

# 2013-2014 FCFT Member Perspectives Survey – Official

**Final numerical / percentage totals** (Comment sections prepared separately)

Total Respondents: 1,428 (FCFT members only; link sent to preferred private email)

Duration of Survey: November 11-24<sup>th</sup> (2013)

Please contact Steve Greenburg, President at [sgreenburg@aol.com](mailto:sgreenburg@aol.com) for survey info / questions.

1. What benefits are there to starting high school later than the current 7:20 am start time?  
**(Choose all that apply.)**

A. More sleep for teen students	886	<b>(62%)</b>
B. Improved student physical health	574	<b>(40%)</b>
C. Improved student mental health	712	<b>(50%)</b>
D. Improved student safety (less teen drowsy driving, sports injuries, etc.)	598	<b>(42%)</b>
E. Improved student alertness during the school day	852	<b>(60%)</b>
F. Improved student learning	740	<b>(52%)</b>
G. Improved student mood and behavior	728	<b>(51%)</b>
H. It could provide more planning time in	602	<b>(42%)</b>

the morning for teachers (students arriving later)

*Comment on the benefits of later high school start times:*

**COMMENT SECTION RESPONSES POSTED SEPARATELY**

2. Which are of greatest concern to you, in regards to potential later high school start times?  
**(Rank by importance.)**

	Critical concern	Important concern	Just a little bit of a concern	Not really a concern
A. Commuting schedule	368 <b>(26%)</b>	318 <b>(22%)</b>	188 <b>(13%)</b>	554 <b>(39%)</b>
B. Costs to implement	418 <b>(29%)</b>	423 <b>(30%)</b>	247 <b>(17%)</b>	340 <b>(24%)</b>
C. Impact on students' after-school activities (clubs, sports, etc.)	338 <b>(24%)</b>	562 <b>(39%)</b>	284 <b>(20%)</b>	244 <b>(17%)</b>
D. Other student scheduling considerations	276 <b>(19%)</b>	412 <b>(29%)</b>	340 <b>(24%)</b>	400 <b>(28%)</b>

E. Childcare considerations (personal, only)	262 <b>(18%)</b>	178 <b>(12%)</b>	194 <b>(14%)</b>	794 <b>(56%)</b>
F. Timeline of phase-in on a new schedule	146 <b>(10%)</b>	410 <b>(29%)</b>	420 <b>(30%)</b>	442 <b>(31%)</b>
G. Potential impact of changes to Elementary school schedules	614 <b>(43%)</b>	376 <b>(26%)</b>	176 <b>(12%)</b>	262 <b>(18%)</b>
H. Potential impact of changes to middle school schedules	288 <b>(20%)</b>	372 <b>(26%)</b>	298 <b>(21%)</b>	470 <b>(33%)</b>

2A. List the level you teach at:

**(Select one.)**

Elementary	720	<b>(51%)</b>
Middle	244	<b>(17%)</b>
High	464	<b>(32%)</b>

2B. Comment on the greatest concerns in regards to potential later high school start times:

**COMMENT SECTION RESPONSES POSTED SEPARATELY**

3. Which would you prefer, in relation to the school calendar:  
**(Choose all that apply.)**

A. Veteran’s Day off instead of Columbus Day	712	<b>(50%)</b>
B. Columbus Day off instead of Veteran’s Day	572	<b>(40%)</b>
C. Spring Break that extends past Easter; thereby, extending the school calendar	492	<b>(34%)</b>
D. Spring Break as it is, currently	748	<b>(52%)</b>

3A. Comment on the school calendar: **COMMENT SECTION RESPONSES POSTED SEPARATELY**

4. Do you support changes to the current Monday Early Closing Schedule?  
**(Select one.)**

Yes	350	<b>(25%)</b>
No	572	<b>(40%)</b>
Unsure at this time	506	<b>(35%)</b>

5. What are the greatest advantages of Monday Early Closing?  
**(Choose all that apply.)**

A. Time for teams to collaborate	792	<b>(55%)</b>
B. Time for professional development	626	<b>(44%)</b>
C. Time to get independent (unencumbered) planning done	870	<b>(61%)</b>
D. There are none. I don't think we should continue it.	326	<b>(23%)</b>

6. What are the greatest disadvantages of Monday Early Closing?  
**(Choose all that apply.)**

A. It is wasted on too many unnecessary meetings.	694	<b>(49%)</b>
B. It is wasted instructional time; students should be in school learning?	388	<b>(27%)</b>
C. It puts stress on childcare considerations for employees and parents.	420	<b>(29%)</b>

D. None. It's critical for me to prepare for my students.

482 (34%)

6A. Comment on the greatest advantages and disadvantages of Monday Early Closing:

**COMMENT SECTION RESPONSES POSTED SEPARATELY**

7. Do you think we utilize technology effectively and efficiently in FCPS?  
(Select one.)

Yes

566 (40%)

No

606 (42%)

I am unsure at this time.

