



Recommendation for School Calendar Adjustment: April Vacation

A presentation to the School Committee
April 8, 2020



The Question

Given our situation due to the pandemic, should the scheduled April school vacation (April 21-24) be modified?



Key Facts

- 1) Monday, April 20 is a state holiday (Patriots Day) and cannot be a work day for educators
- 2) Educators' work year is 184 days by contract
- 3) Current last day of the school year is Friday, June 19, which would be the 184th work day for educators
- 4) Any school vacation days that are converted to remote learning days must be subtracted from the end of the school year



Determining Stakeholder Preference

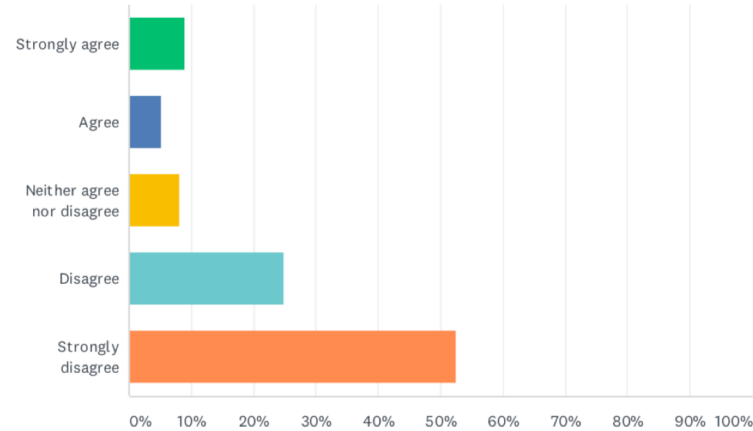
- 1) Two online surveys sent on the evening of April 7: one to families and one to staff
- 2) 2,304 families completed the survey
- 3) 740 staff members completed the survey

Thank you for your feedback

Family Survey Results

Q2 The school district should keep April Vacation as scheduled for the week of April 20-24.

Answered: 2,279 Skipped: 25

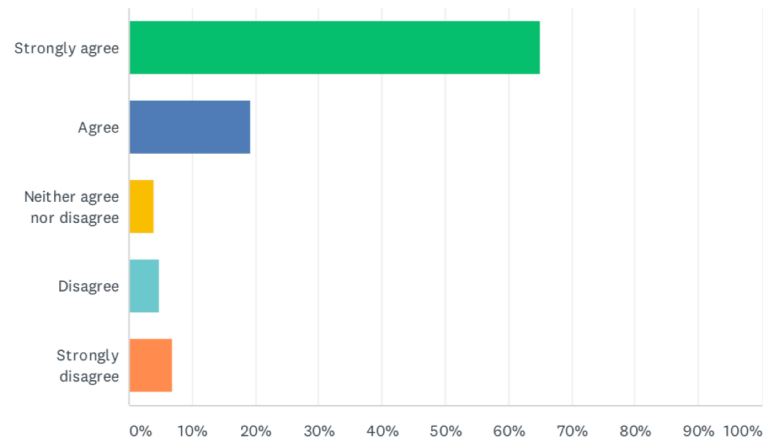


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	9.00%	205
Agree	5.31%	121
Neither agree nor disagree	8.21%	187
Disagree	24.88%	567
Strongly disagree	52.61%	1,199
TOTAL		2,279

Family Survey Results

Q3 The school district should change April Vacation and convert some of the days to remote learning days for students.

Answered: 2,298 Skipped: 6

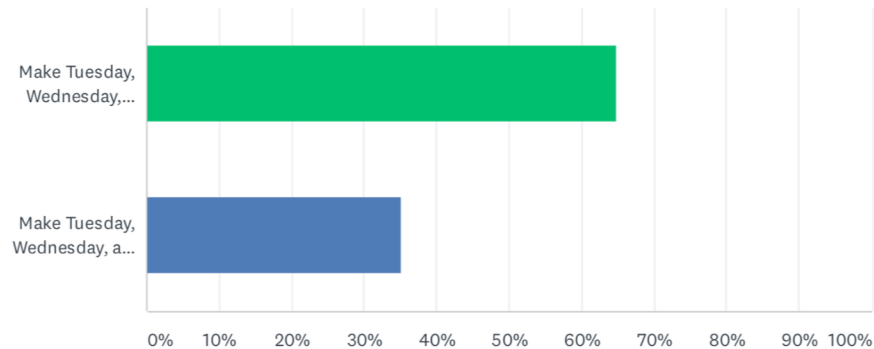


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	65.06%	1,495
Agree	19.19%	441
Neither agree nor disagree	3.96%	91
Disagree	4.83%	111
Strongly disagree	6.96%	160
TOTAL		2,298

Family Survey Results

Q4 If the school district changes some April Vacation days to learning/work days, I prefer the following schedule:

