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TOTAL RESPONSES 1535

TEACHERS: 81

SUPPORT STAFF: 16

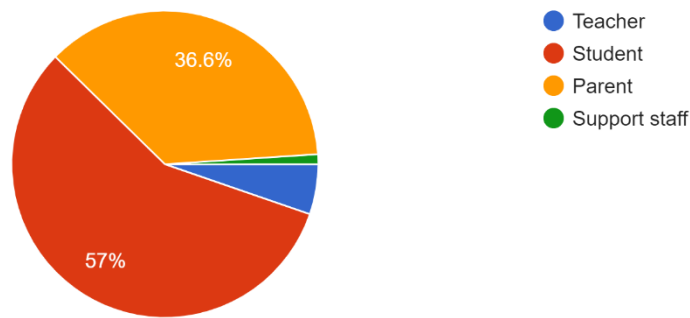
PARENTS: 560

STUDENTS: 867

TOTAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN MHPSD: 1225 MHHS

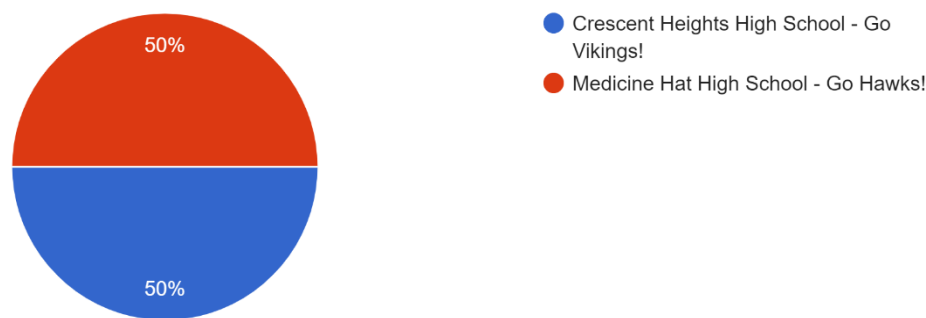
STAFF RESPONSES

Which of the following describes you?
1,534 responses



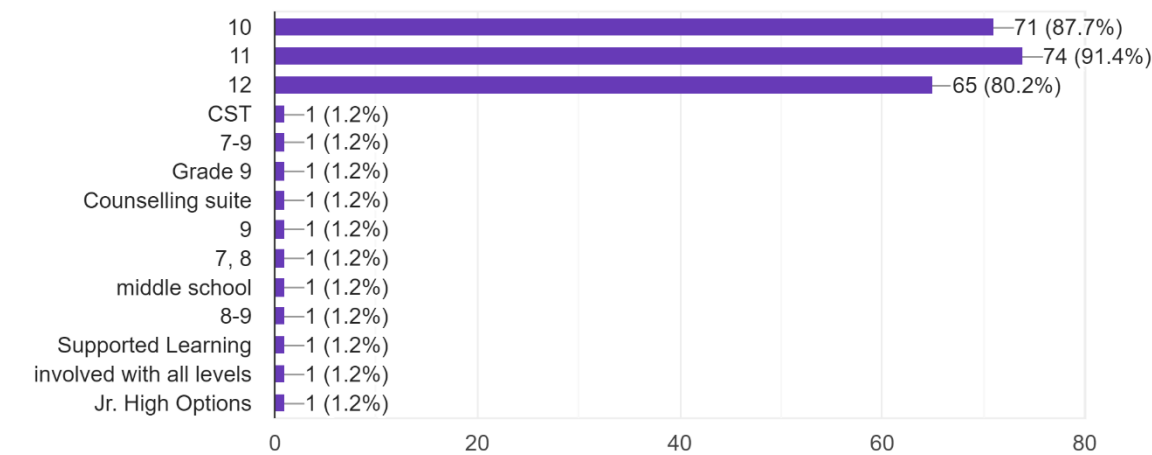
- Teacher – 16%
- Support Staff – 1 %

What school do you work at?
78 responses



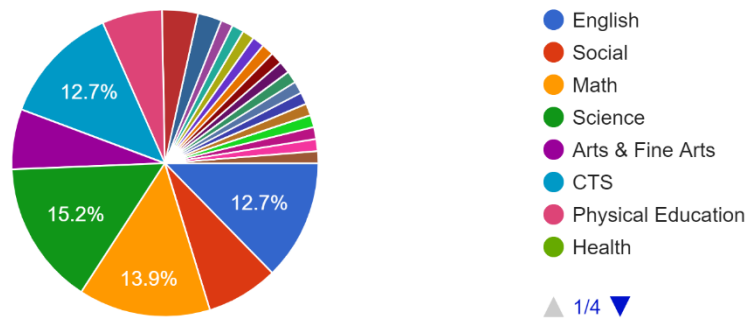
What grade do you teach? (Choose all that apply)

81 responses



What course do you teach?

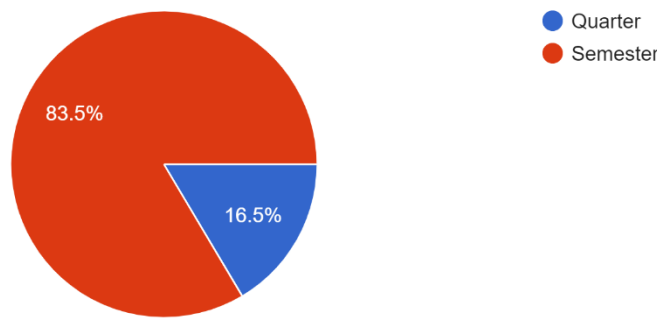
79 responses



- English - 12.7% - Social – 6% - Math - 13.9% - Science – 15.2% - Arts & Fine Arts – 6.3% - CTS – 13% - Physical Education – 6.3% - Health - 0 - Supported Learning – 3.8% - School Counsellor – 2.5% - Forensics and ELL Classes 1.3% - Humanities and options 1.3% - French Language Arts 1.3%	- Social, CTS – 1.3% - Math & CTS - 1.3% - English and CTS - 1.3% - Involved with many different courses- 1.3% - French (and Social Studies) - 1.3% - Admin - 1.3% - Supported Learning/K&E Courses - 1.3% - French Immersion (Social and French) - 1.3% - PE & CALM - 1.3% - Athletic performance – 1.3% - Japanese/ESL/psychology – 1.3%
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In your opinion which system benefits students better?

79 responses



For those who believe that the QUARTER system benefits students better (OF THOSE THAT CHOSE QUARTER, THEY ARE TEACHERS IN THE FOLLOWING COURSES):

- Forensics and ELL Classes
- CTS (8 responses)
- Arts & Fine Arts (2 responses)
- Social
- English (2 responses)
- For the courses I teach, having all afternoon to do labs, field trips when possible is perfect. It would be great to be able to even hybrid the quarter system for CTS type classes with full semesters for regular classes. ex) 2 semesters classes in am. One quarter in pm, then second quarter class.
- Allows the options students to develop skills in real time. Instead of having to stop half way through and continue on the following day.
- Less classes to focus on in a day. Long Periods for projects in studio based classes
- I am torn as I have seen students benefit from getting through courses quickly in the quarter system but I have also seen students fall behind and not able to demonstrate their learning due to the confines of the quarter system.
- The semester system has shorter classes, more time to learn material (in the quarter system, several concepts are taught in one day). Students need time to "digest" the material without going on to the next topic.

However, I do see the benefit of students only having 2 courses to navigate in the quarter system, so less stressful for them. The quarter system could enable a student to have one academic course and one CTS course at a time, which would help with stress levels.

As well, if a student is struggling with health issues, they would likely miss less overall with the quarter system, as its shorter in duration.

The quarter system also lets students work for a half day (all morning/ all afternoon) and potentially graduate sooner. The quarter system is also beneficial for CTS and Science to be able to complete labs, field trips, and projects.

- Longer class times allow the flexibility to expand on processes and concepts. The time saved each each day by having only 2 cleanups vs 4 creates the opportunity to cover 6 credits vs 5 in semester system
- CTS based students are capable of starting and finishing projects that are more time consuming giving a better understanding. shorter periods were difficult as students would begin to get ingredients together and prepped than would run short on time.
- Only 2 subjects to focus on, it's fast. But some kids don't love how fast their core subjects are taught.
- In Foods class it allows us the time to cook and learn the theory behind techniques being used - all on the same day. Better connection to curriculum outcomes. Also allows time for more advanced projects. Also, students have told me they like to focus on only 2 classes at a time.

- Students report that focusing on only 2 subject (and two teachers) at a time allows for more ease and brain space. They report less anxiety in regards to this. If they are in math it is another story.
- This system works well for English. Students are able to sit through a sustained period of time for writing without their thought processes being interrupted. As a class we are able to complete texts in a more comprehensive way leading to deeper discussions and understanding. Film study is also able to be completed without interruption.
- Extended class time allows students to have more time to work on projects. They can get into the "flow" of the project more like an actual artist working in their studio.
- More time for students to see projects to completion, resulting in a deeper understanding of concepts and principles.

For those who believe that the SEMESTER system benefits students better (OF THOSE THAT CHOSE SEMESTER, THEY ARE TEACHERS IN THE FOLLOWING COURSES):

- Admin (1)
- Arts & fine Arts (3 responses)
- Athletic Performance (1)
- CTS (6 responses)
- English (9 responses)
- French (3 responses)
- Humanities and options (1)
- Japanese/ESL/psychology (1)
- Math (12 responses)
- PE & CALM (1)
- Physical Education (5 responses)
- Science (12 responses)
- School Counsellor (2 responses)
- Social (6 responses)
- Supported Learning (4 responses)
- Too long for students, not enough time to process lessons especially as it relates to math/science at high school level.
- Less rushed, if they miss a class it is not as impactful with semestered vs quarter, 2.5-3 hrs is a long class
- The quarter system works well in some classes but when it is bad, it is bad. Math seems to be a struggle for students and overall the pace is overwhelming for many kids.
- More availability for course choices, more blocks for those choices during the day. Less teacher burn out, shorter classes, more efficient teaching and learning environment. Adults struggle learning 3 hours at a time, it is no surprise that students would as well.
- Longer time frame in regard to number of days allows students more time to process new lessons/material prior to building on a concept in a new lesson. Also, students who happen to miss a day do not fall as far behind in a semester system if they are unable to access/stay on top of missed work in a Quarter system.
- Students need more time with the subject matter. It's too rushed and we can't cover all the curriculum.
- The quarter system minimizes the amount of time that students have to process information which creates a stressful situation. It cuts in half the number of days that we can help struggling students make up any deficits they have. It moves extremely fast and when students have attendance issues it makes it hard to get them caught up. The marking load for courses that are involved in writing and projects can be overwhelming for teachers which can lead to a reduction in energy and ability to help students effectively.
- I have a son in high school who often felt overwhelmed with the amount of material and how much time was needed in class. A number of students I had worked with before also came back and mentioned that it was pretty tricky to stay focused for up to two-and-a-half hours. I know that this can work for some but it seems that more students would prefer a system that have long daily stretches with a rapidly approaching deadline.

