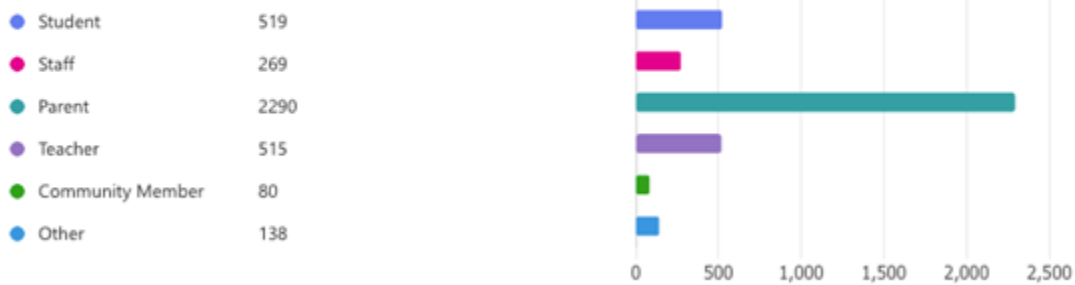


Total Responses: 3,811

Breakdown of respondents in image below

3. What is your connection to Davis School District?



60% of the respondents were parents
24% of the respondents were faculty, staff and teachers
14% of the respondents were students
2% of the respondents were community members

Here is a synthesis of the comments with the top 5 comments mentioned from ALL respondents:

1. Early Start Date:

- Many respondents feel that starting school on August 14th is too early, cutting into summer vacation and family time.
- Concerns about the heat in August affecting students, especially in schools with inadequate air conditioning.
- Preference for starting later in August or even after Labor Day and extending the school year into June.

2. End Date and Memorial Day:

- Mixed opinions on ending the school year before Memorial Day.
- Some believe productivity decreases regardless of whether the last week is before or after Memorial Day.
- Suggestions to end the school year after Memorial Day to allow for a later start in August.

3. Breaks and Professional Days:

- General appreciation for the two-week winter break and one-week spring break.
- Some suggestions to shorten these breaks to allow for a later start date.
- Requests to reconsider the placement of professional development days and teacher compensation days to better align with holidays and breaks.

4. Impact on Families and Students:

- Concerns about the early start date affecting family vacations and summer activities.
- The early start date impacts students' readiness and engagement at the beginning of the school year.

- Requests for more consideration of family needs and preferences in the calendar planning process.

5. **School Facilities and Environment:**

- Issues with inadequate air conditioning in older school buildings, leading to uncomfortable learning environments in August.
- Concerns about the comfort and safety of students and staff in hot classrooms.
- Suggestions to improve school facilities to better handle the heat if the early start date is maintained.

Here are the top comments when filtered to teachers, faculty and staff comments ONLY:

1. **Start Date in August:**

- Many respondents feel that starting school in early August is too early. They suggest starting later in August and extending the school year into June. The primary concerns include the heat in classrooms, which affects both students' and teachers' ability to focus and learn, and the impact on summer vacations and family time.

2. **Air Conditioning Issues:**

- A significant number of comments highlight problems with air conditioning in schools, especially older buildings. Teachers report that classrooms can become unbearably hot in August, making it difficult to teach and for students to concentrate. There are calls for improvements to the cooling systems if the early start date is to be maintained.

3. **End of Semester Before Winter Break:**

- There is a mixed response to ending the first semester before winter break. Some appreciate having a clean break, while others find it stressful to complete all grading and projects before the holidays. The latter group suggests that it might be better to end the semester after the break to reduce stress.

4. **Length and Timing of Breaks:**

- Many teachers appreciate the two-week winter break and the one-week spring break. However, there are suggestions to shorten these breaks slightly to allow for a later start in August. Some also propose having a full week off for Thanksgiving instead of a shorter fall break.

5. **Professional Development and Teacher Compensation Days:**

- There are concerns about the placement and number of professional development and teacher compensation days. Some teachers feel that having these days spread throughout the year, rather than clustered at the beginning, would be more beneficial. There are also suggestions to align these days with existing breaks to provide longer continuous breaks.

Here are the most important calendar features for parents, ranked by the number of mentions:

1. Winter Break Lasting 2 Weeks: This feature was mentioned frequently, indicating that parents highly value a substantial winter break.
2. Late August Start Date: Many parents expressed a preference for starting the school year in late August, even if it means going into early June.
3. Ending the School Year Before Memorial Day: Ending the school year before Memorial Day is a significant priority for many parents.
4. A Full Week Off for Spring Break: A full week off for spring break is another highly mentioned feature, showing its importance to parents.
5. Starting the School Year After Labor Day: Some parents prefer starting the school year after Labor Day, though this was less common than the late August start.
6. Second Term Ending When Winter Break Starts & Third Term Starting in January: This feature is valued for aligning the school terms with the winter break.
7. Spring Break Happening the First Week of April Every Year: Consistency in the timing of spring break is important to some parents.
8. A Full Week Off for Fall Break: A full week off for fall break is also mentioned, though less frequently than spring break.

Here are the most important calendar features for faculty, teachers and staff, ranked by the number of mentions:

1. Winter Break Lasting 2 Weeks: This feature was overwhelmingly mentioned, indicating that faculty, staff, and teachers highly value a substantial winter break.
2. Ending the School Year Before Memorial Day: Ending the school year before Memorial Day is a significant priority for many faculty, staff, and teachers.
3. Late August Start Date: Many respondents expressed a preference for starting the school year in late August, even if it means going into early June.
4. A Full Week Off for Spring Break: A full week off for spring break is another highly mentioned feature, showing its importance to faculty, staff, and teachers.
5. Second Term Ending When Winter Break Starts & Third Term Starting in January: This feature is valued for aligning the school terms with the winter break.
6. Starting the School Year After Labor Day: Some respondents prefer starting the school year after Labor Day, though this was less common than the late August start.
7. Spring Break Happening the First Week of April Every Year: Consistency in the timing of spring break is important to some respondents.
8. A Full Week Off for Fall Break: A full week off for fall break is also mentioned, though less frequently than spring break.