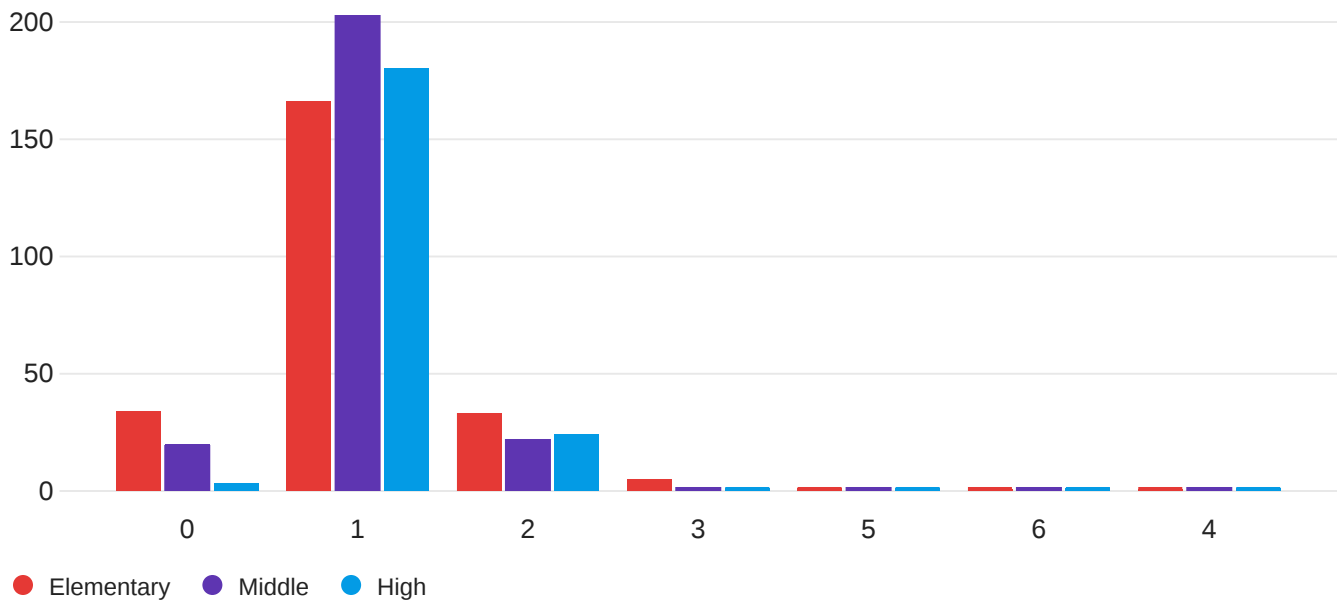
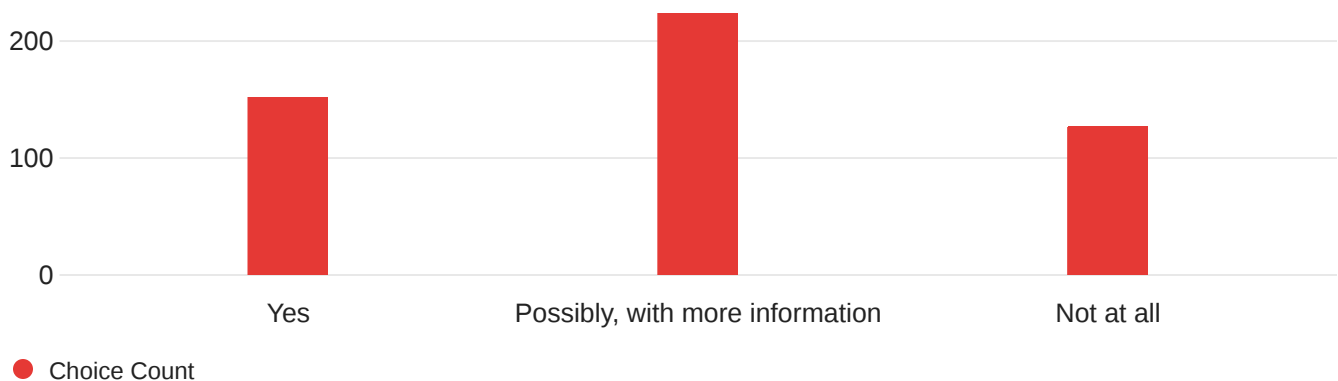


Q1 - Part of PK's mission as a Florida Developmental Research School is to desig...



