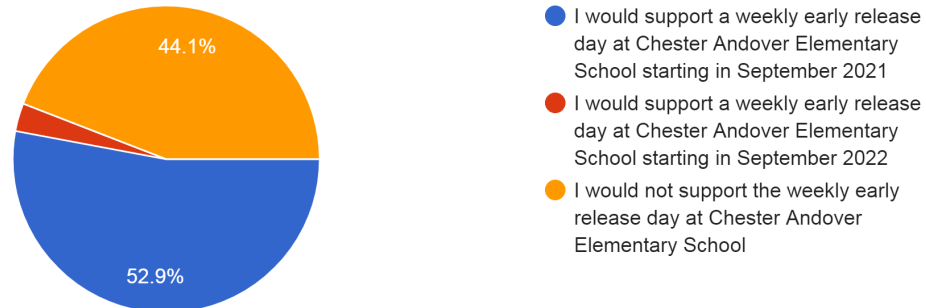


CAES Staff - Weekly Early Release Survey - June 2021

34 Responses

For many years, the schedule at CTES has included an early release day each Tuesday. Teachers use this time for valuable collaboration, professional development or adding the early release to CAES and GMUHS.

34 responses



The reason I support / do not support a weekly early release day is

- I need the time with my students! Our students need to be in school. There are other opportunities to collaborate.
- I can't imagine losing classroom instruction time in addition to ski days. This will be very difficult for parents.
- I would support this in order to have some much needed "team" collaboration time as well as valuable uninterrupted prep and planning time. There is not nearly enough contracted hours of lesson planning and classroom prep, let alone collaboration with colleagues. Tuesday early releases would provide a clear boundary of time and space for this to happen instead of forcing it into weekends, 30 minute specials blocks or while eating lunch.
- Too much of a regular interruption of learning
- Having weekly opportunities makes our meetings more valuable as we are able to check in on a weekly basis and adjust the response to need more consistently.
- I feel that it would not be fair to eliminate CTES half days (after 30 years) as it is a time of collaboration and planning. I feel that it would be appreciated by other teachers in the district as well.
- We have had students out of in-person learning so much. Losing a half day each week is too much.

- I see how cohesive ctes is and believe consistent professional development with a focus is the reason.
- The 1/2 day Wednesday each week was a valuable tool for teachers to collaborate with one another, plan lessons and meet with other teams. In a regular school year this isn't possible with our monthly in service days. Often too long has passed between the inservice days, and we lose our focus and are unable to gain momentum on any projects.
- I truly need a full time job so taking a half day every week would be very rough for me.
- I think it would be nice to all be on the same schedule. I also think it would be nice for CAES teachers to get this time as well.
- We need common planning and collaboration time which has not existed.
- Equity
- The students need consistency here at CAES. There has been significant disruptions in their learning over the last few years.
- I think a half day every Tuesday for the entire year is too much. It would be 37 additional days for parents to find childcare. Students have a lot of catching up to do given what has happened over the last year and a half. Time would be better spent teaching.
- We lose so much planning time as it is already and CTES has had much success with this over the years that I think it is worth our schools doing.
- This can take a load off of teachers and make more time for meetings.
- I support an early release for a few reasons. Early releases gives time for teachers to plan and get organized. They're paid to work during the week, for specific hours, if you wanted them to use after school time and weekend time to plan, pay them for the weekends too! The kids could use a break once a week. Meaning they need just one day besides weekends where they aren't fully overwhelmed. Parents need those times to schedule doctors/dentists/etc appointments for there kids so the kids aren't missing anything! With a half day schedule, parents can bring there child to go do things they can't do on the weekends. Yes, parents will have to find a sitter, yes parents will have to miss that half day of work, but teachers, paras, kids and families can all benefit from this. Paras and teachers who are organized, that don't need to plan/already have, can schedule appointments and not worry! No more looking for help last minute, no more missing events for things that only happen during the week.
- Teachers need more planning time.
- Teacher's need this time for meeting and to prep. This would allow our district to have more structured times for teachers to meet with specialists if set up properly. Right now at CAES, staff do not meet enough to collaborate together and this would benefit teacher's and student immensely. There needs to be more PLC meetings in this district in my opinion.

- Extra collaboration time and professional development opportunities would be wonderful.
- The students have missed so much educational access due to COVID, and before that the building restoration disruption. We need to carve out staff time somehow else.
- I believe that time could be very valuable for teachers and could enrich instruction.
- This is an opportunity for valuable planning and collaboration resulting in more thoughtful and intentional work with students.
- In theory, I like the idea of starting next year because it is a great idea that gives so much more time for coordinated PD, but I think a more thoughtful start to this would involve spending next year looking at how to set up norms, procedures, and priorities for using this time. In this spirit, I see no harm in allowing CTES to continue next year as they had in the past. This would also give time for community partners (dance and karate studios, tutoring services, daycares, arts organizations etc.) to consider how they might work with the schools to ease the burden on parents.
- I would support it if the teachers felt they needed this day. I would like there to be work or PD for support staff to be doing on these afternoons though so we get our full pay for our contracted days.
- Less time with students
- There is already enough loss of teaching time.
- I wouldn't get paid for that time.
- I feel it would be an interruption to our students' momentum. We would lose a special a week and I believe that too would be a detriment
- Years ago our school day lengthened, making it impossible to start a staff meeting until 3:10 or 3:15. 45 minutes is just not long enough to do the kind of work we need to do. We need longer/better chunks of time to make the changes we need to make, to look at data, to talk about proficiencies and PLPs. The early release wouldn't have to be a half day. It could be 1:00 or 1:30. It would make a huge difference (provided the time were well planned for). I'll be honest and say ski Thursdays have not always been used as effectively as they could have/should have been IMHO.
- I feel that this is challenging for the families of students with respect to childcare. This year has shown me that not having students in person for 5 full days a week puts a significant strain on my ability to schedule all of the services, evaluations, etc. that I need to do with students.