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THE TWILIGHT ZONE

"You unlock this door with the key of imagination. Beyond it is another dimension - a dimension of sound, a dimension of sight, a dimension of mind. You're moving into a land of both shadow and substance, of things and ideas. You've just crossed over into the Twilight Zone."
-Rod Serling



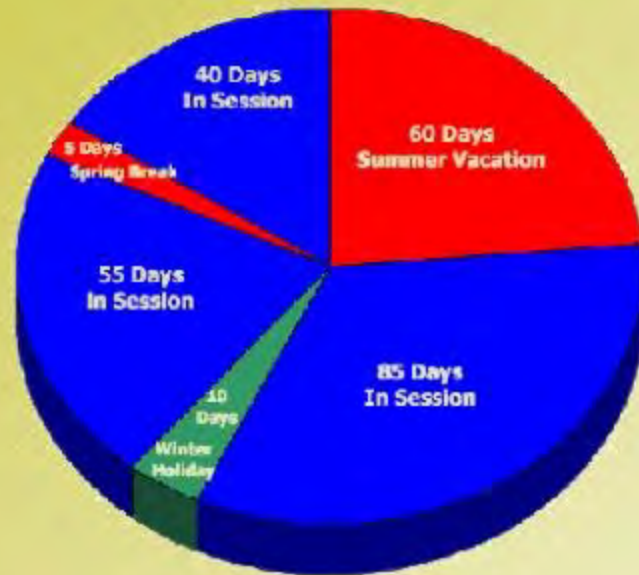
$$E=MC^2$$

What?

- Outlandish right?
- Can't work?
- Never happen?

Calendars

Traditional 9-Month Calendar



45-15 Balanced Calendar



National Association for Year-Round Education



The advantage to a balanced calendar is that we have built-in time to provide direct, target supports to **students**, to **staff**, to our **school**, and our **district**.

Multi-Tiered System of Support

An integrated, comprehensive framework that focuses on instruction, differentiated learning, student-centered learning, individualized student needs, and the alignment of systems necessary for all students' academic, behavioral, and social success. -CDE, 2017



CCSESA

California County Superintendents
Educational Services Association

Implementation Science

The study of factors that influence the full and effective use of innovations in practice. The factors are identified or developed and demonstrated in practice, to "influence the full and effective use of innovations." Each factor and the factors in combination are subject to continued study along a continuum of improvement. -NIRN, 2015

Improvement Science

Explicitly designed to accelerate learning-by-doing. As the improvement process advances, previously invisible problems often emerge and improvement activities may need to tack in new directions. The overall goal is to develop the necessary know-how for a reform idea ultimately to spread faster and more effectively. It is an iterative process often extending over considerable periods of time. -Carnegie Foundation, 2017



Continuous Improvement

The key is to develop quality learning expectations, have a quality process to assess student growth toward those expectations, have a clear process to communicate growth, and a clear process to communicate what still needs to be learned, based on you “session” time





In a balanced calendar, we can stop after 45 or 60 days of instruction and target those students who need academic supports.

This can take a few days up to 15 days.

These students make gains, experience success in the classroom setting, and develop skills when they need them, **not after they need them.**

ZSNC

RE

FOCUS

TIME FOR
TRANSFORMATION



Pros

- The use of year-round schools can prevent the loss of learning over the summer, which may be a particular problem for children with special educational needs (e.g., English learners) and addresses the uneven effects of the summer break on students based on socioeconomic status.
- Using a balanced school calendar creates opportunities to provide remediation and enrichment activities to students during the school year rather than waiting to provide these activities during summer school.
- Focus on student growth and achievement in a timely manner
- The use of a balanced calendar could help to prevent staff burnout by providing more frequent breaks for staff.

Cons – “Arguments”

- The initial implementation of a year-round school program may be costly due to a variety of factors including preparing a facility to serve students for more months during a calendar year.
- Opponents of year-round education note that while year-round schools may not have a negative effect on education, the data on its positive effects are inconclusive.
- Operating on a year-round schedule may require paying more staff thereby increasing operational costs.
- Families may find it difficult to have their children on different schedules if year round schooling is not offered districtwide.
- There may be a lack of opportunities for older students to have summer jobs, and there may be complications related to student participation in extracurricular activities.
- It may be difficult to conduct large maintenance projects and may require doing routine maintenance at night or on the weekends, which may incur overtime costs.
- Several disadvantages related specifically to multitrack year-round schools.

Systems Theory - Schools are Open Complex Systems

Second-order change is often described as 'transformational', 'revolutionary', 'radical', 'disruptive', or 'discontinuous'. It involves seeing the world in a different way, challenging assumptions, and working from a new and different worldview

Balanced Calendar can be a powerful second-order change to an entire system.

Or it can just be different dates on a calendar, that is up to you!

Do you consider
SUMMER

a break from school

→ **OR** ←

a chance to get ahead?

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