Q2 - Summer can be a time of rejuvenation as well as a time for students to backslide academically. A year-round school calendar is an option that is available to prevent learning loss and support students in excelling in their academic goals. PK is investigating the feasibility and interest of a year-round school model. A typical model of year-round school is for a student to be in school for 45 days and 15 days out. For most students, “year-round” school still means 180 school days per school year. View a mock year-round schedule. The model could look like: First day of School - late July Fall break - first 2 weeks in October Thanksgiving break - 1 week in November Winter break - last week in December, 1st week in January Spring break - 2 weeks in March Last day of school - late May Summer break - 8 weeks in June and July

Would your family be interested in year-round school for your student(s)?



Q3 - What benefits do you foresee in a year-round school schedule?

What benefits do you foresee in a year-round school schedule?

Less loss of skills

Less caps in instructions

Greater flexibility for both student and parents for scheduling time away. Also as a family with two full-time working parents it is difficult to ensure engagement in academics during the long summer break, we acknowledge seeing a backslide in performance and motivation of our student going from one grade to the next.

The intermittent substantial breaks would be enjoyed.

Opportunities for students to be more interactive; Increased learning skills/opportunities; Balance for families (if the calendar remains the same)

First, I believe a year round program will increase overall learning and retention for most students. The summer break is certainly a time of lost knowledge. From a family perspective the multiple extended breaks through the seasons of the year will add additional traveling benefits and experiences.

prevention of summer learning loss, keeping mind and skills sharp

Early Oct Fall Break seems interesting, a bit of respite

Work schedule conflicts might be less.

less back to back camps to pay for

Overall increased student learning and advancement

None

shorter summer

Kids stay focused and parents who work are not having to find extended care for the summer

Less summer break

I like the two week fall break.

Academics

Only considerable if the summer schooling is NOT MANDATORY!!! Fall break could be a nice time to get better vacationing rates than summer. Maybe Spring Break 2 weeks too? OPTIONAL summer enrichment programs offered by the school might be of interest. Academic advancement could also be offered, or even technical skills learning, such as the programs we do not currently have at PK, like vocational skills for those not college bound.

Summer care would be less stressful. Children would retain more information.

Less time for academic loss

Q4 - What challenges do you foresee in a year-round school schedule?

What challenges do you foresee in a year-round school schedule?

Working parents finding childcare for their kids

Work school conflicts when there are no summer camps

Children not having a break from school

Childcare coordination during times that do not align with the public school system and scheduling conflicts if siblings are not also attending P.K.

I have not seen any current and reported benefits to year round schooling in terms of academics. Regression in academics will happen with an 8-week or 11-week summer. Teaching is a hard social science jobs with new challenges presented for educators every year. I believe that year-round schooling prevents school personnel from have a dedicated whole unit of time to decompress. I would not like to think that teachers are coming back without proper reset time in between school years. Personally, I like that my children have approximately the same time off as the rest of their (non-PK) friends and family members so we could visit and travel together. We are lucky to have both sides of our families highly involved in our kids' lives (even though they don't live in town) and we cherish having similar schedules to them, especially over the summer. We also take enriching vacations with our kids during the summer time when our personal workload is also lighter.

Difficulty with families with students in other schools/locations; Required childcare; Need more data to prove days/hours in school will benefit the student (see other charter schools with similar aspects: <https://boulwarecharter.com/school-calendar/>); Less vacation time for students with family over the summer

The biggest challenge will be for families with children in other schools in the area.

