Hanksville to Wayne High School in Bicknell is one of the longest bus rides in Utah. Hanksville students spend close to 3 hours per day on the bus. The 4 day school week removes approximately 100 hours on a school bus for these students in a school year. This is valuable time that could be used for family, homework, or other activities that contribute to a child's development.

Due to small economies of scale, Wayne County School District is one of only a few school districts that do not have a self-sustaining school lunch program. The district is forced to supplement school lunch expenses with local funds. We currently serve breakfast and lunch 5 days per week. Breakfast counts Monday through Thursday averages 72 meals served and drops to 70 on Fridays. Lunch on the other hand drops significantly on Fridays. We average 215 lunches served Monday through Thursday, while only serving 74 lunches on Friday. We typically lose over \$400 per month by offering meals on Fridays due to the staffing required to be there, and the reduced meal counts.

There will be significant savings in our transportation and food services budgets by moving to a 4 day week.

THIS IS A NEW WAIVER

STUDENT ATTENDANCE DATA (Page 2)

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DATA (Page 4)

COMMUNITY, STAFF, OR STUDENT SURVEY DATA (Page 8)

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA (Page 10)

LEA GOVERNING BOARD VOTE APPROVING REQUEST FOR WAIVER IN OPEN MEETING (Page 11)

WRITTEN AGREEMENT TO BE PROPOSED TO THE BOARD INCLUDING: (Page 14)

EFFECTIVE DATE OF WAIVER

HOW LEA OR SCHOOL WILL PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND ACCOUNTABILITY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO REQUIRE ANNUAL UPDATES

A SUNSET DATE FOR THE WAIVER

Attendance Data

We have a goal to have 95% attendance daily. This may be a little high but is worth shooting for. The following charts show year to date data with the 95% goal line. Many of the low points on the chart reflect Friday attendance.

Elementary Attendance

Are we hitting our attendance goal? Our goal: 95% daily attendance

93.8% on Thursday, March 21st
daily attendance

90.5% year to date
average daily attendance

What is our daily attendance?



Middle School Attendance

Are we hitting our attendance goal? Our goal: 95% daily attendance

94.7% on Wednesday, March 20th
daily attendance

89.9% year to date
average daily attendance

What is our daily attendance?



High School Attendance

Are we hitting our attendance goal? Our goal: 95% daily attendance

95.5% on Thursday, March 21st
daily attendance (**3-day streak**)

90.7% year to date
average daily attendance

What is our daily attendance?



Student Achievement Data

Acadience results kindergarten through 5th grade beginning of year results compared to middle of year results for the 2023-2024 school year.

Acadience Reading grades K-5



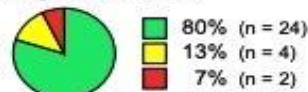
Acadience Math grades K-3

District: Wayne School District
Grade: Kindergarten
Year: 2023-2024

District Overview

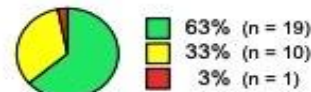
Beginning of Year

Math Composite Score



Number of Students = 30
Average = 36.6
Standard Deviation = 18.5
Score Range = 7 to 95

Middle of Year



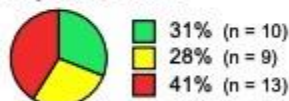
Number of Students = 30
Average = 98.2
Standard Deviation = 38.9
Score Range = 24 to 182

District: Wayne School District
Grade: Second Grade
Year: 2023-2024

District Overview

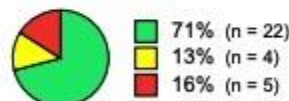
Beginning of Year

Math Composite Score



Number of Students = 32
Average = 20
Standard Deviation = 13.4
Score Range = 2 to 57

Middle of Year



Number of Students = 31
Average = 65.2
Standard Deviation = 31.2
Score Range = 13 to 122

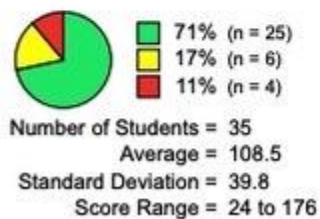
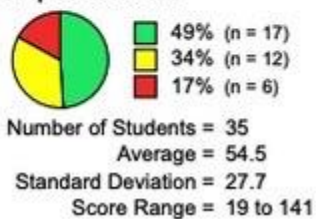
District: Wayne School District
Grade: Third Grade
Year: 2023-2024

