

## **BOARD AGENDA ITEM**

**APRIL 23, 2024**

### **SUBJECT:**

District Early Dismissal Time

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

With the growing need for professional development, the administration has explored various methods to ensure adequate time is allocated for this purpose. Historically, we have utilized early dismissal days effectively. This scheduling approach designates several days throughout the year to be used exclusively for professional development opportunities for all staff.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:**

Professional development is vital to the growth and effectiveness of both our teaching and classified staff. Early dismissal days provide the necessary time for:

1. **State Mandated Training:** Ensures that all staff, including classified employees, can fulfill state-required professional development mandates. These trainings often include crucial updates on instructional programs, safety protocols, legal requirements, and other operational standards that are essential for the smooth running of our schools.
2. **Skill Enhancement:** Offers classified staff opportunities to enhance specific skills related to their roles, such as administrative tasks, technology use, maintenance updates, and more. This is essential for keeping our support systems efficient and effective.
3. **Focused Training for Educators:** Educators can engage in targeted workshops that address current educational trends, instructional strategies, and classroom management techniques, without the time constraints of a regular school day.
4. **Collaboration Opportunities:** Provides a platform for both teaching and classified staff to collaborate, fostering a more unified school environment. Sharing insights and challenges across different roles can lead to more cohesive team strategies and problem-solving approaches.
5. **Curriculum and Program Development:** Facilitates dedicated time for staff to develop and refine curricula and programs to better meet the needs of our students, align with new standards, and effectively integrate emerging technologies.

The implementation of early dismissal days for professional development is a strategic investment that benefits all members of our school staff—teaching and classified alike. These sessions provide a significant opportunity to enhance the overall functionality and educational quality of our schools.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Approve the following district early dismissal days for the 2024-2025 school year:

- Wednesday, August 21
- Wednesday, September 18
- Wednesday, November 20
- Wednesday, January 15
- Wednesday, March 19

Approve the following schedule for early dismissal:

- Elementary schools 11:30
- Middle school 12:10
- High school 12:30

Area 4

- Ridge Spring-Monetta Elementary 11:55
- Ridge Spring-Monetta Middle 12:15
- Ridge Spring-Monetta High 12:20
- Cyril B. Busbee Elementary 11:55
- A.L. Corbett Middle 12:00
- Wagener-Salley High 12:10

**PREPARED BY:**

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