From a middle school perspective, having more time to focus on options would be beneficial because I often found that 22 classes wasn't enough time to really dig into some of the areas.

- There is more time to give and receive feedback between assessments. The turnaround between each test is so short in the quarter system that students have little time, especially if they miss any class time.
- Teaching science during the quarter system I have watched students struggle with amount of work that is required to do and learn in one day of class. Previous to quarters my class set up has been around flipping my classroom allowing students to do a bit of notes at home and then coming to class and working on materials in a hands on approach. This gives them time to digest and work through each concept as each day has one idea to focus on. Now in the quarter system it is hard to do that and students are expected to learn a lot of information in one sitting and do not really get time to think it through before coming back the next day. I have heard many students complain about pacing, they are frustrated with the amount that is placed on them. I have watched some of my strongest students struggle as they are trying to navigate this. My students who are needing extra help are not seeking out help because their brain is over loaded and they do not want to stay for extra help as they are mentally exhausted from the day. Students I think benefited from semesters because it allows them the time to digest information, if they miss a day the catch up is not as overwhelming.
- With Math the content needs time to be processed. Students need time to do work in chunks with rest in between to process the content better. I am seeing students being very overwhelmed with content and at the pace it is delivered to them.

Having only two classes is having an affect on the social well-being of students. They do not have the opportunity to be with more students and are not making as many connections as in the semester system. Students are not having the opportunity to talk to other students as much with only two classes.

- More time to process information, if they miss classes its less content to catch up and fall behind on. Student attendance seems to have gotten worse the last few years. More time to get help between assessments, tests, quizzes etc on concepts they do not understand as we aren't covering multiple outcomes in one class
- Too much info in a shorter amount of time. No time to catch up on missed assignments.
- Students are being forced to move on when they haven't finished assignments or fully comprehended previous material. There is not enough time to get extra help or to do valid reassessment in the quarter system. Some of the quarters are shorter than the others so it is difficult to get through courses.
- In guitar classes, the quarter system has really hurt beginners to the instrument. They aren't able to play for 2.5 hours in a day, and because there are fewer days, they do not have as much time to process information and develop the new skills on their own as students in a semester system do. The rushed quarter also means we do not have time to spare to prepare and perform public concerts so that their family and friends can see their development.

For the new Sr. High Film Studies class, the quarter system does not allow for a lot of time for students to plan, shoot, edit, and present their short films. The curriculum used is heavily focused on the roles involved in creating film and we simply do not have enough time to go into detail with these roles.

The biggest impact is on the Sr. High Band program. The quarter system prevents the Sr. band from being able to run all year. Even going every other day at 2.5 hours a day it would still have students spending double the normal time in band. There is no mechanism to give 10 credits for instrumental music so it is not an option.

The limitations of scheduling classes with the quarter system has also meant that having all my students in band in the same quarter is next to impossible. Last year the band was split out of necessity because of COVID required spacing. I could only have 26 people in the room at a time, so the band needed to be split. This year the split was done to make scheduling easier for students who are trying to fit 20 and 30 level sciences into their schedule, some of which are only offered once.

Our opportunities to perform are severely limited. A trip in April is impossible since students who have band in Q4 haven't even begun to learn the music yet. The Sr. Band has gone from

doing 6-10 performances in a year, to 1.

It is also impossible for us to do the tri-school band concert because other schools have band at different times than we do. McCoy has band at the start of the year, MHHS has it entirely during Q3, so trying to do a concert in Q4 when all of my students would be ready is not practical.

There is also the issue of time. Usually students finish band in June, then get started again 2 months later so there is not as much time for things to be forgotten. Now, a student who had band in Q3 last year will have had one intense day of playing during our concert in June, then might not play again until April of 2022 if they are in Q4 this year. I can tell you that I've been playing trombone for 20 years and if I went that long without playing, it would have an impact on my abilities. This gap is crippling to the continuity of skill that makes band possible.

- Shorter class times (current 2.5 hours is too long), less negative consequences for missing a day to illness, appointments, symptoms, etc, Material is covered too quickly and teachers must move on quickly as well.
- I believe that semesters allow students more time to process information especially in higher academic classes. It also allows assessments to be more spread out and give students more time to study. Semesters also allow the school day to be broken up more to give students time to walk through the halls, get movement breaks, and return to a longer "help/ advisory" period like CHAT.

It also helps with the transition from middle school to high school as that is the class period lengths students are used to.

I think the semester system has more time for "chill" or "fun" days to get to know kids better, where as the quarter system is more struct and go-go-go through content. There is never a day that is only a work day anymore for students to catch up, everyday has new content. It can be exhausting for students.

I do think the quarter system works better for less academic classes though because they could be offered more flexibility for motivation to finish their assignments and they had less time to forget concepts.

I think for 30 level courses, and the diploma schedule, there were not enough days in SOME quarters to get across all the info. I know teachers were pressed for time and had review sessions past the last day of real classes to fit it all in.

- I do think it depends on the student and the subject, but the pacing of the quarter system is so fast and it is difficult for students to process the concepts and keep up with the work. Students also seem visibly drained by 1 or 2pm after sitting in classes for so long.
- For core subjects, students are more likely to struggle to keep up in a quarter-system, if they miss a class or two (@ 2.5 hrs. approx.) they fall further behind than in a semester system. However, in the hands-on classes like in CTS, Fine Arts, etc. students have more time in the day to really accomplish work in a 2.5 hr. approx. class as part of the quarter-system... so I am torn in choosing a definitive answer between semestered and quartered systems. If core subjects could be semestered while having option classes quartered that might be worth looking into.
- More time to dive into content. More engaging activities can occur for further understanding. Develop better relationships with students.
- This was hard to choose given the number of different classes I teach. Science 10 & Science 20 is better served in a semester due to shorter classes and less material presented at a time so they have more time to process and seek help. Both the classes are highly math based (chemistry & physics sections).

Chemistry 20 and Chemistry 30 works both ways and it is really dependent on the students.

The biggest problem for students is the unbalanced number of classes in the 30-level based on what quarter the class is offered. Quarter 2/3 have less days and that makes it difficult to complete the curriculum and arrange labs. But some students do enjoy that extra long periods to get a fuller story in chemistry and see the full picture quicker when we learn new ideas and have to related them to previous lessons.

- Too much content in high school Social Studies. Despite adjustments, information comes too quickly for many students to efficiently process. Ideas sometimes end up "crammed together" and students sometimes find it challenging to keep concepts straight - what is learned at the beginning of class is sometimes "lost in the shuffle" of ideas that are taught in the end of class. While this happens in a semester system as well (what was taught yesterday can be forgotten too), there tends to be less information overload - students moving from Social Studies, for example, to other classes such as Math, Sciences, PE or an option course are thinking

differently and not overwhelmed by the same subject matter. Students that need reflection time also benefit from the short classes. Some students also experience anxiety as there may be unit finals within 8-10 days of each other and what feels like a frequency of quizzes in between (10 quizzes in a semester is reasonable; 10 in a quarter system seems overwhelming when mixed in with unit tests, projects and major writing assignments). In an effort to improve quality, the CHHS Social Studies department has scaffolded writing into smaller "chunks" to focus on specific skill sets. While there has been a tremendous improvement in student work, there is a feeling that students are constantly writing (although they completing less writing assignments than the semester system, doing smaller "pieces" makes the process more frequent). Students that are taking two core classes in a quarter are also feeling anxiety and feeling "burned out" by the pace of the material. This happens in a semester with four core classes as well, but typically such semesters are balanced with option classes and/or spares.

- There are advantages and disadvantages to each system, and I appreciate aspects of both. I also think, in some ways, a quarter system does help students. One concern is that, in Math, there is a lot of content covered each class and students sometimes struggle to master one foundational skill before moving on to the next. Students who have a spare one quarter are also finding it difficult to transition from attending school from half a day to an entire day.
- Supports student attention span, slows down speed of material, allows for more practice.
- More time to digest information/slower/more manageable pace
 - can bring double time blocks back to accommodate CTS classes that benefit from longer classes
- 1) The population of students I teach do not function well in classes which span the entire morning or afternoon.
- 2) They require longer periods of time to internalize information and to form the necessary connections between concepts. Therefore larger amounts of information over a shorter period of time is not as effective.
- 3) The timetable changing four times rather than twice is a difficult adjustment for those students who have Complex Needs.
- 4) Those students who have attendance issues are less likely to be successful due to the amount of instruction missed in a short period of absence.
- The semester system allows more time for reading, discussing, and processing. While English can adapt to the quarter system by eliminating repetitive assignments due to the recursive nature of the curriculum, some subject areas struggle to do reduce number of tests. My students inform me that they have test fatigue and that the fast-pace of content delivery and the pattern of lesson-assignment-lesson-assignment per period is overwhelming. There seems to be no joy in the learning.
- They have more time to absorb concepts and allows for deeper thinking to occur
- I teach low academic students who do not do well with long classes. In order to cover the curriculum they need to learn two outcomes every day. If they happen to miss a class, they are behind and the nature of the course makes it very difficult for them to catch up again. It is also more difficult to establish rapport with students in the quarter system.
- Both benefit students. I believe having to only focus on two classes at a time is very beneficial. However the amount of time and content covered in a 2.5 hour class is overwhelming. Semester classes allow for a slower pace and time for content to be more easily applied. That being said some course the content is not as heavy and having those in quarter system would be fine.
- I find bot subjects I teach are good for quarters.
- When I speak with my students, it is very dependent on their schedules: those who have one core and one option find the quarter system very agreeable. However, it is the ones who have two core classes that are often overwhelmed and dislike the quarter system. As many of our academic students need to take more core classes, it is these students who are often feeling the stresses that come with this system.

They often feel as though they do not have the time to fully get their brains wrapped around concepts before moving onto the next one - often in the same class. In the semester system, they would be able to do this in the evening with homework or review.

Many students also miss having the opportunity to see more people - especially their friends. They say that only have two classes limits their ability to socialize with a variety of people or those that make them most comfortable.

