

Thompson Falls School District - Special Considerations

MT State Law by grade

4-12 1080 hours

1-3 720 hours (K full time)

K-6

1. 40 min lunch/week by contract (200)
2. 40 min prep/week by schedule (200)
 - a. K no Friday prep (160)

7-8

1. 40 min lunch/week by contract (200)
2. 65 min prep/week by schedule 4 days (260)

HS

1. 30 lunch by schedule (150)
2. 50 min prep by schedule 5 days a week (250)
3. 65 min prep 4 days a week 7th period (260)

Elementary

1. Lack of space (K-4)
 - a. Reading groups and SPED groups being held in hallways/lunch room
 - i. Learning being interrupted by noisy/distracting environment
2. Paras being pulled to cover for lack of subs
 - a. Student learning is suffering - could be improved with 4 day week
 - b. Routine suffers which impacts learning and student and staff wellbeing
3. How to ensure classified staff don't take a cut in pay?
4. Para turnover
 - a. How do we reduce this? Pay increase?
 - b. Better benefits?
 - c. Could 2% savings be applied to making more paras full time?

5. How do we ensure staff aren't being burned out by longer hours?
 - a. Rotating paras?
 - b. K-8 40 min lunch by contract
 - c. Ensure prep time per week isn't cut
6. How do we help K-3 students handle the longer day?
 - a. K-3 - three recesses?
7. Lunch / Prep Time per Week
 - a. K 200 min lunch / 160 min prep (total of 360 min)
 - b. 1-6 200 min lunch / 200 min prep (total of 400 min)
 - c. JH 200 min lunch / 260 min prep (total of 460 min)
 - d. HS 150 min lunch / 250 min prep (total of 400 min) (410 for 7th period)
 - e. Prep schedules and assemblies or other school functions create an issue of lost prep time. Teachers who lose their prep due to events scheduled by the admin or the district will be paid for their missed prep time. - The average amount of hours on the school grounds for a teacher per day, multiplied by the number of days worked in the school year, divided by 1,040 hours, will determine a seniority/pay scale coefficient. A teacher's pay will be the exact decimal multiplied by the amount on the salary schedule that the teacher is qualified to receive according to the contract. Two years of less than 0.5 experience would count as one full year for seniority/pay. If the coefficient is 0.5 or greater, then the teacher will receive one year for moving on the salary scale and seniority list. Teachers who are asked by the District and who voluntarily agree to teach a class, are assigned to teach a class, or lose prep due to scheduling at grades K-12 during their preparation period will use the formula in this section.

Junior High

- 1.

High School

1. Some HS Schools have used this as an opportunity for an 8th period and additional electives.
2. Having an 8th period can have an effect on the graduation timeline and may require changes to the graduation requirements as well. See Hot Springs.
3. It may be a good idea to consider an attendance policy similar to Three Forks.
4. Some Staff are early risers and some are not, it would be best to allow staff to have flexibility to either come early or stay late for extended hours, but not require one or the other.
5. Moving to 8 periods would significantly reduce the amount of prep per week