Answered: 2,217 Skipped: 87

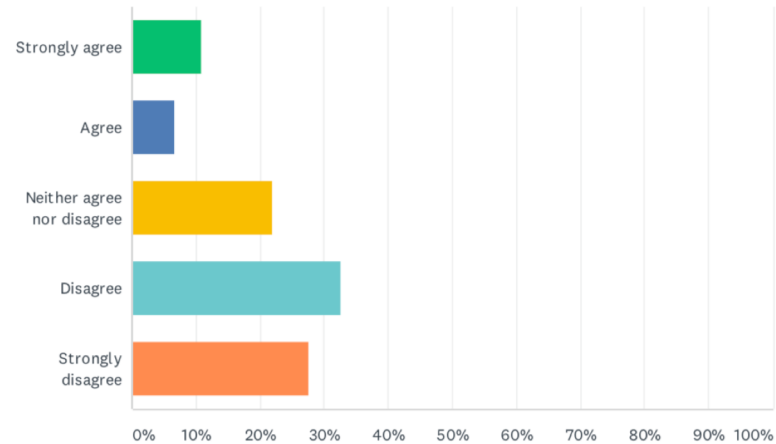


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Make Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday remote learning days (4 days – last day of school would become Monday, June 15)	64.82%	1,437
Make Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday remote learning days (3 days – last day of school would become Tuesday, June 16)	35.18%	780
TOTAL	2,217	

Staff Survey Results

Q2 The school district should keep April Vacation as scheduled for the week of April 20-24.

Answered: 730 Skipped: 10

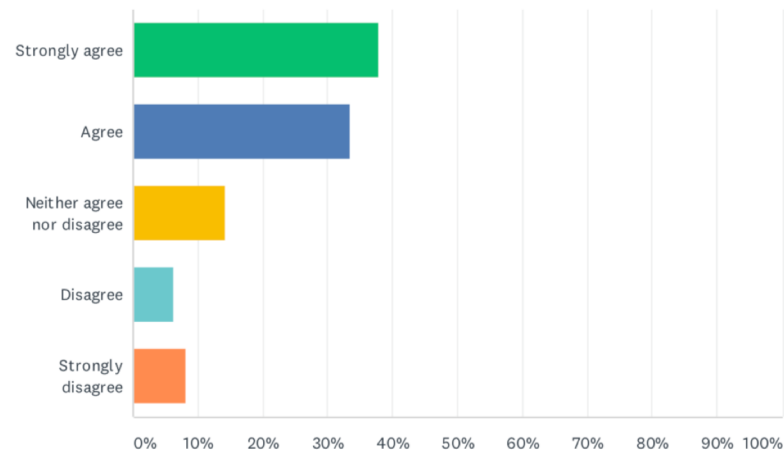


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	10.96%	80
Agree	6.71%	49
Neither agree nor disagree	22.05%	161
Disagree	32.74%	239
Strongly disagree	27.53%	201
TOTAL		730

Staff Survey Results

Q3 The school district should change April Vacation and convert some of the days to learning days for students/work days for staff.

Answered: 735 Skipped: 5

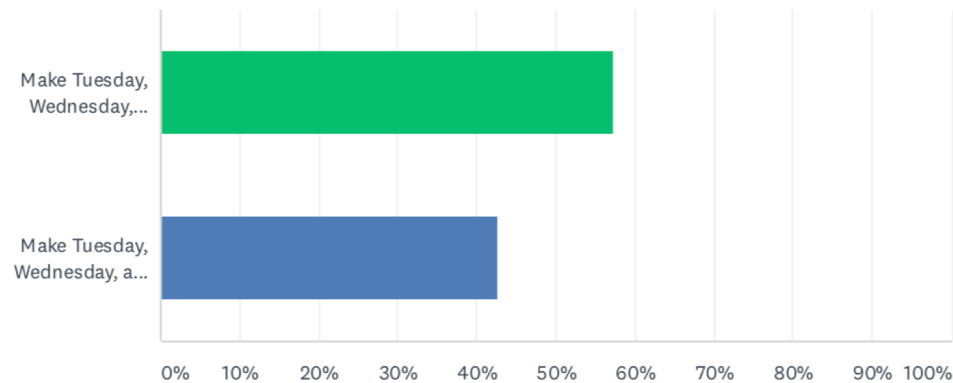


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	37.82%	278
Agree	33.47%	246
Neither agree nor disagree	14.29%	105
Disagree	6.26%	46
Strongly disagree	8.16%	60
TOTAL		735

Staff Survey Results

Q4 If the school district changes some April Vacation days to learning/work days, I prefer the following schedule:

Answered: 713 Skipped: 27



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Make Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday learning/work days (4 days – last day of school would become Monday, June 15)	57.36%	409
Make Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday learning/work days (3 days – last day of school would become Tuesday, June 16)	42.64%	304
TOTAL		713



Key Feedback from Comments

- 1) Some families and staff indicated a desire to preserve school days in June if we are able to be back in session
- 2) Some families and staff pointed out that ending the school year with a half day on a Monday is not desirable
- 3) Some families and staff expressed a strong desire to be able to attend to family needs during the currently scheduled April vacation week



Recommendation

I recommend that the School Committee vote to convert three days previously scheduled to be school vacation days (April 21-23) to remote learning days and end the school year on Tuesday, June 16.