- It is difficult to get to know students and build relationships with them given such a short amount of time together. Academic mathematics courses move far too quickly for students to grasp the concepts and practice them to mastery. The number of teaching days is so few (37 in quarter 2) to try and accomplish the full curriculum. We end on a Wednesday and the diploma is the very next day! The length of class is difficult for students to maintain engagement and focus, let alone come for extra help before school, at lunch, or after school. Reassessment opportunities are very difficult to provide with the speed at which material is covered and must be assessed. My CTS course also benefits from the semester system and a lengthened timeframe...for example my stock picking "game" has little validity in a short timeframe and is a much better learning experience in a longer timeframe. I worry about retention as students progress from one year to another. I can adapt and make my CTS course in a semester system, but high school math in a quarter is extremely difficult.
- 2 1/2 hour classes are too long for attention levels, pacing, and planning.
- Quarter is too fast for academic courses like science and math. Too little time to absorb new material before we are shoving more at them. ELL kids can't keep up to content as they try to learn English. We aren't preparing kids for post-secondary with two classes at a time. Classes too long for 14/24 or dash 3/4 kids. Long classes are causing issues with breaks for kids as it's too long for them to sit for 2.5 h.
- I feel that without significant adjustments in instruction and assessment (that has not occurred in many classes), the semester system benefits our students more. The pace is simply too fast for students to process information, receive feedback on their work, and be assessed on it.

Academic students with 2 core subjects have a very difficult. Many I have spoken to feel overwhelmed and this has had a significant impact on their achievement and more importantly, their mental health. An overwhelming sentiment expressed to me by many high achieving students is one of test fatigue. They are constantly in a cycle of quizzes and tests with little time to reflect and improve in their understanding as they have already moved on to something new (particularly in Math and Science courses).

I believe nearly 2.5 hour classes is too long for most students and this magnified in non-academic classes (ie. -2, -3). The need for breaks during class time as had a negative impact on classroom management and as created far more opportunities for roaming and has made it easier for students to avoid going to class or taking extended breaks.

- More time for students to process concepts and practice the skills. 2 hours and 30 min is a long time for students to focus on one subject. Full day of core classes can be challenging and hard on mental health for some students.
- I think that the overarching benefit of the Quarter System has to be that students only have two courses to focus on, which should in turn reduce stress. That said, I find that the time crunch of the Quarter System has left teachers with no choice but to sprint through the curriculum and some may turn to more homework or heavier lessons as a result. So really, the stress on students is the same, if not more during the Quarter System.

Second: I feel like if I were able to see a student for a longer period of time over a full semester, I would be better able to monitor long term growth in a student, and give them long range processing time, which in the Quarter System unfortunately does not exist.

Finally, I believe semesters gives a student the opportunity to build sturdier relationships with teachers as they will see them for four months rather than approximately forty days. Those relationships are so key in not only teaching students material, but also making them feel welcome and integrated in the school community. Obviously relationships can be built in the Quarter System, but I feel like the students I work with would benefit from that longer stretch of time. Some of the students who tend to be more introverted might not warm up in class for the first month, and by that point, you are already almost done your time with them.

Personally, I think you could make an argument for either system. That said, I think that students would find the semester system quite a bit less stressful, they would see more growth as students and as people, and they would be able to build stronger relationships with staff in their school.

- When students are required to memorize and build skill a semestered system allows extra time away from school for newly learned to "sink in". Memorization requires time and practice. A quarter system diminishes the opportunity for students to take time to practice at home or to

assimilate the information learned before moving on.

I also see more mental health issues because of the strain from the Quarter system.

- Students need processing time in mathematics. Learning 2 lessons a day is not helping students. The courses are going too fast for the students. In mathematics, concepts build on each other. If a student learns a lesson and in 30 minutes needs to learn another lesson that builds on that concept that is not enough time. Students need 24 hours to help with their understanding.
- The semester system is paced at a more practical pace for the majority of our students! During the semester system you have time to spend with your students and "live some life" with them. You have opportunities to bond with them and build our school community!
- Although the quarter system has its benefits for PE, allowing us to engage in community activities such as tennis, bowling, golf, etc. it is very clear that a large number of students are struggling with the pace in core classes. The amount of times I have been asked if a student can sit out in gym to study for a test because they are "so stressed", or are crying and hyperventilating before a summative or exam with little time to get extra support can't be ignored.
- I have never taught French in the "Semester System". But, I think it would benefit students more to have exposure to the language in shorter class periods over a greater length of time.
- The quarter system hinders relationship building (more time in class does translate to the same as more days with a student), reduces the amount of processing time for students, does not allow for cyclical teaching to reinforce concepts. My experience has students struggling to keep up with the pace of the quarter system.
- Students need more processing time for a lot of concepts. They also need novelty. Sitting in one class, learning about one subject, with the same teacher, for 3 hours on end is extremely difficult. I recall struggling to fully engage with 3 hour long classes in University, even while being relatively mature, so it seems reasonable to imagine how challenging it must be for some of these students. Doing 4 separate "first day" start ups, where students learn new rules, expectations, and attempt to connect with a new teacher, can be exhausting.
- Students need time to practice their skills and build on them so that they can become more confident at the challenges that are ahead. The quarter system results in high anxiety levels for students that need to work hard.
- Thinking of our supported learning students, it is much easier for them to receive supports in the semester system than in the quarter. I also think students need time to digest new information and make connections. When 2+ lessons/topics/new ideas are introduced in one class, many students seem to struggle with the pace.
- The fast pace that courses move at during the quarter system is difficult for students to keep up with.
- We can't play band instruments for 2.5 hours. We've been doing a lot more music appreciation and composition, which has its merits, but I would prefer the hour-long block. 70 minutes is just the right amount of time for band at this age-level, both physically and mentally. The same goes for guitar class; I've had to add seatwork (i.e. composition, music appreciation, music theory) to keep kids engaged, as 2.5 hours of guitar playing is not reasonable.
- Attendance and the fast pace of the course are big factors. Each quarter is about 41 days. Missing even a few days puts students drastically behind. Missing a whole week due to either illness or family circumstances is even more detrimental to students. In the supported learning classes, students are not able to catch up themselves, they often need either small group or 1:1 assistance. This puts stress on the student, EA's, and teachers. I have had many students state "You are moving too fast through the course". Students have become more anxious and stressed out due to the high pace of the course. This has led to at risk students "giving up" at times. Once again putting more stress on the EA's and teachers. Students often complain about the long class period. 2.5-3 hours of class time is too long for students. In supported learning courses, the amount of time spent on trying to refocus students back to learning is exhausting. Returning to shorter classes will help foster a learning environment with fewer daily tasks that is more manageable for students with learning needs. Moving back to a semester system would provide the students with the flexibility they need if they are to miss school for a variety of different reasons, as well as shorter class periods.
- Speaking from a French Immersion teacher perspective, I think a quarter system benefits that program because it allows us to spend time on acquiring some important language skills. With the quarter system, things tend to move faster and doesn't give student the opportunity to master their language skills.

- The quarter system is too fast. There is not enough time for students to really dig in and process the information being presented to them. The classes are too long in the quarter system. Students this age are not equipped to sit and really work productively for 2.5-3 hours at a time. Then they get a 30 minute break and are expected to do it all over again. The quarter system has taken the fun out of high school. When students had more classes per day, they saw more peers each day and that allowed for a bit of visiting and socializing. Right now students seem so stressed and overwhelmed that they aren't having any fun while actually in our building. I also don't feel like we are really preparing students for what post secondary will look like. Students that move on will to post-secondary will be taking more than two courses per semester. They need to be learning now how to manage and be prepared for 3-4 classes at a time.
- As a counsellor, I have heard from many students and parents about the quarter system and how it's impacting their learning. The quarter system tends to go by really fast and for some students this is not a great fit and classes are much longer. The semester system allows students more time and shorter classes. Students that miss school in the quarter system find it difficult to catch-up 2.5 hours of work/course. I often hear how students find it difficult to understand multiple topics/class in Math & Science.
- Quarter is too fast for most math and academic science courses - both for amount of content taught at one time, time between assessments, amount of content retained in the end; Students who are absent or sick, miss a greater number of lessons in a day. Teachers who miss a day or two have double the number of lessons to plan. Students coming from Junior High full year classes or semestered classes might have trouble adapting to a quarter system. One spare for one quarter may be a disadvantage. However, if coaching it might be an advantage depending on when that spare is?
- In a quarter system I do not get to see my students on a daily/regular basis. This makes it extremely difficult to build their foundational literacy and foundational numeracy skills as they can go for months without my class in their schedule. Students are also unable to access daily support for their other classes in certain quarters. We are also finding that some students without daily access to LAP class "fall off the rails". They miss more school, feel disconnected, and are often less successful in their courses. The other concern is that the quarter system classes go too quickly for our students with slower processing speeds/memory deficits. They do not have time to learn, absorb, and remember new content before moving on to the next concept. It is also extremely difficult for our ADHD students to effectively engage in one course for a long period of time, regardless of the strategies employed by the teacher. If one of my students has a bad week in a semester system, they can recover. A bad week in a quarter system usually puts them so far behind that they struggle to make up for lost time. In this case, a lot of the time, they get frustrated and give up. Some of our supported learning classrooms have students with many different behavioral needs. Long classes are not only hard on these students, but can be equally hard on the teacher. If a student with oppositional defiance disorder or conduct disorder is having a rough day, it's hard on all in the long class. Some of our students take a long time to build a rapport with and trust their teachers. In a quarter system, you often feel that you just built a strong connection and figured out how they learn best, and then they are gone.
- The longer we stay in the quarter, the more I find issues that are not in the best interest for students. In PE/AP, only having an activity/pe class for 9 weeks is not in their best interest. --- Even with 2.5 hours, they do not get the full activity time ,as we cant deliver it that way. Realistically, if they were working out for 2 hours a day, they would get physically and emotionally burnt out, and dislike the class. So quarter class scheduling usually puts the students in a class half time as we have to share the facilities as well. In a semester kids are 80% physically active for 5 months, now they are 60% active for only 2.5 months, limiting the experience, relationship building and establishing healthy lifestyle
 - Plus the gap from a quarter one one year to a quarter 4 the next is literally over a year and a half away.
 - We hoped to get off campus more in this format for PE, but cost effective activities, available locations and busing costs prohibit this to make it worth while for kids.
 - Class/quarter "restarts" are double and always tough, draining day 1 starts to do 4 times a year, rather than 2. Plus if kids miss a day or two with absence or class changes at this time really makes it a tough start to class. re issue lockers 4 times, not twice.
 - Illness/injury or family time away for more than a day is tough on students catch up
 - once a student is struggling, catching up and turning it around might be too late.
 - 70-75 min classes, provides natural breaks, variety in a day, a longer time period to allow teachers to work with kids, establish character and habits.