Having to plan for frequent breaks at unusual times and having to coordinate childcare, camps, parent time off, etc. Also, having a different schedule from Alachua County or other local schools could make it harder to stay connected with the friends who attend those schools.

Childcare

Our work schedule already accommodates a summer based schedule

Finding childcare

Figuring out childcare during the times of year when no camps are offered. Also they would miss camps such as band camps only offered one or two weeks a summer if those were times they were in school.

Child care for the days off during the year

None that can't be managed

Childcare, routine, academics

activities offered during breaks so parents can work

Without enough breaks and 'fun' activities it could burn out the kids

Adjusting

Spring break and Winter break not being on the same schedule as ACPS

None because my kids are older and can be at home alone.

Q5 - Are there other considerations you wish to share as PK considers year-round school?

Are there other considerations you wish to share as PK considers year-round school?

I like the idea, but logistically; it's difficult to balance with work.

We would love to see mini-camps to stimulate physical activity and programs of interest or exploration during the weeks that do not align with the public school leave calendars. This could be art, music, athletics or STEM programs. This would allow for a way for parents to cover part of the time for childcare during these weeks but also allow for exploration of activities that they may not have prior exposure to and develop an exposure that could lead to further interest in pursuing these activities as a skill or hobby.

Unless the whole county had year-long schooling, Gainesville isn't set up to cater to only one school needing extra child care services for the proposed breaks and longer spring break etc., so childcare could become an issue. Also, the shortened summer break will affect special interest camps my kids would want to join (like band camp) or internships and summer jobs when they get older.

Ask for parent input on the days in and out. Possibly allow for parents to vote on 2 calendars with variations.

I'm very curious about this! It could be a positive thing, but I'd like more information.

Are you providing a survey to the students of PK Yonge as well? This would take away opportunities for summer activities, trips, and camps that a lot of students share with their public school friends and families.

Childcare for younger AND older kids

None

Would the community even offer camps, activities, or other childcare options? There isn't a market for it.

N/A

Yes when deciding on the dates for Spring. Please think about the families that may have children at other schools. It would be hard to plan Spring break trips if they are not at the same time.

Final cost to families, impact on teacher retention and hiring.

No

Will this allow for dual enrollment?

Burn out in kids AND adults is a major issue in our society. We should not focus all development into academics, and I am an academic focused parent! The whole child development has been a huge subject that PK Yonge is known and admired for. We should not decimate that. I come from traditional schooling AND our kids went to other systems before coming to PK. Some of us had a hard time adjusting, but many parents and kids demonstrated to us why it works. I get it that we are a research school, but remember that these kids must also become productive members of society as they grow up, and academics is not the only contribution to society. Also, remember that our school represents the demographic of Florida, and therefore their educational needs. Not all kids have to be academic. There should be opportunities for all kinds of kids to become different productive adults. We all need balance in our lives.

No

More lenient in Summer Days

ask DR Marchman about his 45-15 experience when he was in Pasco County in Elementary school.

No

I think it's a fantastic idea!

Q6 - Research reveals early literacy and numeracy are critical in a child's development. PK is investigating the feasibility and interest of implementing a preschool for 2024-2025. If PK offers preschool, would your family or other families be interested in attending?



Q7 - Are there other considerations you'd like to share about a potential preschool at PK?

Are there other considerations you'd like to share about a potential preschool at PK?

Our other child is currently in VPK so the above question is not applicable to our family. If VPK was to be offered would this be the entry point for students into the P.K. community, or would this application still be held for entry to grade school at the Kindergarten level? Would after-school also be available for pre-school?

N/A

Would children accepted for the pre-school automatically be accept to the K-12 school?

n/a

We would likely apply for our daughter, age 17 months.

making space for it

Schedule or childcare coverage across grade levels.

N/A

Does attendance get you enrolled into pk k-12?

No

Our kids are past that age. I think but do not know myself of other families who might be interested. I think it is a good idea. I attended one, and all our kids attended it too. Some had to be in the summer program, as advised by the pediatrician. The challenge I see so far is that if families prefer not to do preschool, or to do it in a different location or way, not applying to PK at preschool time would make it harder for them to get into the school from a kindergarten start.