District Overview

Beginning of Year

Middle of Year

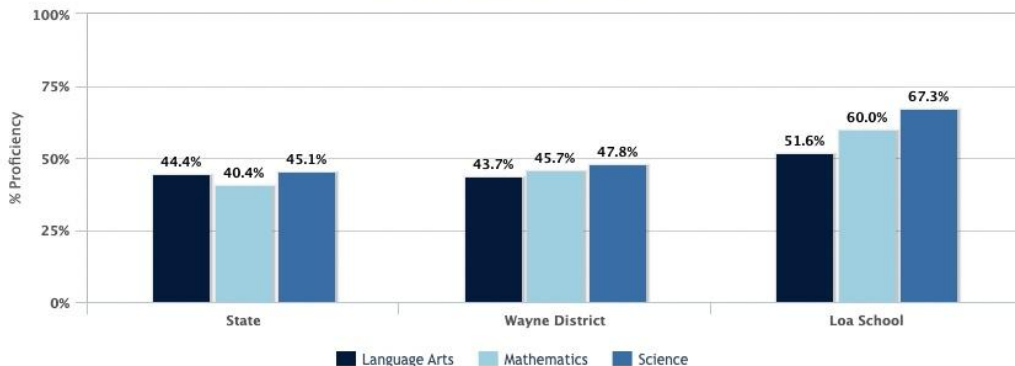
Math Composite Score



Student Proficiency Results Elementary Grades 3-5

Language Arts	Mathematics	Science
52%	60%	67%

2023 % of Students Proficient

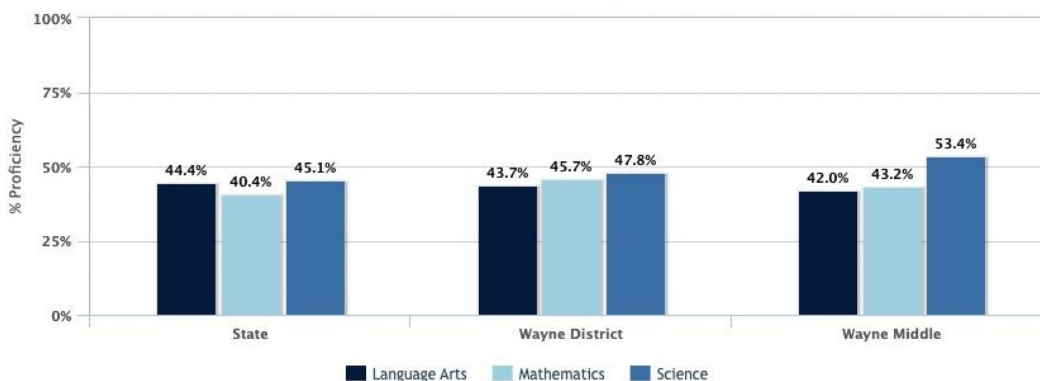


Middle School Grades 6-8

Student Proficiency Results for Wayne Middle

Language Arts	Mathematics	Science
42%	43%	53%

2023 % of Students Proficient

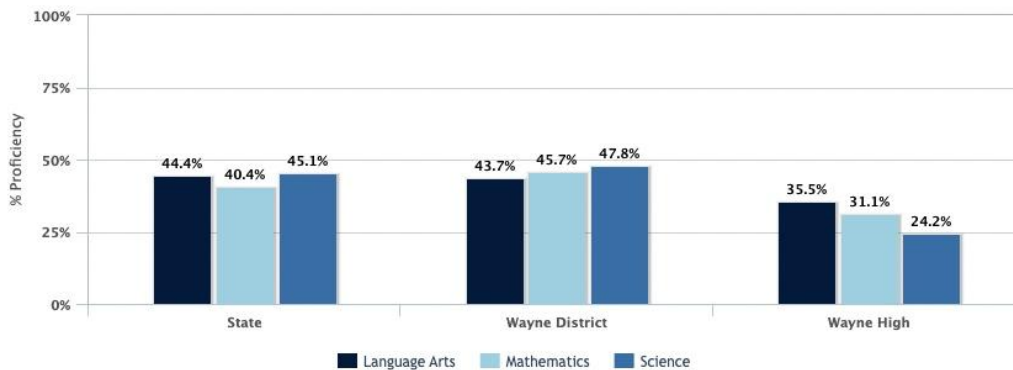


High School grades 9-12

Student Proficiency Results for Wayne High

Language Arts	Mathematics	Science
36%	31%	24%

2023 % of Students Proficient



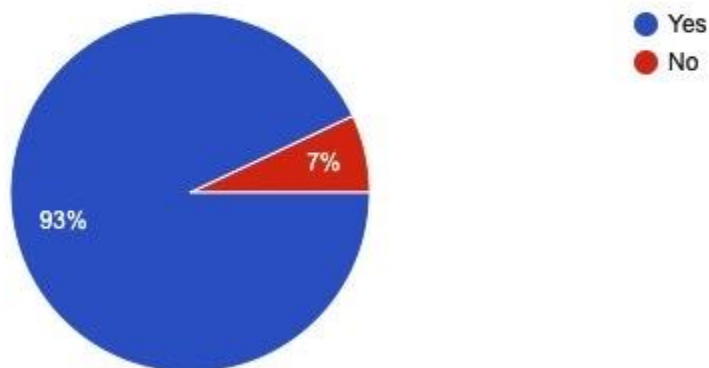
Stakeholder survey results

A simple survey was sent to stakeholders including parents and staff. We didn't disaggregate the results so this is a combination of employees and parents. We asked one question then gave an opportunity for comments.

The Wayne County School District Board of Education is considering moving to a four day school week. Would you be in favor of this move? Yes or No

Would you be in favor of moving to a four day school week?

157 responses



Here is a sample of the comments.

Yeeeeesss I think it would be great!

Alot of kids miss school on fridays now anyways. So yes i think it would be a good idea.

I would be happy with a 4 day week but I would be against homework due to longer to school days in the 4 day week. Thanks!

When i was in HS Fridays were optional for makeup work and tests. Giving our kids the opportunity to have time set aside during a regular school day for this would be amazing!

Student Attendance is really low on Fridays, which makes it hard for teachers to give lesson plans. Maybe they could schedule more sports & activities on Fridays, so the kids aren't missing school in the middle of the week. It would also be important, to make the schedule fit the required days & time needed to meet state requirements (180 days). And make the schedule so the Teachers & Staff still get their required amount of working hours met.