- In physics the semester system and less content per day allows students more time to process, comprehend and practice the concepts
- Academic students seem to do well in either scenario, but students who struggle seem to fall further behind with the quarter system. If students miss a day or two, it can be hard to catch up. Depending on the course level, it can be a rush to meet the curricular outcomes and students don't seem to "digest" the concepts so they can build on them.
- Science outcomes are often very sequential in nature, a strong understanding of the outcomes learned today is needed in order to understand the outcomes we will learn tomorrow. In a semester system, students have the opportunity to practice the outcome in class and then take that home and complete any assignments, hopefully mastering the content before returning. In a quarter system, students are lucky if I can give 20 min to practice before I have to teach the next connected concept. This leads to a lot of unnecessary anxiety and frustration and often leaves students feeling overwhelmed.

Grade 12's often have a spare. In a quarter system, they take 6 classes without a spare and during their spare, they get 2.5 hrs daily while working on one class. No "spare" time is available in 3 of 4 quarters. They complete 86% of their course load without a spare. A semester system allows for a spare during 3 of their 7 classes. Only 50% of their classes are done without a spare.

Two and a half hours is an outrageous amount of time for anyone to sit through. Even if you enjoy the material that's a long time. Now imagine struggling in a class. Not enjoying the material but needing to take it to graduate. Every day for 10 weeks, 2.5 hrs a day. That's torture to some of these kids and creates unnecessary stress and anxiety.

High schools are struggling with how to provide reasonable breaks during these long classes. It's become a supervision nightmare. We have to give them a break but we can't supervise what they're all doing when they leave.

We are not preparing our grade 12's for post-secondary when in the quarter system. Students at university will need to balance 5 courses at a time and if they are science students, add 2-3 labs per week as well. Very different from juggling one or two classes in the quarter system in high school.

- Less content per day to absorb per class.
In more sequential courses (like math) where previous concepts are needed for the next lesson the quarter system is a problem (we build on concepts that students may not have acquired because they were just taught it).
If a student missed a day of class in the quarter system it is like 2 days from a semester. If a student missed 2 or 3 days in a row they could potentially miss an entire unit.
2.5 hour periods are hard to stay focused for the entire duration even with breaks.
- Very hard to teach 2 concepts per day. Students are not able to grasp second concept because first has not solidified. Support teachers (ELL, LAP, LSP) are unable to access their students if it is not "their quarter".
- In the quarter system, the classes are too long. It should be shorter so that students can get help and/or study the material, and/or sleep on it. There is too much information at once when you have such long classes. There isn't enough processing time for these kids. They are not retaining the skills or information. Also, between years, so much time passes that they forget last year's material. For example, students take one course in Q1 and the next year in Q4 it is getting close to 2 years since they have taken that subject.

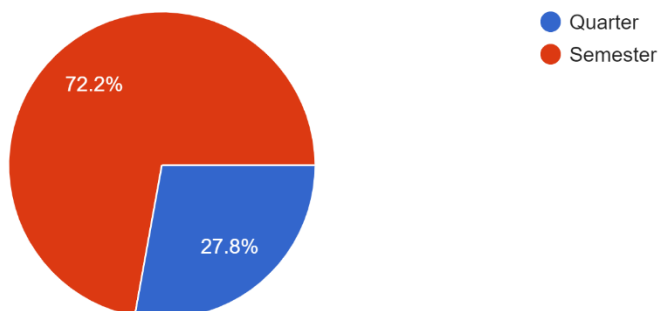
Also, ESL students find it very difficult to get help before moving on in a subject. They are given so much information and expected to move on before they get a chance to get any help. The quarter system is too much for most of them.

- Our students are not as stressed in a semester system. They can retain information and concepts more effectively in a semester based system. If they need to be away they are not missing as much. Easier to catch a student up on work missed. College and university classes are closer to semester than they are quarter.
- Reduces the tedium inherent in classes of that length. A few days of missed classes may be insurmountable vs. semester.
- It is hard to choose; it honestly depends on what courses students are taking; on the one hand, having to worry about only two classes seems to be something the students favour, on the other hand, if they are taking math or specific sciences, they feel it just moves way too fast for

them. This is based on open conversations I've had with them here and there, and as they share their frustrations with me on their own. It is a lot easier if they take one science/math and a spare, or with an option.

Do you prefer to work within the quarter or semester system?

79 responses



For teachers who prefer to WORK in the QUARTER system:

- For the courses I teach, having all afternoon to do labs, field trips when possible is perfect. It would be great to be able to even hybrid the quarter system for CTS type classes with full semesters for regular classes.
- Quarter system works best for my Art classes, long periods of time to complete projects and have materials out. I am not sure about core subjects though
- Within my programming it is easier to plan teacher schedules and students programming within the quarter system.
- Only having 2 courses to mark/ prep at one time is beneficial, especially if both are new courses to me. The marking is then concentrated on just 2 courses, not 3-4.
- The longer class times in the quarter system allows me to cover the theory and concepts in the classroom and then move to the shop and work with the processes in the same day rather than running class days and shop days separately.
- Allows more time for students to complete projects that normally is unable in short period.
- For same reasons as above.
- I too, prefer to focus on only two classes at a time. In English, I have found strategies for students to develop good learner strategies (however, this does not catch every student). In CTS, I gain approximately 1 hour of instruction per week due to not having to clean up after a shorter semestered class.
- Planning for Quarter system is easier, although the marking for return has a quicker turn around. It is nice to have the students for longer periods of time during the day to build relationships.
- I also like the extended class lengths. This allows me to see every student, connect, help and answer questions. In the semester system we ran out of time and I would have to wait until the next class to connect with students.
- Allows enough class/shop time to demonstrate concepts completely and allow time for students to get hands on experience while the information is fresh.
- I find it so much easier to track 2 courses when I was teaching English/Options.
- I have never been a teacher during a semester and so all my planning is in the quarters. Moving to semesters would mean an adjustment of all my plans. I like the quarters as it allowed for less students to keep track of and call home for at once. I felt like I had better communication than what I would have with 4 classes. Four classes also seems like a lot of marking. With semesters more assessments are needed as the information is spread out over a longer time, so students forget. I know a lot of teachers

have adapted their tests and assessments to fit into a quarter now, so going back would mean a lot of extra work yet again.

I also like how in lower academic courses, quarters allowed for you to get across a lesson and the lab for it in the same day. Since lower academic courses have less/easier outcomes, it was more manageable to fit in everything.

I have also really appreciated half Fridays for meetings and catch up on planning. Either way I hope this continues.

- Again, there are advantages and disadvantages, but I enjoy the flexibility of being able to structure a large block of time. I really enjoy taking a break when it naturally occurs, and being able to chunk the material accordingly. In Math, I have students from two classes coming for help each morning as opposed to students from four classes. It allows me to give more attention to the students I am currently working with as there are less of them at one time - less parent phone calls, etc. as well.
One disadvantage is that you don't have the longevity to build the same type of relationship with students as they're gone in about 2.5 months.
- I prefer the quarter for English as it allows me to diversify instruction and material. It reduces marking (two classes instead of four). I feel a good connection to students. However, I feel like I can be a proficient teacher in both systems, so I would prefer that we do what it is best for students.
- It is easier for teachers to maintain good content with the parents. It is also easier to plan for only two classes.
-
- I am indifferent right now. With the exception of a brief stint of filling in for Colleen, I have only experienced the quarter system. That is what I am most used to at this point.
- The longer class for High School Physical Education provide a nice opportunity for off campus activities. There is time to dig deep into concepts and build skills. During the semester system, PE is a rush when off campus.
- Only two subjects to work on at a time. That's pretty good. I also like deciding when my break is. It actually shortens the chunk of information that students get at one time. When we had shorter classes, we were forbidden to give the students breaks outside the classroom.
- Again, there are pros and cons to this as a teacher as well and it is hard to make a choice. In the semester system, I always have to juggle planning and grading four different courses as well as double the students. At first, the quarter system seemed tricky, but I have found ways that work for the sake of students and my own; the issue is how quickly I have to grade assignments so that the learning flows well for kids. I still do it though.

For those teachers who prefer to WORK in the SEMESTER system:

- Not enough time to get through all outcomes without feeling rushed, especially at the end
- Less rushed, if they miss a class it is not as impactful with semestered vs quarter, 2.5-3 hrs is a long class
- More availability for course choices, more blocks for those choices during the day. Less teacher burn out, shorter classes, more efficient teaching and learning environment. Adults struggle learning 3 hours at a time, it is no surprise that students would as well.
- I feel there is less stress on my academic classes from students to understand the material taught as they have more days to process information prior to teaching new material.
- I can get through the course in a meaningful way which is best for student learning.
- It puts less pressure on students and teachers to get through the course in a limited time. It allows for the benefit of long-term relationships that can't always happen within a quarter.
- My marking load is much more intense and it is much harder to plan engaging 2 and a half hour lessons.
- I prefer to work in the semester system as it allows for me to create a more hands on approach for my class rather than make sure that we are doing all the concepts during one 3 hours sitting. Although having less classes to juggle is one benefit of the quarter, I feel that in semester my strength as a teacher is building relationships, quarters are so quick I feel you are just getting to fully know your students and then they are gone. Students mental health is such a huge issue and with such a short time with them you are just learning how to help the navigate their stress, anxiety and they move on to a new teacher to try and build relationships. I feel that I do not know my students as well as I used to.

- Having 4 first day of classes is very tiring. Extra start up work is required to be done twice more in a school year - getting library texts, switching of classes in the counselling office occurs twice as often, running diploma exams involves twice as much set up for accommodations and exam time.

Teacher prep time is all or nothing in a quarter system. Generally, you do not have enough prep work to do to fill a whole morning or afternoon for one quarter but you do have enough prep work to do over a semester for one period per day.

Programs like Band are better in a semester system as the learning that occurs is retained better over time and students will have more time for at home practice.

