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The regular session meeting of the East Greenwich Township Board of Education was held on the above date, duly advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(d). Notice of this meeting was posted in the East Greenwich Township Municipal Building, each school in the district and advertised in the South Jersey Times and Courier Post. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by President Jones. Following the flag salute, a moment of silent reflection was observed.

ROLL CALL:

Roll call was taken with the following members present: Becker, Cosentino, Jones, Licciardello, Nevius, O'Brien, Schonewise, and Starks. Absent: Thomas. Also present were the Superintendent, the Business Administrator, the Supervisors of Instruction, and less than ten members of the public.

PRESENTATIONS:

- The Supervisors of Instruction presented the fall 2021 Start Strong data.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- An EGEA representative updated the Board on recent EGEA events.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FACILITIES:

- The Board was updated on the ongoing construction projects in the district.

STRATEGIC/COMMUNITY AWARENESS:

No report.

FINANCE:

- The Board was given an update on the 2022-2023 school budget.
- The Board was informed that the district intends to apply for a SEMI waiver for the 2022-2023 school year.

POLICY:

No report.

TRANSPORTATION:

No report.

CAFETERIA:

No report.

CURRICULUM:

- The Board was updated on the three year plan for English Language Learners.
- The Board was updated on new Social Studies resources the District is looking to purchase.

PERSONNEL:

- The Board discussed the need for a part-time preschool teaching position.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Board discussed the Teacher of the Year banquet.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Board reviewed the school calendar survey results for the 2022-23 school year. **(Attachment – 1)**



ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, on motion by Schonewise, second by Nevius, and carried by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Gregory Wilson
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

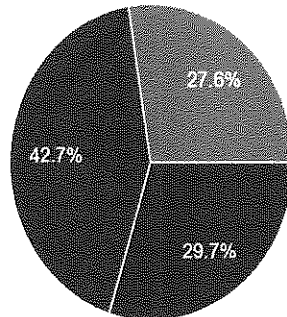


East Greenwich Township School District

2022 Parent Calendar Survey Responses

Which building(s) do your student(s) attend?

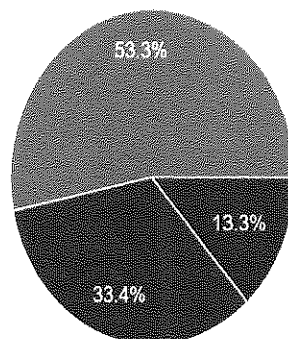
323 responses



- Jeffrey Clark School
- Samuel Mickle School
- I have students in both buildings.

The November instructional calendar includes several early dismissal days and full days off. Which of the of following options do you think is best for students?

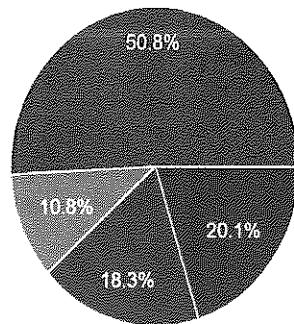
323 responses



- I feel it is beneficial for students to have the full week of NJEA Convention off from school for a "Fall Break".
- I feel it is beneficial to limit the number of days off in November.
- I feel it is beneficial for the East Greenwich calendar to be aligned with the Kingsway Regional calendar.

The district's spring break is typically held prior to Easter. Which of the following spring break options do you think is best for students?

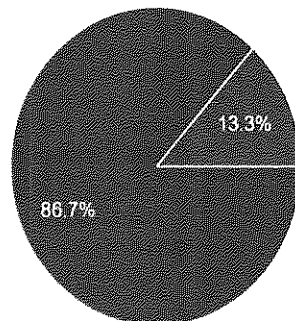
323 responses



- I feel it is beneficial to have a full week off for spring break.
- I feel it is beneficial to have the Friday prior to Easter and the Monday after Easter off for spring break.
- I feel it is beneficial to have a combination of several days off before and after Easter for spring break.
- I feel it is beneficial for the East Greenwich calendar to be aligned with...

Overall, it is most beneficial when the East Greenwich calendar is aligned as closely as possible with the Kingsway Regional calendar.