According to my student there are a lot of kids missing on Fridays so the Teachers are not able to teach as well. My student would be able to work of Fridays if he didn't have class.

I think that would be a great idea!

Would a 4 day school week require that the kids start school earlier in August to make up for the lost time on Fridays? What is the benefit of 4 days vs. 5? Hour difference? How much more homework will be sent home on a 4 day schedule? Will Fridays be open for students to go in and get caught up and get help from teachers? I can see pros and cons to both ways. Just curious what the pay off would be to the parent and student vs. the student teacher.

It would help with attendance and academics! A lot of kids miss Fridays at the elementary. It would be nice if the sports teams didn't have to miss so much school as well at the high school.

I think this would help a lot with attendance issues.

The schools had a four day school week when we lived in Idaho, and it was so convenient! Games were scheduled for Fridays if possible, so kids had less chasing. Big fan!

I think its a great idea. There would be more time for family activities on the weekends.

Unless the general labor moves to a four day work week, a four day school week is untenable. Further information is required, are the teachers only working 4 days and maintaining their current or better pay? Will the students be in school longer for 4 days? How will this affect the pacing of education?

Yes would you provide tutoring on Fridays and would all staff have to work on Fridays

I think teachers and students would benefit. I would hope that my company moves to a more productive 4 day work week.

I would be favor of it as long as it doesn't make school days Monday/Thursday too long. I am a tentative yes. Need more info to be fully supportive.

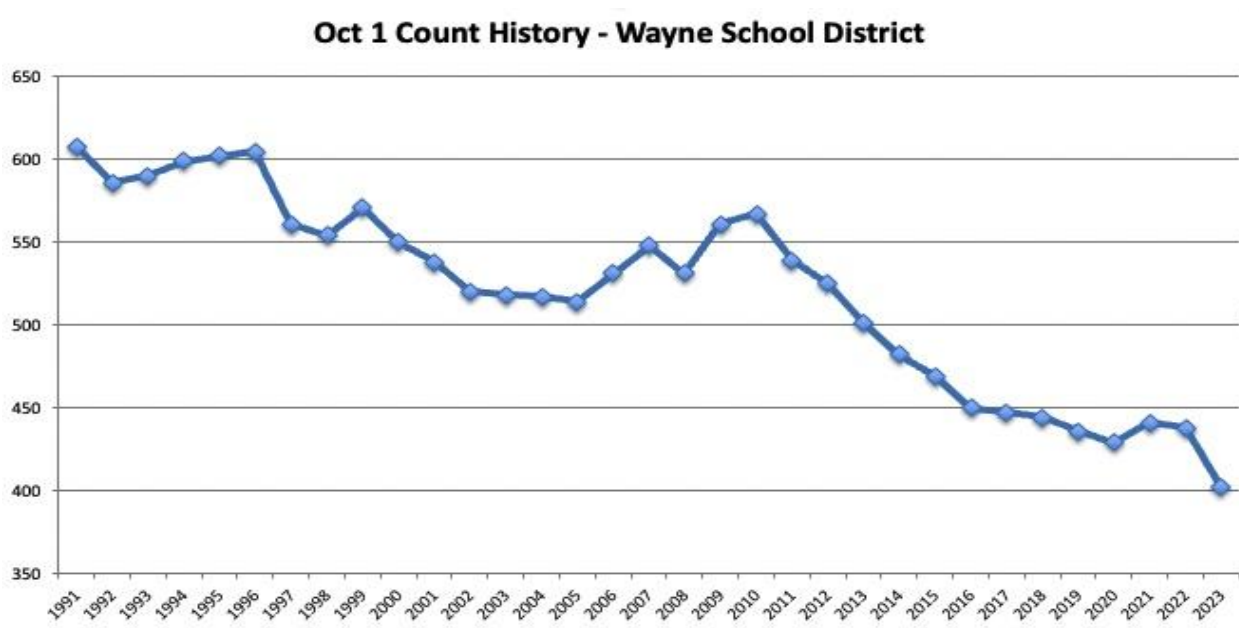
Great idea.