- Similar reasons as above. Marking I felt was more in the quarter as we cover more a week, mental exhaustion. Q1 exams were equivalent to end of Jan if we were semester. Q2 exams will be equivalent to end of June in a semester. It is mentally draining to cover so much content at a fast pace. I feel I am working more, more evenings, weekends then I did in the semester.
- The amount of prep time is too condensed, and we do not have enough time to re-charge in this format. If you have a prep in the first quarter - you teach the rest of the year with no breaks. Then opposite to that, if you have it in the 4th Q, no breaks until spring. Anyway you look at it, teachers are going to burn out because it's too compact a system.
- The quarter system moves so quickly that there is incredible pressure to have assessments handed back the very next day. I find the pressure on the students means that I am offering extra help every day before school and at lunch, as well as some days after school. Some days are hard to even eat lunch.
- In the semester system I feel like I have time to really get to know my students better. I don't feel the pressure to have every second be moving forward with subject matter. I enjoy getting to see students develop their skills over a 5 month period, or the full year for Sr. Band. I also like being able to support my colleagues when they have something going on. Arts students are usually the first to go and support each other when we have drama performances or art displays. I have routinely taking my students to the theatre to be an audience for monologues, and other teachers have brought their classes to listen to the bands play. With the quarter system no one feels like they have a day to spare and it is VERY stressful on all involved.

There is also the fact that a quartered class goes by so fast that if a student is ill for 3 days it can be very detrimental to their success. If they are away for a week or two for any reason it is next to impossible for them to catch up. This is especially true in classes where work must be done in person using school resources. It also makes me feel like I can't take a couple of days off because my class would be so behind schedule I'd never recover. The most stressful 2 weeks of my career were when I had to quarantine last year and there was not a single sub teacher in the district who could teach band. Trying to make teaching through a screen work was a nightmare, and all because missing 2 weeks in a quarter system is the same as missing a month of regularly scheduled band.

- Having a prep for a semester is more logical than a half day prep in a quarter. Building relationships with students takes time and there's more time in a semester.
- The marking/feedback timelines are absolute drainers on English teachers (and probably other subject teachers as well). The requirement to get something back in a timely fashion is very intense. Although it is nice to be able to teach an entire text (short story, film, etc.) in one class period, the cons outweigh the pros at this point.
- Again, I am torn between the two as they both have pros and cons in the CTS teaching environment. On one hand, having a semestered system means I do not have as much turn-around between class start and end dates so I do not require as much prep time, but on the other hand in a quarter system with 2.5 hr. classes my students and I can really get into the work on projects with less time spent setting up, cleaning up, etc. that is typical of a shorter class in a semester system.
- Develop better relationships with students. 2 hour PE classes can be a lot for students and that can deter many of them from wanting to participate/take 20/30 level eventually.
- I actually like working in both systems.

However, I chose "semester because...

(1)Time is more balanced. For example, when something comes up and a presentation needs to be booked that time needs to be made up quickly given a class is only 2 months long.

(2) More students seek help outside of class time given the 74 minute class does not exhaust them like a 2.5 hour class does.

- Time does not seem to be as consistent in a quarter system as in a semester system. With one quarter being 41 days and the next being 37 days, the loss of 4 days is equivalent to 7-8 classes (assuming Friday is a short class). There seems to be less hours spent in a course in a quarter system as well. While changes to programming can adjust for this time, the long classes lead to inefficiencies - there is only so much variation that can be put into certain content and, despite a break, student attention can wane by the second hour of class. When it comes to marking final exams, the short exam break is also very challenging. An academic Social Studies course, for example, asks students to write two papers as part of their final exam. At two papers per student with 60 students over two classes, the result is marking 120 papers in a short time frame. While teachers compensate for this by doing these written tests during class time, the result is simply loss of precious class time. Asking a student to do a written assignment that takes one hour but giving up two hours (because of the necessity of providing double time for accommodations on final exams) means that one or two days of teaching is lost to complete both portions of the written final exam. Two days of teaching is equivalent to four classes on a semester system. This feels like a large sacrifice when the course already seems rushed. Another concern with the quarter system is that some of the larger, "holistic" projects cannot be done. There are some really effective "citizenship-building" projects in Social Studies 20 and 30 that connect multiple units and are spread out over 3-4 weeks - unfortunately, this is half the length of a typical course on the quarter system. Either such a project is taught too soon before the content is delivered or the project is completed well after the fact with many other major summative assessments occurring within that time frame. While these projects are not necessarily essential, the number of outcomes that they target are wide in scope and provide enrichment. Overall, like many students that I listen to, the pacing is not equivalent to four courses on a semester system. Despite hearing that the workload would be the same in either a quarter system or a semester system, the reality is that there are more opportunities to balance deadlines and stagger the workload for both students and teachers. I am also concerned about students taking Social Studies 20 in Q1 of one year and Social Studies 30 in Q4 of the next year. While our counsellors do a really good job of planning the timetable, it is challenging to meet all of the course requests of students.
- Planning for 2.5 hours is difficult. I find I can build better relationships with students if I have them for more days. There is also more time for attitude problems to develop when students are expected to be engaged and working for 2.5 hours.
- 1) Students have a scheduled break between classes rather than during the period of instruction. This results in less class disruptions.
2) Less work to sharing ISPs and Accommodations with integration teachers
3) Higher success with the integration of the Complex Needs students
- Lack of prep time in all other quarters is tough, feast or famine. For my 10-2 classes it is tough to keep them engaged without teaching two things at once
- I prefer the semester system because I teach both junior and senior high which means I teach many different classes each day. Having a new class every 9 weeks with all new kids (learning names and needs) and content to teach, makes a lot of extra work for a teacher. A semester system would slow things down and allow for me to breathe.
- There are times when there are benefits to the quarter system: being able to complete a short story or writing assignment in one period instead of over 2 or 3; only having to prep 2 classes instead of 4. Unfortunately, the downsides of the quarter system far outweigh these benefits.
 - The quarters are different lengths, which makes it difficult to ensure I am able to fully and properly teach all parts of the curriculum equally. 4 less days = 10 less hours of instruction in this system.
 - The marking needs to be done twice as fast (especially when I am trying to scaffold skills - a necessity for success for my students) but an essay still takes as long as an essay takes. I still need to take the time to read and understand student thinking.
 - In order to deal with this pace of marking, I have minimized the total amount of assignments (including formative). This gives students less opportunities to demonstrate their skills and understanding.
 - I have also had to revise and limit the amount of feedback I give, which is not in the best interest of the students.
 - When students do want extra help, the CHAT time in the morning is not always sufficient. Yes, we have flex time, but I often use the full 2.5 hours in order to cover my curriculum.
 - Prep time is also an issue. I often adapt my lessons and resources based on the needs of my

students - this takes time. Every day. Having a prep in Quarter 4 does not help me prepare my lessons or complete my marking for the other 3/4 of the school year.

- I prefer to work in a semester system because it is better for my students to learn the curriculum. They have the time to absorb, practice and truly learn. We are in a full sprint for 37 days right now in math 30-1. My workload is actually easier to manage in the quarter system though having to only prep 2 courses at a time.
- Semester timeframe allows for better relationship building with students.
- I feel like I have more time to incorporate projects for learning. I can give kids processing time before I move on to the next topic. I think my kids might actually remember more when I'm not shoving a chapter in per week.
- It feels like we have four first days of school- transitions from one set of classes to another. This has created greater demands in terms of workload. Furthermore, the frequency of transition and new teachers for each student has made it more difficult to effectively communicate the context/background of students to teachers so that are aware of factors outside of school that may be impacting their attendance/achievement, etc.
- Easier to navigate student needs, more time to make up weak concepts, if a student misses a day or two it isn't overly hard to get them caught as opposed to quarter where they missed 4-6 lessons.
- Honestly, this is a bit of a wash for me. I think that I have found success in both a semester system and the quarter system. The best parts about teaching in the quarter system are the fact that you only have two courses for which you must prepare, and the longer periods allow for meaningful scaffolding opportunities and multiple formative assessment opportunities.

The semester system provides a shorter period, where some of those things aren't possible. However I think that in a shorter period student engagement will be higher, and I can provide greater variety day-to-day in the methods that I use in my lessons.

Personally, my preference for the Semester System comes from my concerns for the students. As a professional, I can adapt to make either system work efficiently in my classroom and school; but I think that many students would benefit from a transition back to a semester system.

- The quarter system allows teachers to have less students to manage and less courses to prep for. However, I would prefer the semestered system overall because the benefit to the student outweighs the teacher benefit
- I feel the quarter system is too fast to build relationship. I get to know students for 8 to 9 weeks and then get another group of students. I rather have 5 months with a student then 8 or 9 weeks with them. I believe I can impact a student's learning if I have more time with that student. Teaching for 2.5 hours a day is not helping the students, to keep students engaged for that amount of time is very difficult. Extremely hard at the -3 or -4 levels.
- The intensity is way too much! It feels like you can never catch up and I am tired! November feels like May! I believe it takes time to get to know your students and for them to know and trust you! Now you are asking us to do the same job in half the time and then over and over again! We have report cards and interviews over and over again. These stress periods are now occurring more often then ever before
- I enjoy spending more time overall to build relationships with students. In the semester system, I have 18+ weeks to get to know my students, whereas in the quarter system, I only have 8-10 weeks. In the semester system, there had been more time built into to day for students to access academic supports.
- The quarter system makes it really difficult to plan for classes (especially when it's a new course), keep up with marking, and allow students opportunity to take feedback and improve their work.
- As a new teacher, the quarter system can be great - you get to focus on two classes, rather than juggling four. You get the opportunity to run through a course multiple times more in a year (i.e. you might teach biology 30 4 time rather than only 2 times), which allows you to master the material. You also only have to juggle learning 60 new names at a time, rather than 120, while also reducing the demand of communication with parents.

Downside: Having a prep in the quarter system is awful - you get a full three hours every day for one quarter, which is more time than is probably needed at that period of the year, and then afterwards you face no prep time and things become chaotic.