323 responses



- Yes, I agree with this statement.
- No, I do not agree with this statement.

Parent Calendar Survey Response Comments

Alignment with Kingsway's Calendar
Aligning the two districts would be beneficial for families with children in both districts. If that is not possible then the whole week off for teachers convention and a whole week off for Easter (the Friday before and the whole week after like most of the other school districts in South Jersey. We are one of the only districts that have the week off leading up to Easter as opposed to the week after like other districts.
Alignment between the Districts is so important and the key to making it successful!
Please align as best as possible to Kingsway Calendar!
Please align with Kingsway calendar
As parents in a dual working household with 4 kids across 3 schools (Kingsway Middle School, Mickle School, and Clark School) it would be extremely beneficial to have the school calendars align.
Aligning the calendars allows older children to help with the younger children when parents have to work.
Although I only have smaller children now, I think any differences between the two calendars are horribly inconvenient for families. There should never be any differences between the calendars. Also both school districts should consider making spring break a full week and after Easter like every other district.
It looks like Kingsway Regional calendar and the Jeffrey Clark calendars are pretty aligned. I am indifferent to whether they align or not, and the early dismissals in November seemed to benefit teacher parent conferences. An additional comment-for the start of the 21/22 school year, it was very odd that the first day of school was the Friday before Labor Day weekend. I prefer to have school starting after Labor Day weekend as in previous years especially if summer vacation is planned very far in advanced with travel prior to the next school year calendar being approved, but if needed to start before Labor Day weekend, it would be nice to start 1-2 weeks prior to the holiday.
It will be nice to have everyone on the same schedule.
Thank you for sending out this survey. I feel aligning the EG schedule with Kingsway will be beneficial to all due to majority of our students will be going to Kingsway and if we have children in both districts there would less absences during breaks.
Please align the calendar with Kingsway Regional
When I eventually have children in both EG and Kingsway, it will be highly beneficial if the calendars are the same. I'm sure there are lots of families that feel this way right now.
Next year I will have children in both schools, it would be a huge help to have their school calendars aligned. Thank you for allowing us to provide input on this topic.
The calendars need to be aligned since so many families have children in both EG and Kingsway.
We strongly disagree with the notion that the Kingsway calendar should dictate how the EGSD calendar is drawn up. If anything, Kingsway should be looking to align their calendar with us! Getting out of school in late June is horrible for the students.
Please align with Kingsway as much as possible. It's very difficult when younger siblings are off but the older ones aren't. It just makes sense for the community.
When people have children in East Greenwich and Kingsway it can be a struggle sometimes to find babysitters for the younger kids. It also helps when both schedules are the same for vacations.

Please do not align with the Kingsway calendar. KRHS is almost always one of the latest schools to end in June. June is crazy and kids mentally start to shut down after Memorial Day. The longer we stretch the June calendar, the less learning being absorbed by our elementary students. I know people fight to match Kingsway's November. In my opinion, KRHS has it wrong. That week of is so families can take vacations - well, that isn't actually feasible for over half the population bc of factors such as money and schedules. It also, conveniently, aligns with Election Day and provides Kingsway's super time to campaign and take care of his electoral duties. Elementary students should not have their education's schedule so completely interrupted by an entire week in November. They are just getting into the swing of things curriculum

While understanding the convenience that may come with aligning calendars, there are different educational priorities at the elementary and middle school/high school level. Decisions regarding the calendar should be informed by what the JC and SM administration and staff believe are in the best interest of our students.

Half Days

I prefer to limit half days. They make it difficult for working parents. Also I did not like how the school year started before Labor Day weekend this year.

I would like to see less half days

Labor Day

Starting a school year on a Friday and ending the school year on a Monday was not well thought out. Please don't do this again going forward. It is not good for students or families.

Start school after Labor Day and have Friday and Monday of Memorial Day off

This year the first day of school for students was the Friday before Labor Day. That did not make much sense to me. I think it's beneficial to start after Labor Day or, if before, then the week before, not one day.