GREAT IDEA

More students space

PK at PK how nice. :-)

None

quality vs quantity

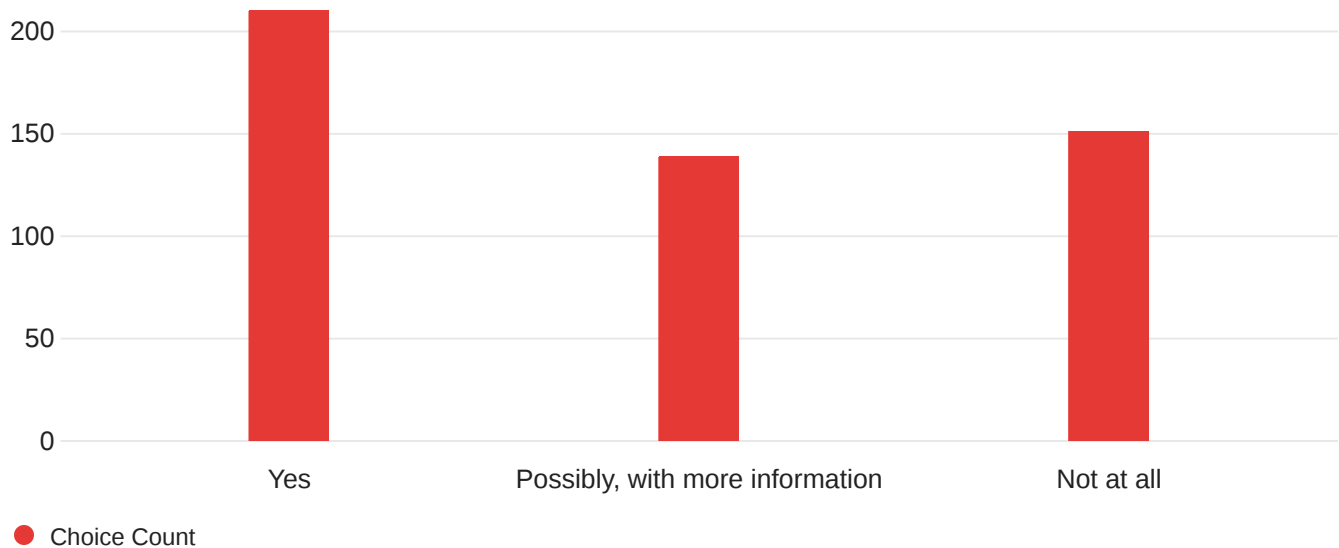
no

More traffic at drop off and pick up.

No

If you get it, be consistent as you dropped it with a couple years last time

Q8 - Beginning in 2026-2027, middle and high schools will be required by state statute to have a start time no earlier than 8:30 a.m. PK is investigating having a later start time in 2024-25 for some or all of our student populations (elementary, middle, and/or high school). A potential model for 2024-2025 would be an 8:30 a.m. to 3:05 p.m. school day for at least middle and high school. Would your family be interested in a later school start time?



Q9 - What possible positive impact will a later start time have on your student?

What possible positive impact will a later start time have on your student?

Sleeping later, more time in the morning

potential for more sleep

Easier to get kids to school. Less tardies.

Nothing comes to mind, our student is striving in school currently and is dropped off on average at 7:40 a.m. each morning.

Preteens and teens work better when they are well rested and they require more sleep. This would work well for any student, especially athletes or students with afterschool jobs.

Help families with students at other schools; Allow for students not to be tardy with parents who have to be to work at 8am

None.

More sleep! My daughter participates in various extracurricular activities. She often doesn't get home until later in the evening. By the time dinner and homework are finished she ends up going to bed later then I would like.