- The longer class periods are wearing on both the students and the teachers. Concentration levels tend to decrease especially for the students who are academically challenged.
- I think the semester system gives us more time to get to know students. Hard to say for sure as the only Quarter system we know has been heavily influenced by COVID.
- explained above
- Four reasons - Attendance, pace of the course, length of class, teacher prep time. Attendance - as I mentioned above the added stress on teachers having to catch students up when they miss is exhausting. In the quarter system we have to manage our time well since there are only 41 days to complete the course. If a handful of students miss an important concept it can throw off the planning for the rest of the unit, which then can impact the flow of the course. In supported learning courses, attendance is often a concern for many of our students. This makes covering the curriculum very difficult. Pace of the course - the amount of planning and marking has been unmanageable. It is very hard to provide authentic feedback when you are having to balance many different aspects of planning. Planning longer lessons has been stressful, planning when summative assessments occur, in order to balance marking loads has also been proven difficult, especially when I am planning new courses every year. If a teacher misses a day (it is bound to happen) and the sub does not cover all the required content, this puts the teacher and students behind as that is 1/41 days gone. I understand the minutes do add up the same, but students do not have adequate time to grow in their learning in the quarter system, and thus in some courses we aren't able to meet all the required learner outcomes. This puts even more work and stress on the teacher. Length of class - teaching and planning the same subject for 3 hours is time-consuming. Most of my students learn at a slower pace, thus I feel I am rushing them in order to cover the entire curriculum. Having to give frequent breaks in a 3 hour class also leads to decreased minutes of instruction and learning. This could be prevented if the classes were not so long. Teacher prep time - due to the timetable our preps only occur one quarter. Thus we need to use this time affectively to plan for the rest of the year - so we have a balanced work and personal life. It is difficult to plan a course in advance when I don't know my students. Having a prep spread out throughout the year is more effective in creating meaningful learning goals and assessments for the optimal learning environment.
- I think for Jr. high options, a semester system provides us with more opportunity to get to know the kids and be able to develop relationships. This in turn creates a more positive school environment. Also, students are not put into options they don't necessarily want to be in.
- Because it is what I firmly believe is best for kids.
- I don't teach specific courses, but I have found we have more flexibility to use class time to register students or do career planning in the semester system.
- There are benefits as a teacher to work in a quarter system: allows me to communicate with fewer students and parents; teach the same course multiple times in a year to gain more experience; less daily planning since I have less courses to plan for in a day. However, at the end of the day, for courses I teach, the benefits to my life do not outweigh what is better for kids long term learning and that is why we are here.
- I believe that a semester system is in the best interest of my students. I actually feel that the quarter system is easier on me as a teacher, but definitely not optimal for my students. We need what is best for my students and that is a semester system.
- My work preferences for teaching? - 75 minutes not 150min stays fresher to change classes. Double quarter classes in a day is demanding, and a large "prep" for only 2.5 months is not effective use of time for the whole year. One 75 min period for 5 months helps for teacher preservation too. Personally, teaching 2 classes, and coaching until 6:30pm was very demanding for the quarter.
Having only 2 sets of kids is good, but a great group of kids feel like they are gone too soon in a quarter. You don't get enough time to really establish relationships and the whole class potential in just 2.5 months.
- Though I enjoy the ability to focus on only two courses at a time, I have found that semester allows me to better formatively assess students which majorly impacts how I reflect on my teaching.
- I can see the pros and cons to the quarter system. It is nice for students and teachers to focus on only 2 courses. I started back to teaching during the quarter system so I am used to it, but I find there are times when there isn't time to do some of the types of assignments that help students build the skills that they will need at the next level. It can also be tricky to keep students engaged for 2.5 hours.

- Advantages/disadvantages to both. Bottom line is that I feel semesters are best for kids so that's what I pick.

Quarters:

As a teacher, I like that quarter system only has me dealing with 50-60 kids/families at a time. Easier to keep up with communication and such. I only plan 2 classes a day, not 4.

I hate that I teach 6/7 of my classes with zero prep time and that when I do get my prep, it's 2.5 hrs daily while I prep one class. There's no way that I will efficiently use/need that much time to prep one class. Prep time is significantly more beneficial to me when it's every day for half the year, while I still have 3 classes to prep.

I hate trying to entertain kids for 2.5 hrs. Nobody has the attention span for that. Including me.

The sheer amount of content dumped on kids in a 2.5 hr class of a high end science class is simply overwhelming to many/most students.

If kids miss a couple of days in a row for whatever reason, it's like missing nearly an entire week of semestered classes. That's incredibly overwhelming for students. For some, depending on the student and the content missed, this proves to be nearly insurmountable.

I like the extra time on the few days that my classes are doing large labs, but that's not very often.

Four start-ups and wrap-ups a year seems to be quite exhausting as well. Always feels like we're starting and stopping instead of the continuity afforded by the semester system.

Semesters:

Although I find teaching more difficult in a semester because of the number of students I deal with at a time and having to plan 2-4 different courses at a time, the shorter classes give students the opportunity to master content rather than survive content. They are more able to focus on my lessons and they get time to digest material before applying it to the next outcome learned.

Semesters also allow for scheduled break time that can be more easily supervised and monitored because it's 15 minutes at a specific time, not random and seeing students out of class most hours of the school day.

- For all the reasons listed above as well as for marking tests/quizzes/etc the timeline is more strict because the class is moving ahead so quickly.

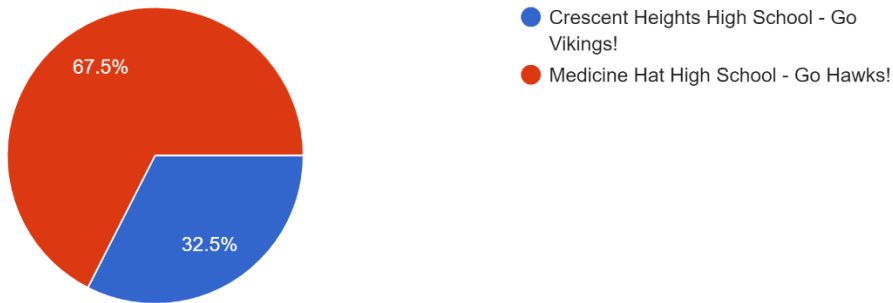
Supervision is also more demanding since it is consecutive days without breaks.

Trying to catch students up who have missed consecutive days is more difficult because they have missed a lot more content.

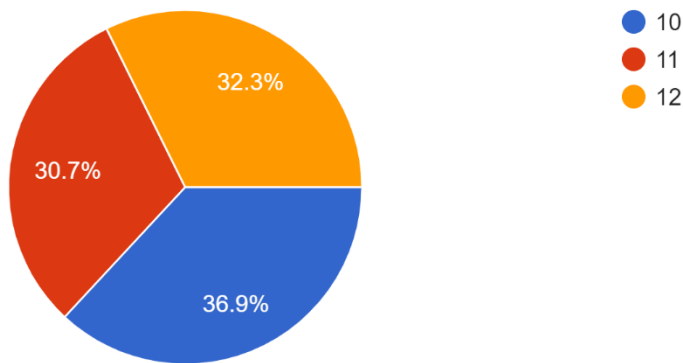
- Length of classes.
- Semester system you have more of an opportunity to build a rapport and relationship with students. I feel in a semester system you have the opportunity to review and build on understanding especially if student's are struggling with different concepts.
- There is more time to develop relationships with the kids that are vital to their progress.

Undecided: I'm indifferent. Either work for my classes. The kids are working well in both quarter and semester.

What school do you attend?
865 responses



What grade are you in?
875 responses



Student Preferences - Breakdown by grade: (the following data includes French immersion students, as broken down in the section below)

	Quarter System		Semester System	
Grade 10	73.1% (427 Students)	58.5 % (250 students)	26.9% (157 students)	42.6% (67 Students)
Grade 11		41% (177 students)		56% (88 students)
Grade 12	53% (150 students)		47% (133 students)	
TOTAL	67% (577 students)		33% (290 students)	867 total student responses

COMMENTS: grade 10&11 students who think the QUARTER system will benefit students

GRADE 10's:

- I actually get more time to work on stuff.
- Focus on one cores subject
- Although the quarter system is moving faster, there is more help going out to students who need it. Less moving around during the day too.
- Quarter cause it goes by quicker
- Easier to understand with only two subjects to learn.
- You are able to focus more on a specific subject than worrying about all of them at once
- Keeps things organized
- Love it. Hard to focus so this is awesone
- It's less stressful
- less stress about having multiple classes, though math is a test every other day because of the amount of work being done, and that is more stressful. maybe make it so that there is more breaks and it runs little slower, just so kids aren't as packed full of math in a day, we wont remember any of it with that much in one day.
- I like that we only have 2 classes because then it is kind of less stress, and less exams to have to have to study for at once
- Quarters are less stressful overall, unless youre in specific classes like Science or Math and personally its a little too fast in Social. Semesters are awful because you get everything at once and you dont remember it at the end of the year when you have to do this massive final exam. where with quarters you get 4 weeks of finals which are only two days and the rest you get off, its fun!
- I've only done quarters for high school. I think there are advantages and disadvantages to both, but I enjoy the quarters so far.
- Because i can focus on only 2 classes instead of four classes at once.
- I personally think it's easier to manage two classes instead of four. it's easier to get work done in class because of how long the classes are.
- it is easier to manage, not as much moving around.
- Because I'm only focusing on 2 things at a time
- Because it's better
- I like it better because it is easier to just focus one one or two classes instead of having to study for 4 classes every night. It also will make the option classes longer so if I am in athletic performance I can get a better workout in.
- I like the Quarter system because it's easier to stay on task and I don't have to move around a lot.
- There is less classes to worry about. lots more time to work. I just feel like id prefer it
- i like the quarter system because it allows the work load to be spread out through the school year instead of being bombarded with 4 different work ethics in each semester.
- is easier to keep track of the work you get from your teacher, and there is a lot of stress of having 4 courses to work on and keep track of the work you have to complete.
- I find it easier to keep track of things and even though it goes by quicker i feel like its easier.
- I am good what is going on and why we have two courses and 4 quarters
- I like the quarter system because i feel like you actually have time to start a project and make decent progress on it in option classes and its alot less moving around
- It's less of a work load and can focus on one core class
- i like it
- Easier to manage, and I like that classes only take 10 weeks. It allows for more work time in class, so that means less homework. It's a little overbearing when you miss a day, for sickness or other reasons, but if you show up, it's worth your time. I like the fact that we do get breaks, because 2.5 hours is a long time to be sitting. It also means we cover more in class, which for me is important because I am always bored, so it helps that we cover mutiple topics in class.
- it allows me to put all my focus on 1-2 subjects
- Because then you have less to focus on and you can focus on that one subject