Would like to suggest the start of school being after Labor day instead of before

I do not believe that school should start as a half day the Friday before Labor day. I also don't think the last day should be a half day on a Monday. Both of these days negatively affected our family planning vacations for just a half day of school.

Beginning on a Friday made for a disjointed start to the year. Likewise, ending with a half day on a Monday seems like it will be difficult.

I was hoping this would also ask about start date, as I would prefer after labor day.

Don't have the last day of school be a Monday, or the first day of school a Friday.

Please avoid making the first day of school a half day prior to Labor Day.

November Days Off

The NJEA conference days off should be eliminated entirely.

I think the calendar works fine as is, especially November. I don't see the point of having a whole week off in November and then another in December. The only thing I would change is not making the first day of school be before Labor Day and more importantly, not start on a Friday. That did not make sense.

Limit days off in November. Spring break- nice for a week and school go longer. nice to be a week. School ca

The week off in November is important to us as well...just my opinion.

I feel that the younger students that are in EG schools do not need the full week off in November. They are just getting into the rhythm of school. I also feel from a childcare perspective it is easier to have the younger kids in school vs the older kids that may be at king's way.

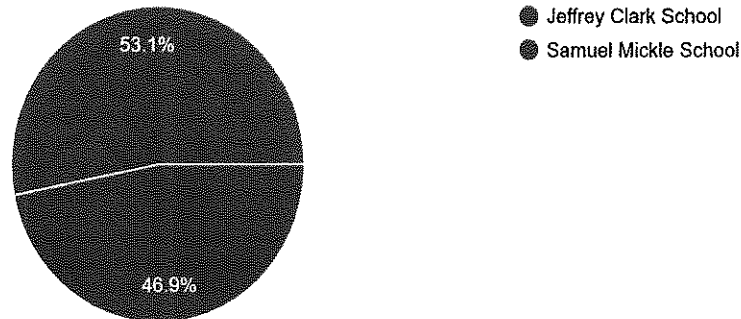
Other Comments	
Friday before Memorial Day off should be kept off	
Get rid of day 1-5 system!!!!!!!!!!	
The children benefit from full breaks to "rest" and reset.	
Yes, there should be more days off especially during winter break.. you start from 23rd dec which is not right, some districts are closed from 20th dec or they open on January 5th or 7th, Also we need Eid holidays as well right after Ramadan.. thank you	
Snow Days	
Instead of snow days and having to make up the days at the end of the year, the students should have virtual school days.	
If spring break continues to be a full week, it would be nice to take show days from spring break rather than add to the end of the year.	
I appreciate that the snow days are added ro the end of the school year as opposed to taking away other days.	
Spring Break	
Spring break should be the week after Easter not before	
I would suggest to have Friday off before Easter and the whole week off after Easter	
I think the spring break should be after Easter but only if aligned with Kingsway.	
I would like spring break to be the week after Easter and not before. I feel like this is one of the only districts that does this.	
Switch Spring Break to the week after Easter	
I believe that spring break should be Good Friday and the week after Easter. November all those half days are unnecessary and should be full days. Only having off the the no convention and third / Friday for thanksgiving.	
If all of Gloucester County could have the same spring break that would be great! As a parent who works in another school district in Gloucester County I really wish our breaks matched up! I know I know wishful thinking! But it can't hurt to suggest it!	
The week off for spring break is very hard for working parents like myself . This year they have 6 days off in row which is very hard for accommodations!	

East Greenwich Township School District

2022 Staff Calendar Survey Responses

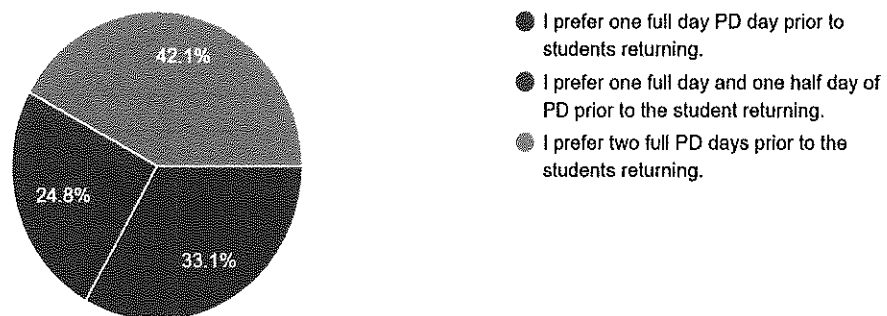
Which building do you work in for the majority of your school day?

