Professional Learning Time

Change of Wednesday Schedule from Late-Start to Early Release
Professional Learning Time

**Purpose**

Each week, school schedules are adjusted in order to provide time for teachers to engage in professional learning activities:

- Training, staff development
- Collaboration
- Prep time (elem. only)
Professional Learning Time

Schedule

• Recent years: Late-Start Wednesday

• Recommendation: Early Release Professional Learning Time
Professional Learning Time

**Stakeholder Groups Consulted**

- Bargaining units: TRUE & CSEA
- Principals
- Departments
- Parents (through principals and survey)
- All staff (via principals’ reports, TRUE, and survey)
Rationale for Early Release

1. Maintains critical AM learning time
2. Consistency for parents
3. More child-supervision solutions
Other Considerations Regarding Early Release

Late-start works well at the high school level

- Late-start avoids problems with athletic schedules and after-school activities
- Late-start avoids potential problems of early release
- There is no learning advantage to either late start or early release
Other Considerations Regarding Early Release

Neighboring Districts Have Experience:

- **EGUSD** – Changed early release to late-start for high schools
- **FCUSD** – All high schools have had early release for many years; it works well.
- **SJUSD** – All high schools have early release; concerns were manageable.
Twin Rivers Unified School District:
Inspiring each student to extraordinary achievement every day!

Professional Learning Time Survey Data

Staff Survey, April 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Responses</th>
<th>1027</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% preferring Late-Start</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% preferring Early-Release</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Two-thirds of respondents work at the elementary level. One-third of respondents work at the secondary level.
## Professional Learning Time Survey Data

### Parent Survey, May 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of responses</th>
<th>3224</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% supporting Early Release</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% not in favor of Early Release</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% not giving an opinion</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Survey was sent using auto-dialer.
Survey was sent in English, Spanish, Hmong.
Survey was sent to about 27,000 phones.
Professional Learning Time: Scheduling Recommendation

Provide Professional Release Time through Early-Release Wednesday

1. Benefits to the instructional program
2. Preferred by a majority of parents
3. Preferred by a majority of staff
4. Negative consequences can be minimized
Next Steps

1. Communication Campaign:
   - District website banner
   - Auto-dialer messages, June and August
   - School Marquees & door signs
   - Flyers home
   - Principals’ newsletters, handbooks, social media

2. Monitor effects throughout 2015-16
Professional Learning Time

Thank you for Your Consideration of a Wednesday Early Release Schedule