Yes, absolutely! Assuming this would give the teachers an extra day of much be needed prep and/or hours are extended Monday/Thursday.

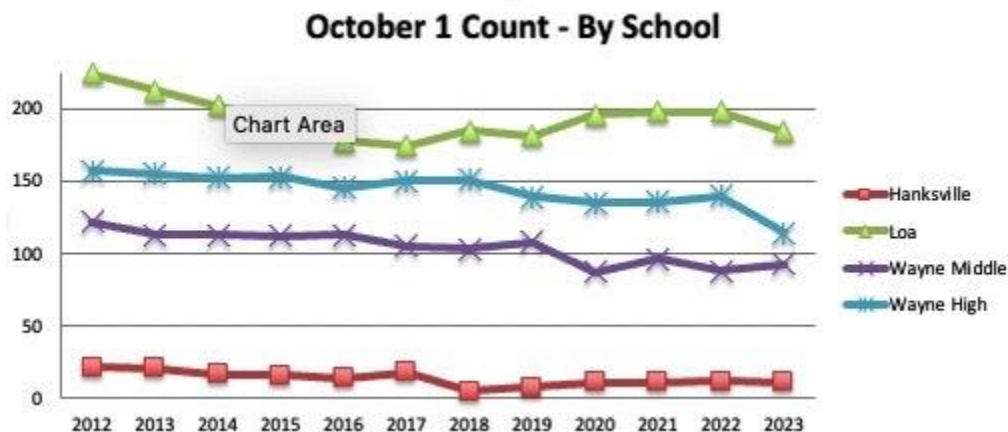
Maybe if it was Monday through Thursday. NOT Tuesday through Friday

Student Enrollment Data

This graph shows the district's October 1 enrollment going back to October of 1991. The highest enrollment was in 1991 with 608 students and the lowest 2023 with 402.



This graph shows a breakdown of October 1 enrollment by school going back to October of 2012.



LEA Governing Board Vote to Apply for Waiver

On March 13, Wayne School District held their regular meeting where they discussed applying for a waiver. Attached is a portion of the agenda with the four day week being the last item discussed under business items. Also attached is a draft of the minutes showing a unanimous vote to proceed with the request.

March 13, 2024 at 4:00 PM - Board Meeting

4:00 Administration

Pledge of Allegiance

April

Reverence

Cory

Approval of Board Agenda

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5:00 Business Items

K-8 ELA Curriculum Adoption

Policies

First Reading

Attachments: (3)

- [Access to Students by Law Enforcement and DCFS](#)
3/8/2024 at 8:59 AM

- [School Policy Development and Approval](#)
3/8/2024 at 9:02 AM
- [DHE Employee Leave and Pay Policies](#)
3/11/2024 at 7:56 AM

4-Day School Week

Draft Minutes of the Approval

Business Items

K-8 ELA Curriculum Adoption

Discussion:

Motion to approve K-8 ELA Curriculum Adoption by Liz. Second by Shawn. All in Favor

Policies

First Reading

DCFS – Access to Students by Law Enforcement

Discussion: Did everyone get the emails addressing policies? Changes based on other district policies. Superintendent made changes based on Patrick's (district attorney) reply. Law Enforcement should work with the school when requesting interviewing a student.

Motion to approve 1st reading. Seconded by Jim. All in Favor

– School Policy Development and Approval

Discussion: Does this also apply to sports teams? Yes. Policies be put on district website. When are changes required to go through 3 readings? Policy creation affects each school individually. Liz asked David, Wendy and Nikki to go back and review bring back to the board next month.