145 responses



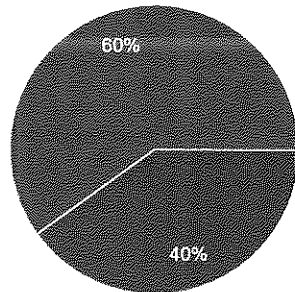
Which of the following professional development options help you feel most prepared to start the school year with your students?

145 responses



The November instructional calendar includes several early dismissal days and full days off. Which of the following options do you think is best for students?

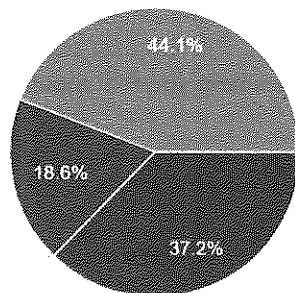
145 responses



- I feel it is beneficial for students to have the full week of NJEA Convention off from school for a "Fall Break".
- I feel it is beneficial to limit the number of days off in November.

The district's spring break is typically held prior to Easter. Which of the following spring break options do you think is best for students?

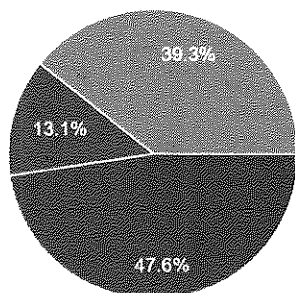
145 responses



- I feel it is beneficial to have a full week off for spring break.
- I feel it is beneficial to have the Friday prior to Easter and the Monday after Easter off for spring break.
- I feel it is beneficial to have a combination of several days off before and after Easter for spring break.

Currently emergency closing days must be made up in person; there is no virtual option in lieu of an emergency closing. Which of the following options do you believe is the most beneficial way to make up an emergency closing?

145 responses



- I prefer to have emergency closing days made up at the end of the school year.
- I prefer to have emergency closing days made up during spring break.
- I prefer to have emergency closing days made up in combination of the end of the year and spring break.

Staff Calendar Survey Comments

Alignment with Kingsway Calendar
I feel a coordination with sending districts (e.g. Kingsway) would be most beneficial for students' families that may have children at multiple schools. This coordination would further strengthen the home/school connection as we would be serving the needs of the whole family, and therefore, the whole student.
Columbus Day
I would like us to have Columbus Day off with in service on the Friday before . I would like to see us off for easter the week after easter so we can match up with other districts. Also the 1st day of school needs to be an early dismissal. I'd like to see the County wide inservice return to the Wednesday before teachers convention.
Columbus Day is a hard day to have an inservice day due to other school districts being off and not being able to do outside activities. We should be able to have this inservice at another time (maybe the day before).
I would prefer to have off on Colombus Day - I always feel like I need a mental break at that point!! Is it possible to make up snow days with half day options before Memorial Day and President's Day Weekends?
Half Days
Can we please have a half day on the first day of school?
Could the first day of school be an early dismissal day rather than a full day? It helps the younger students adjust to being in school.
It is nice to have the first day of school as a half day.
I would like to have a half day for the first day of school.
I am just wondering if a couple inservice days could take place in the afternoon of half days, so the school day still counts and we also get a couple professional development hours. Sometimes when there isn't enough meetings or trainings to fill a day, that time becomes trying to fill something else in or just time to work in your classroom. Just a thought :)
November
I feel the fall break falls at the perfect time
I feel strongly about two areas of our school calendar. Students benefit when we do NOT have a full week off in November or for spring break. It is very disruptive for elementary aged children to have off in this manner. Time is taken away from learning upon the return from these unnecessary, long breaks to re-establish classroom expectations and procedures. Students need re-teaching and refreshers on the academics we were in the middle of leaning as well, since we are not at the end of units or chapters when these extended breaks are in our calendar. It is important to me as an educator that we adopt a calendar that fosters increased learning and the smoothest return to expectations and procedures for elementary school learners, which come with shorter breaks/days off during the school calendar.
Inservice on Wednesday of teacher convention week. Keep Fall break and Spring break to a minimum to allow for earlier end of school year when fatigue is set in.
I do not think it is beneficial for students to have an entire week off in November since Thanksgiving is in the month of November.