More rest

As long as we are allowed to drop off our middle schooler at the same time as our elementary student, then it wouldn't impact our family much.

they would say they get to sleep later

Sleeping in a bit

Sleep, traffic, childcare

This change would be beneficial for middle & high school developmental stages. Studies show sleep patterns at those ages make a shift to later bedtime and waketime.

They will not be so tired in the morning

More sleep time

It would help high schoolers

sleep a bit longer, be daylight when they have to get up to get ready. Currently, with daylight savings time, the later sunrise in part of the season causes the wake up time to be harder to fight against the natural circadian rhythm. That causes stress/cortisol to elevate even more for some.

More rest.

More time to sleep

Q10 - What possible negative impact will a later start time have on your student?

What possible negative impact will a later start time have on your student?

After school activities would be harder

I don't see a negative to this option.

none

Less time in the afternoon for extracurricular activities in after-school like chorus, GEMS, art club, etc.

None! I love the idea!

Affects schedule(s) -- Parents with students in middle/high and elementary at PK

For families that have regular professional careers, the business day starts at 8 or earlier. A later start would force families to either change their professions or find a 3rd party for busing or a early arrive program

Later drop off could be challenging for parents who have to be at work at 8:00am or even 8:30am.

That would force working parents to abide by similar hours, the traffic alone would be a nightmare. Also finding time in the afternoons for homework and afterschool activities. They are going to end up staying up later so no greater amount of rest will be achieved.

Worse traffic heading east for morning drop off

Traffic, childcare

No negative impact

one parent would have to go to work later

Transportation issues

If they are not allowed to be on campus before 8:00, then my child will not have a way to school since their parent will need to be at work at 8 am

We both have to be at work at 8:00am. What would we do with our kids? Drop them off 45min early? And they still wouldn't get more sleep because we have to leave. This model works better if transportation is provided to school.

Not sure it helps elementary

I am not sure it would affect negatively our children, as I have flexibility at work and can start at 9 am if needed, but I could see where parents who start at traditional 8 am time would not welcome the half hour later. Especially if the school is not open earlier and the kids/parents that need it can come to school earlier. 8 am aligns well with working parents... Later get out time could also make the day feel longer...

Can we still drop off the kids by 8:00 a.m.

Later nights for students who participate in afterschool activities.

Q11 - Please provide additional comments related to these considerations, if you wish.

Please provide additional comments related to these considerations, if you wish.

No further comments.

Update security/cameras/police detail to help secure the campus more, if campus will be open for longer hours/days; Provide more resources about the reason for changing the schedules/calendar

I could be persuaded to embrace both of these changes.

Thank you!

For many working parents, child care is the biggest issue. It seems like most of these changes would negatively impact our ability to arrange for childcare, increasing the burden on us to adjust our working hours to fit our children's school schedule. And since it wouldn't align with public school schedules, it makes for a planning nightmare for many parents. Also, the traffic around PKY between 4-5:30 is already a nightmare and most kids have left by then, it would be exponentially worse with these changes.

Thanks for soliciting feedback

Alachua County Public Schools finally aligns with UF schedule, why would you then unalign a UF entity??

Why do elementary grades receive homework at PK?

N/A

Please communicate if this will effect dual enrollment opportunities?

None at this time

More openings for students

Please do not repeat the chaos of 45-15 from the 1970s. It messed up things then and there were more scenarios with one parent at home. As for the later start time, stick with 8:30 to stay within limits of working parents that do not have flexible work hours.

Could you PLEASE direct some energy towards getting school zones added to the entrances?! Traffic has been a nightmare for generations at PK. Could we do something to make entering and exiting safer??

N/A

I think you should add a Critical Thinking class. I think Thomas Sowell should be required reading.

I would rather there be less school days instead of half days on Wednesdays

If the school is looking at starting earlier, maybe you should be looking at ways to make the day shorter as well, so that the end time isn't affected as much. 30 mins might not seem like much, but for afterschool extracurriculars that could really be a problem.

Wish there was Blue wave before school

If there is going to be a later school start time then the kids still need to be able to get dropped off at 7:30am