- I chose quarter because I enjoy the long classes, it feels like I can really get work done, and I don't have to worry about a crazy amount of work in all my classes, since I only have to focus on two per quarter.
- I prefer the quarter system because i can focus on one core subject at a time and it feels like it makes school easier and better.
- I like how I can focus on one core class a day
- it lets me focus on 2 subjects which is less stress for me
- less homework and more time to spend on classes
- I like it this way because it is nice to not have to focus on so many classes and to only have to focus on one exam instead of study for 2 or more and don't have to remember so many things from different classes
- To get them done fast
- Easier to get caught up on all of the required work and with semester system I see myself ahead in some subjects but far behind in others.
- Easier to manage your work, and less classes to focus on
- I think that the(2 courses per quarter, 4 quarters per year). It's easier because when you have 2 classes you don't have to care about anything else other than the 2 classes you have.
- i like slower schedules and the quarter system is easy and i find it less stressful
- its easy to manage theres less moving around less stress about home work because you only have 2 classes
- you dont have as much to worry or focus on, and the days go by quicker because they take up so much time
- The first one because its easy for you to focus even more and it's only 2 subject you gonna do every quarter especially you have a job and you don't have time to do your homework... It's hard for me to do the semester and having 4 courses at the same time...
- Because it's easier to focus on one subject per quarter than as for 4.
- I enjoy the quarter system because I can keep track of my work easier. There are only two classes and you can get an option class so you can get only one main class to focus on.
- I can focus on two things, and I get less homework. Longer breaks in classes would be much nicer though because sitting for 2 and a half hours and only getting about 14 minute breaks is tiring.
- more time to understand the class, less home work for people with jobs and sports, more time for hands on class, you don't have to many finals to study for, less stress for people with double core and with that people are happier.
- its easy to keep track of what your doing and you have less problems when you ask for help
- its easier to manage 2 classes rather than 4
- you can focus on one subject at a time which is less stress on me and also my grade have improved so much when i have two classes a day
- It gives us time to focus on just one main subject
- Quarter system lets me focus on only two class at once, so far me its easier and less stressful.
- Much less to be stressed about. Easier schedule, more time to work on projects.
- it way easier to get work done on time cause you just have to focuses on two things i really prefer the quarter system
- You have less to focus on at once, so there's less on your plate. You also have more chances to be in a class with a friend.
- because it dosnt make you as stressed because you only have to focus on 2 classes
- We have a lot more time to finish things with the 3 hour classes. Though with some classes it can be exhausting, it really is better in the long run as we have a lot more time to ask questions and process things.
- less to study per time makes it easier to remember all the stuff in the class
- It's easier and less stress
- I prefer the quarter system because i don't have to worry about all of my core classes in the same semester.
- it is alot less stressful helps me focouse on less work
- The less classes you are in at once allows more focus to the classes you are in, so quarter having 2 classes is better cause youre focusing on 2 classes, where 4 is more to acknowledge. Kids only hate the quarter system cause they are "bored" due to the work time we have. better more work time then not enough

- because then i can focus more on one or 2 classes than have to focus on 4 and its just a lot easier
- Because I like how we can focus on two classes and not four
- for exams its better
- It is easier on my schedule and my mental health is better knowing I do not have to stress over all my classes at a time
- I only have to focus on 2 classes until the end of the quarter. Yes, the classes move quicker but I find it a lot easier when there isn't as many classes to worry about
- It makes everything easier to manage and I find I learn more in the quarter system
- i like the quarter system becasue its more easy to keep up with 2 classes insted of 4
- i like focusing on one subject at a time
- Less work load, can put more effort into the two classes than four classes
- is easier to focus on the two classes and whats due for them rather than having to focus on four classes at at time and the work for them.
- Because it allows students to focus better on their classes and for the professor teach more content during classes.
- By only having two classes each quarter instead of four it makes it so that you don't have to balance homework between four classes. It also feels as if we accomplish a lot in one day, because one quarter class is worth two and a half normal classes.
- Because you have less classes each time you have the same classes every day and you can focus more.
- There's only two classes a day
- The quarter system allows me to focus on one core subject and an elective, whereas the semester creates stress more stress about 2 or more core subjects.
- I like the quarter system because it give me less homework but It feels like a lot of cramming in class
- I think it reduces the amount of wasted/extra time student have. This allows student to be more efficient in school and less time where there is no work to do or caos in class
- Easier to learn b/c it is only 2 subjects, also gym class is longer
- I feel like it is a lot easier to obtain knowledge when you only have to focus on two subjects at a time.
- more time to focus on just one subject make studying and such easier
- I prefer this due to the fact I only have to focus on two classes instead of 4 which reduces stress and less homework to stress about with all the classes. It also has it easier on my brain in which I don't have to try and remember four different subjects and then do finals on all of them in the same week.
- I like the quarter system because I only have to focus on two subjects and don't have to try to remember things from the beginning of the year for final exams. I personally have not done the semester system so I don't know what it is like, but I do still think I would rather do this system than that system because I can finish a subject and not have to do it for the rest of the year.
- never done semester before
- I find that its way easier to do my work, its not boring and you meet people at a better basis i find.
- Its easier to focus on 2 subjects instead of 4, and its nice to switch it up
- It's easier to focus.
Easier to work all at once vs a bit everyday
More time to know people
- So I only need to focus on 2 classes at a time and i am ok with working fast as long as you stay caught up and do your assignments it would most likely be easier then the semester system.
- its easier to keep track of clsses and theres less homework because for the students who have extracurriculars or a job its easier to manage time beacuse we have more class time [er class.
- I like to be able to focus on two classes instead of having 4 classes trying to retain a lot of information for tests. Its a lot easier because i can get a lot of information and do better on tests and work because i am focusing on two things instead of four. aving finals after each quarter is a lot more helpful because you already have all of information without forgetting.
- It was so easy to learn yiu have so much time to figure stuff out
- I get to focus on two specific classes instead of four, so I can keep my grades high.
- I like the quarter system better beacuse i find its easier, yes it does get boring after a while but we have alot of time to work in class. and its less stressfull.

- I like the quarter system because I only have to focus on two classes at a time and not 4, it's easy to manage and having 2 and half hour classes gives me the perfect amount of time to finish all my work, 45 min classes never gives me the right amount of time because I need a 5 to sometimes 10 mins to think about and actually understand what was said and what I want to write about. When it comes to math and science, I can understand how hard it would be, I haven't had those classes yet, so I do not know how hard it is.
- It is easier to manage 2 classes a day rather than 4
- It's easier, you can faster pace, you can get a class done and over with.
- it's less stressful then having 4 classes a day
- Better focus and time management
- less stress unless you have 2 core subjects
- Easier to focus on 2 classes rather than 4
- I don't know how the normal semester works.
- remember stuff that you have learnt easier and can get classes done quicker
- It's easier to focus on two classes at a time as opposed to four classes, it makes school more manageable.
- I prefer the quarter system because it gives less daily work to the student and there are less separate subjects to think about in a day.
- I like that there is only 1 core subject per quarter so far at least because then my workload is less and I don't need to worry about studying for 2 final exams at a time but only 1.
- Easier to get caught up with homework
- i have less homework and i'm able to focus more on cores i think if you have good teachers and only one core a quarter the quarter system can go by easily although it's not essential for topics like math science or learning a second language it can be less stressful at times.
- I love the quarter system because I feel like having 2 classes to focus on is less stressful. Yes it may be a lot of learning at once but I would rather learn more and have longer periods of 1 class then there is only 2 classes to focus on. It is also nice to be finished a class for the year once that quarter is over. I feel like a semester system would be a lot to take on after a year of only focusing on 2 classes. I really hope this system sticks.
- It makes it so much easier, because I can focus on one core subject and then my option class is easy which means I can get better marks in my core class.
- Quarter is easier to me, because we had less subjects. And this is help me to understand more.
- I honestly don't care
- Never done semester
- Change is better
- It seems to go by faster
- You can focus more on core classes.
- Easier to stay organized
- Only got to focus on one major subject and then have an easy option
- In my opinion, the work load is easier on the students.
- So i can focus on 1 class at a time and prepare for one exam at a time. The only problem is it can be hard to stay on track as we move through topics faster.
- less to worry about but the classes feels like they are way to long. and if your teacher is moving too fast and you don't understand and she doesnt try and explain it in a different way at all your going to fail the class.
- its the only one i've ever had so i have no opinion on the semesters
- there are less classes to focus on, and even though there's a little more homework and we move faster, I prefer to only have to focus on usually on core class per quarter. It feels less overwhelming because there are only up to 2 core classes you have to focus on.
- I only have to worry about 2 subject!!! That's the best
- it is easier
- because its easier to manage 2 classes rather than 4
- Because we cant focus and sometimes it's too much to contain it all and remember.
- it is easier to focus on 2 courses at a time then it would be 4 at a time.
- Because you can focus on less subjects each quarter
- The long classes can be gruelling but only having two classes to worry about at a time is nice enough to accept the long classes

- I'd rather only have to worry about doing 2 courses so I have half the day to focus on one course and then the other half for the other one. And by keeping it one main subject and then an option it really makes it more fun in the option so you have more time to do your projects
- I think it's easier to focus on one main class than 4 main classes and I like breaks
- I think it's just more efficient in the sense of learning and I feel the Quarter system is better because it's slowed down
- I like the quarter system because you have more time to do your work
- It's less to deal with
- I don't like having 4 courses each day
- Because it moves faster and there is less homework and it's not as much pressure
- The quarter system allows me to focus on one or two subjects, and if they have homework or not. This way I don't have to get too overwhelmed with assignments, and also I can make a fresh start almost every quarter change, allowing me to make friends with different people; it can be nice to see new faces.
- Can focus on only two subjects and don't have to remind what happened a long time ago
- I like this more because the time is lessened in each class and I feel that 4 courses and 2 quarters is a lot more work
- Easier to get all the work done
- Because it is easy and I don't like the semester it is very hard
- School feels like it goes by faster
- Cause it goes by faster but more work but longer hours
- It makes it easier because it is simpler to have 2 classes than 4 classes
- Feels like it goes by faster and I get more concentrated
- You are only in 2 classes for a shorter time within the year. You do not have the subject for very long.
- It's easier for me to focus on just two subjects at a time and I'm able to therefore do better work because there's less for me to worry about. I also like it because if there's a subject I don't like I can be done with it in a couple months.
- I like parts of the quarter system like how we only have to focus on 2 classes at a time. I have never experienced the semester system so I don't know how that would be but I think it would be more stressful with more classes.
- Easier to handle the amount of homework because you are only taking two classes at a time, and usually one of them is easy. Another reason is that at the end of the quarter you only need to worry about 2 final exams, and depending on the classes you are taking in that quarter, it might only be one.
- We only get to focus on two subjects and this allows me to focus on only two things and usually the options aren't very hard so I just study for my test for my other class
- Only have to focus on one or two classes at a time
- I find it easier to remember things rather than 4 courses a day
- Because I get 2 1/2 hours to work and catch up on everything
- Better
- I like having only two things to study for
- There is less stress with having to deal with multiple finals at once, gives you a chance to enjoy subjects quickly so you know if you like it or not, classwork is more focused when there's only 2 options
- Less stress, less to focus on, can stay more organized
- It's gets to be so stressful having 4 classes and if we had 4 classes that means more exams at once at ones which causes more stress.
- I'd prefer to have 2 classes per day, and then just be done with those classes for the rest of the year when the quarter is done
- Only 2 things to worry about
- I am getting better grades and feel I have an easier time learning
- It is very nice to have one core class to focus on at a time. Having all core classes together would be very stressful.
- It's just easier to know your schedule and it's less stressful to only have two classes a day
- It is easier to do work
- It's easier to focus on studies when you are only in two separate classes. The only downside I see is some students can become tired of their current subjects.