256 (18%)

7A. Comment on our use of technology in FCPS:

**COMMENT SECTION RESPONSES POSTED SEPARATELY**

8. On which areas do we need to focus most, in order to use technology most effectively?  
**(Rank by importance.)**

	Critical	Necessary	Desired	Not very important or desired
A. Teacher training and professional development	510 <b>(36%)</b>	542 <b>(38%)</b>	272 <b>(19%)</b>	104 <b>(7%)</b>
B. Reasonable timelines for implementation	660 <b>(46%)</b>	490 <b>(34%)</b>	236 <b>(17%)</b>	42 <b>(3%)</b>
C. Focus on specific technologies (software, hardware); 'Less is more if focused correctly'	544 <b>(38%)</b>	664 <b>(46%)</b>	194 <b>(14%)</b>	26 <b>(2%)</b>
D. Analysis of infrastructure and needs (in FCPS and the community) before implementing new items	755 <b>(53%)</b>	488 <b>(34%)</b>	152 <b>(11%)</b>	33 <b>(2%)</b>
E. Teacher input (before beginning new initiatives)	1016 <b>(71%)</b>	336 <b>(24%)</b>	68 <b>(5%)</b>	8 <b>(0%)</b>

F. Using existing technologies vs  
'creating the Fairfax way' with  
everything

852

378

138

60

**(60%)**

**(26%)**

**(10%)**

**(4%)**

9. What should be FCFT's priorities, in regards to this year's (2015) budget discussions?

**(Rank by importance.)**

	<b>First</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Third</b>	<b>Fourth</b>	<b>Fifth</b>
A. A Step increase for teachers, only.	398 <b>(28%)</b>	284 <b>(20%)</b>	148 <b>(10%)</b>	140 <b>(10%)</b>	458 <b>(32%)</b>
B. A Step increase for all that are eligible to receive one.	536 <b>(38%)</b>	365 <b>(26%)</b>	219 <b>(15%)</b>	176 <b>(12%)</b>	132 <b>(9%)</b>
C. Focus on saving positions.	184 <b>(13%)</b>	236 <b>(17%)</b>	399 <b>(28%)</b>	374 <b>(26%)</b>	235 <b>(17%)</b>
D. Eliminating waste in programs;	378	361	354	212	123



‘money can be saved’	(26%)	(25%)	(25%)	(15%)	(9%)
E. Protecting class size (even if it means less money)	176 (12%)	258 (18%)	232 (16%)	452 (32%)	310 (22%)

9A. Comment on FCFT's budget priorities for this year:

**COMMENT SECTION RESPONSES POSTED SEPARATELY**

10. What should we do to address the ‘lack of needed revenue’ issue in Fairfax County?  
(Choose all that apply.)

A. Raise the property taxes.	620	(43%)
B. We need a meal's tax.	256	(18%)
C. The FCPS School Board needs its own taxing authority.	236	(17%)
D. The state needs to provide more money to fund our schools.	936	(66%)

E. The county Supervisors need to transfer more money to the schools.	832	(58%)
F. The county Supervisors need to be removed; they have not addressed the issue competently.	776	(53%)
G. FCPS needs to cut their spending.	576	(40%)

10A. Comment on our 'lack of needed revenue' in Fairfax County:

**COMMENT SECTION RESPONSES POSTED SEPARATELY**

11. If you do not receive a significant salary increase (step or greater) in the next year, you will... (Select one.)

A. Keep teaching / working in Fairfax	596	(42%)
B. Go teach/ work somewhere else, nearby (Montgomery County, etc.)	180	(13%)
C. Go teach, work, and live somewhere else less expensive (out of area, etc.)	92	(6%)
D. Leave the teaching / education field	212	(15%)

E. Be forced to take a second or third job

348 (25%)

11A. Comments or other possibilities in regards to salary increases for next year:

**COMMENT SECTION RESPONSES POSTED SEPARATELY**

12. Do you currently have an SFAC in your building?

**(Select one.)**

Yes

1060 (74%)

No

32 (2%)

I don't know

336 (24%)

12A. If you responded 'No' to item #12, please list the name your school here:

**(Results will not be made public; for internal use only.)**

13. Our SFAC is / was:

**(Choose all that apply.)**

A. Properly elected, effective, and operates by regulation	652 <b>(46%)</b>
B. Works fine, but we really did not follow the regulations (on how it was implemented)	232 <b>(16%)</b>
C. Properly implemented, but it does not really help us address issues	384 <b>(27%)</b>
D. A joke. It is not being properly implemented or used.	198 <b>(14%)</b>

13A. Comment on the operation of your SFAC this year:

**COMMENT SECTION RESPONSES POSTED SEPARATELY**

14. Has your principal honored the promise of the school board to give only ONE eCart window this year?

**(Select one.)**

Yes	490 <b>(34%)</b>
No	202 <b>(14%)</b>

I don't know. We keep giving eCart tests, but they aren't calling it a testing window...so I'm confused.

736 (52%)

14A. If you responded, 'NO' or 'I don't know' for item #14, please comment on the administrator's 'rationale' for not honoring the wishes of the school board / or your confusion (in regards to eCart):

**COMMENT SECTION RESPONSES POSTED SEPARATELY**

14B. If you responded, 'NO' or "I don't know" for item #14, please list your school, below:

**(Results will not be made public; for internal use only)**

**15. Has your principal honored regulations and protected your teacher workdays (not scheduling professional development or meetings on those days) this year?**

Yes

1154 (81%)

No

274 (19%)

15A. If you responded, 'NO' to item #15, please list your school, below:

**(Results will not be made public; for internal use only)**

16. Our CLT meetings:

**(Choose all that apply.)**

A. Are just perfect in quantity and quality	282	(20%)
B. We are having way too much collaborative planning at the expense of individual planning.	884	(62%)
C. Number of meetings (quantity) is fine, but they lack quality	232	(16%)
D. The meetings are important (quality), but we have too many.	450	(32%)
E. I don't know; I don't participate in CLT meetings.	150	(11%)

16A. Comment on CLT meetings:

**COMMENT SECTION RESPONSES POSTED SEPARATELY**

17. Has your overall work load decreased this year (as in comparison to last year)? (Select one.)

Yes. I have less work load this year than last.	254 (18%)
No. The work load is the same or worse than last year.	1174 (82%)
<p>17A. Comments or suggestions work load progress, or on how to further decrease work load:</p> <p><b>COMMENT SECTION RESPONSES POSTED SEPARATELY</b></p>	