Motion: Moved to table until April by Curtis. Seconded by Jim. All in Favor

DHE – Employee Leave and Pay Policies

Discussion: With changes coming down from USBA and State Officials, there will be several parts to DHE that may need some attention. Further review is needed before readings are presented to the board. The Policy Committee and the Superintendent will work on changes and bring this policy back board in April.

Motion: Moved to table until April by Curtis. Second by Liz. All in Favor

4-Day School Week

Discussion: Steps will be taken to move forward with USBA and get approval.

93% of survey were positive. Some discussion around concerns.

Motion: Motion was made to move forward on the 4-Day week and seek approval from the State by Liz. Second by Curtis. All in Favor

AGREEMENT FOR WAIVER OF

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE RULE

Wayne County School District R277-419 4 Day School Week

This agreement is entered into by and between the Utah State Board of Education ("Board"), and Wayne County School District (WCSD), a local education agency (LEA").

RECITALS

- I. The Board has general supervision and control of Utah's public education system and has been granted the authority to make rules to execute its duties and responsibilities under the Utah Constitution and state law;
- II. The Board has exercised this authority and adopted Utah Administrative Code, Title R277. Education;
- III. LEA is subject to the requirements of the U.A.C. R277. Education'
- IV. U.A.C. R277-121, allows an LEA to petition the Board for a waiver of requirements contained in an administrative rule adopted by the Board;
- V. U.A.C. R277-419-4 *Minimum School Days* requires an LEA hold school on at least 180 days for at least 990 hours per school year;
- VI. LEA has petitioned the Board for a waiver of the requirements of R277-419-4 to allow all schools in its district to hold school for less than 180 days to implement a 4-day school week schedule;
- VII. LEA submitted all necessary information called for under R277-121-2;
- VIII. The Board referred LEA's waiver request to its Law and Licensing Committee for review and recommendation;
- IX. The Law and Licensing Committee reviewed LEA's waiver request in an open meeting held [DATE] and favorably referred the request to the full Board for action;
- X. The Board reviewed and discussed LEA's waiver request during its meeting on [DATE], and by motion, approved the waiver request by majority vote subject to the terms and conditions set forth below.

AGREEMENT

1. **Waiver and purpose.** Wayne County School District is exempted from the requirements of R277-419.4, specifically, the requirement that an LEA hold school for a minimum of 180 days per school year is waived for the purpose of implementing a 4 day school week.

2. **Alternative or Amended Compliance.** During the term of this waiver, Wayne County School District shall;
 - a. hold school for at least 990 instructional hours per school year consistent with R277-419 *Pupil Accounting*;
 - b. Maintain or increase the level of student achievement at applicable schools; and
 - c. Maintain or decrease absenteeism of students attending applicable schools.
3. **Effective Dates.** The effective date of this waiver shall be the 2024-2025 school year and continue until the end of the 2027-2028 school year, subject to the fulfillment of all of the terms and conditions found herein as well as compliance with all other applicable statutes and regulations. There will be no extension of this waiver except by the reapplication to the Board through the Board's waiver process in effect at the time of reapplication.
4. **Periodic Reports.** Wayne County School District shall provide the Board or the Law and Licensing Committee reports as requested which may include:
 - a. public input regarding the impact of the waiver on the school community (may include survey of school employees, parents, students, etc.);
 - b. Data evidencing student achievement has remained consistent or improved over the time period the waiver has been in effect (may include assessments, grades, attendance, graduation rates, etc.);
 - c. Evidence of compliance with alternative requirements (may include school calendar, activity calendar, course enrollment data, etc.);
 - d. Evidence of financial savings (if applicable);
 - e. Other data evidencing the impact of the waiver on the education system or environment.
5. **Amendment.** This waiver may not be amended except in writing signed by both parties and accompanied by such additional Board action as is necessary to approve any amendment.
6. **Termination.** This waiver may be terminated by the Board at any time, upon 30 days notice, if it finds that there has been any material misrepresentation of any fact(s) in the request for waiver or in the periodic reporting, or if the Board determined there are material deficiencies in student performance/achievement or unreasonable increases in costs to WCSD or its students not anticipated by either Party, or not represented to the Board by WCSD. WCSD may terminate this waiver at any time prior to its expiration upon providing written notice to the Board.

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



Randy Shelley, Superintendent
Cory Anderson, Business Administrator

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JAMES MOSS
Chair, Utah State Board of Education

DATE

WAYNE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Randy Shelley
Superintendent

DATE