Other
It would be nice to have a PD day the day after Winter Break.
Instead of Nurses working on the inservice days throughout the year, we take away the extra pay for the days that we have to prep during summer and comp our inservice days.
I feel as though it would be beneficial to our parents and students to have a full day off on December 23rd.
In December, it would be helpful and beneficial to have the last day be December 22nd versus the 23rd. I am not sure what is the best scenario for the "fall break" or the couple of days off for Teacher's convention. The week after Easter is the best option for spring break.
I feel that the fewer days we have off during the school calendar helps with the continuity of instruction and is most beneficial for our students.
Professional Development
Hil I chose 1.5 days for PD in hopes that we would have a half day or more to prepare for students after the PD session. Thank you!
As a special education teacher I think it is vital to have time in the classroom with our aides at the beginning of the school year. Whether it is material preparations, allergies, behavior plans, visual preparations or training on how to handle specific behaviors this time is so important and so hard to do once the children are in front of us. Our aides work so hard and I always want them to feel comfortable when they get students off on the first day that I have given them to tools to make their first day positive. Also for snow days made up; as someone with family that lives far away it becomes so expensive to wait until after the winter to purchase flights because I want to make sure that we will get a full spring break; by adding the to the end of the year it takes the guess work out of it.
I think it would be beneficial for Beginner teachers to have a full day before school begins to complete initial assessments. Possibly one of the PD days could be used to do that before the year starts.
I think we need more time built into the schedule to set up for the beginning of the school year. Sometimes we don't get class lists until the day before the students come and there's so much to prepare. It would be nice if we had more time to set all that up in the beginning of the school year.
Snow Days
I feel it is better to make up emergency closing day during spring break because the students are still learning during this time. When added to the end of the year, especially with 6th grade, they have mentally check out by June. If using days from spring break is a problem because families are planning trips then I suggest making spring break the Thursday and Friday prior to Easter and the Monday after Easter off, and add 1 or 2 long weekends in March. That way emergency closing days can be made up using the days from the long weekends first then use the Thursday before Easter, which could turn into 1/2 day, and if more days are needed add to end of the year.
Can we have built in snow days? If we don't use them then we would finish sooner rther than later (for families that plan vacations when school gets out).
Thank you for your consideration :) Also, please do not ever bring back virtual learning for snow days.
It would be helpful to have a set number of snow days built into the school calendar so that parents do not schedule vacations during those dates and if the snow days are not used, then school will be dismissed earlier.

Spring Break
Spring break should be the week after Easter, or include the Monday after Easter off.
We previously had Thursday, Friday and Monday off for Easter break. That was the perfect amount for the students so late in the year. Longer breaks make it harder to get the students back on track. The inservice on Columbus Day is also tough. Most places have off that day and it makes it hard to attend events outside of school or get off for them. It might be beneficial to have off that day but have the inservice the Friday before.
I feel that the last question depends what is actually chosen for Spring Break. Based on what I chose, that is the way that I would prefer to have "make-up" days. But if the board and admin vote is for a full week, I would prefer to have it the week after Easter, but to have "make-up" days during spring break. A suggestion would be to have the Monday after Easter off or an in-service or the week off after Easter instead of before if again the board/admin choose to have a week off.
I would prefer to have our Spring Break be the Good Friday through the week after Christmas to better align with other local school districts. This would eliminate a lot of child care conflicts for parents with children in other districts.
I understand that Easter is not a Holiday celebrated by all, but it is a VERY important day to me and my family. It would be VERY helpful to not have to work the Monday after Easter. That is really my only major hope and request. Thank you!