- Just nicer to view core classes this way, instead of doing English, science, math, all together it's kind of like doing one at a time, more focus on 1 then spreading focus across all 3 core classes. Also it's easier to switch classes and options around
- It just works for me, it's faster paced but the workload is less overall because I only have to focus on two classes, though band is harder because I'm not there the full year for trips
- I prefer the quarter system. This is because there is less days for each class because they are longer. Due to this less time there is less time that i have to remember all the things i've learned. It's also faster paced which is helpful to my learning.
- Less classes to manage, feels efficient with work, and less travelling around the school
- it's much easier having less classes to worry about rather than 4 different classes at once.
- It's at a faster pace, which I like. Also, I don't have to focus on 5 different classes a day, and if I have a class that I don't enjoy it will be over in a few weeks. Its just so much better than semesters
- i'm just so used to it and honestly for me i like the pace we work with for quarter and if we go back to online it would be easier and if we went back to semester and then go back to online we will go back to having the problem that caused us to go to the quarter system
- I prefer the Quarter system because it means that we dont have to be learning 2 core subjects at the same time and can be spaced out more. I also like it better because it means that i there is a teacher I dont get along with I am not stuck with them for as long and only have to be with them for a little. The only bad thing about the Quarter system is the fact that for Math it feels very rushed, it is a lot to take in, in one class sitting. At the same time though it could be the teacher I have, only giving us 5 minute breaks that makes it hard for me to take it in. In the end though I think the benefits of the quarter system outweighs the bad of it.
- I enjoy the quarter because the information is still fresh in your brain. Though I also really don't like it because it's way to fast pace for some subjects. I also can't afford to get sick because of i do and I miss school I will be too behind and it is stressful. But having two less classes to worry about it good. It's good and bad at the same time :/
- I feel that I'm able to accomplish more with the longer class times and the fact that I'm only focusing on 2 classes.
- I like it because there is less running around to get from class to class. You only need to worry about two classes at a time, instead of four. It's easier to understand and balance everything. Sure you may get two core classes in one quarter but then they are over and you don't have to bother with it anymore.
- I'm not sure what I would prefer since I have only had the quarter system, I like the quarter because everything moves by fast and you don't have multiple classes to remember all the material for but it can also be boring in the same class for 2 and a half hours and if you miss a day their is a lot to catch up on. I'm not sure what I would prefer.
- It puts less on your plate all at once, and if you have an option with a core, you can have your focus on your core, without the stress of the option
- Less stress and way easier
- I prefer it because it gives me much less I need to focus on at once and it takes loads of stress off my shoulders
- The longer classes
- It's easier
- I like getting classes over with, and there's less homework since we are only taking 2 classes instead of 4. Plus we have less exams in a short amount of time at the end of each quarter.
- It's much easier to focus on 2 classes rather than 6.
- Less classes lets me focus on the ones I already have and give my all.
- gives me more time to focus on individual classes (almost) and it helps me concentrate on what i need to do. while as the semester system makes it hard to focus on my classes because there are too many in a day.
- Less classes stacking up, takes off a level of stress
- because
- Finishing the courses sooner, days go by quicker, easier to remember what was learned
- I enjoy 2 courses per quarter because it gives me a chance to focus better on those two at a time instead of the 4
- It makes it much easier to understand thing because I have more time and I feel like I'm learning more then when it was semesters
- Focus more on those classes
- My grades are the best that they have ever been

- easier to figure out
- b because it is easier to keep track of and manage
- I find it less stressful
- i like only having to focus on one or two core classes at a time. it moves fast but the information remains in my brain for longer rather than forgetting it halfway through.
- A lot easier on me and less stress
- I can focus on one unit and put all 110% into just the one unit or sometimes 2
- i really dont care alot it dosnt affect me at all
- I more time to focus on one subject at once rather than struggling in all of my subjects in the semester because of lack of time
- It is easier to focus on fewer topics at a time
- As someone with adhd and finds it hard to remember lots of subjects at a time it's easier if I just have to focus on two things at a time
- I dont have to learn and prepare for multiple classes at once
- shorter amount of time to forget the subjects im working on
- it gives you the oppertunity to only have to focus on 1-2 class instead of having to stress about having 3 or 4
- more time to work on individual classes and assignments
- Quarter system is better for me but semester system also has lots of benefits. I like how I only have to worry about two classes at a time in the quarter system. I find it easier to manage my time and homework
- much better
- Let's me focus on 2 subjects at once
- ldk
- it is easier on me mentally to only have to focus on two classes a day, instead of switching up more often
- it's hard for me to stay on focus and it leads to me skipping because it's too hard for me to handle
- I feel like u get more done and retain more knowledge in a smaller amount of time
- less time to forget subjects (gym sucks though)
- The work stays fresh in my brain instead of having an exam at the end of a semester where I often forget. Goes through classes faster.
- I can be more focused on my main classes and i can get more work done during the 2 hour classes
- With sports it's a lot easier to only have to focus on two classes at once. Even though it is faster it makes life a lot more simpler when you're practicing for 2 hours then have to go home and have supper. To only have to study for one lesson or two is so much easier
- It has some drawbacks like the pace but at the same time, we only have two classes to focus on at a time (and usually only one core class with an option class), also we don't have to have all of our exams at around the same time.
- I can keep up with my assignments
- I just like the 2 course
- I prefer the quarter system because I can get through the classes I don't like first quarter and then move onto the classes that I actually enjoy
- Less to worry about, more class time, less homework.
- I like the quarter system because its easier to keep track of lots of work in only 2 classes compared to less work in 4
- i like it
- I like how with the quarter system we get done our classes within a couple months. However I don't like the amount of work and the pase it goes at
- Because there is less classes per quarter and I like the excelerated pase when getting things done. And the two and a half hours is plenty of time for me personally to get things done.
- The quarter system has higher organization; only needing to focus on 2 subjects rather than 4 allows more flow within the subjects. It is much easier to concentrate and complete assignments in the quarter system.
- faster pased but also have more time to focus on 1 subject
- I find that the quarter system helps me focus on just 2 subjects at a time and out more effort into thos 2 classes. One example I had is Phys Ed in first quarter and 3 hours of it helped actually get benefit from doing the class. Same with Film and Media Arts, having 3 hours in the

morning to watch the film's is more beneficial than watching it over a week and lets us get more done. So in short, the quarter system is more helpful because it helps me focus on only 2 classes and get more done instead of 4 for an hour a day.

- I like it more, Because we have to worry less about having a whole bunch of classes at the same time, and that we'd Normally have different homework for everyone of those classes. I don't know it's just better.
- Less homework to worry about. Longer to work on things in class
- Give us more time to study in the quarter system. Mainly for diplomas. My diploma this year is the day after my last day of learning the last unit which is not fair to my learning. I know I could excelle in all my class but right now I am only do average and that is not fair

GRADE 11's

- The Quarter System allows me to focus on one core class, sometimes two and allows for efficient time to study the content to do well on exams and achieve success.
- Can finish all our work in class. Do assignments, write a full essay, have longer for tests. We also only have to focus on two classes at once and not have to worry about taking four different classes at one time. It would also prepare us for college or university when we have 2 or 3 hour lectures or clsses
- There is so much information thrown at us, it's better to focus on only 2 subjects at a time
- The quarter system has given me the oppurtunity to focus on only two classes without the extra hassle. The two and a half hours given provides the ability to futhermore learn the topic, as well as extra time to ask for help from teachers. It has also given me oppurtunities to fast track classes (ex. social 20 in quarter 3, social 30 in quarter 4), which would not work in a semestered system.
- I've only known the quarter system since I started last year at Hat High in Grade 10 because of Covid. I prefer it because it is way less to manage with just having two classes. As someone who doesn't deal well with stress that well I like just having two classes. I've never had the option of a Semester and maybe if I wear to just have one core class and same for example gym and two other options I wouldn't mind it as much but if I somehow ended up with like 3 core classes that would be way, way, way to much stress and management.
- It is less stressful only having to worry about two classes especially when it comes to finals. And for the people that have jobs or other things outside of school it is less they have to worry about at a time.
- i liked the quarter system because its nice to be able to focus on less classes at one time and its easier to study for them and make time for my life still. i would like the quarter system if we did 9-2;30 but if your not able to do 9-2;30 i would really like a longer lunch because we dont have enough time with half an hour. i also really like in the quarter system how we have half day fridays. overall i really like the quarter system and would prefer to do it next year instead of the quarter
- Less classes to focus on at one time, I liked when we started at 9 and ended at 2:30 because I feel like the classes weren't to long but a good length or I would like a longer lunch because our lunch feels rushed, I like half day Fridays.
- It is easier to focus on my work
- its easier
- Only have to focus on two subjects instead of four
- its easier to focus on only two classes
- idk its school
- we dont have much class
- Because if I have a core class and then an option I only have to focus on one classes exams.
- i think it's easier only having two subjects to focus on rather then four, because although classes go fast i think more classes and more homework would be more stressful.
- i just like it better
- it is so much more manageable only focusing on 2 classes at once
- less homework, more time in class to learn, a lot less stress,
- easier to focus on 2 classes instead of 4
- Easier, better for mental health
- it feels like it makes the days and classes go a little bit faster and you can learn a bit more and exam will be easier
- Less stressful when it comes to exam time and in general when we have homework/studying.
- I enjoy being focused on only two classes per quarter
- I haven't gotten the chance to ever experience the semester program. I'm not opposed to either.

- I like being able to just focus on two classes at once. It can get stressful because there is more to cover in one day but its easier to learn in two classes then in four.
-
- it is fast but then its not so stressful with exams because you have 1 maybe 2
- I haven't had the semester system yet so I guess the quarter system is better
- I would honestly fail school if we went back to the Semester system, the Quarter system has worked really well on my mental health and I personally believe I wouldn't handle it with my mental health as well as other students might not be able to handle it as 2 classes per quarter has been really good for a lot of people's grades including myself, if it wasn't for the quarter system I would be failing right now but my grades are in the high 80s and 90s.
- Much easier for me to focus on two classes than four, and doing the same things for half a year would get boring and difficult
- Both. because there advantages and disadvantages in both
- Less stress.
- I don't know, I just like it. If it's a class I really like, then I get to do for like three hours a day. If it's a class I struggle with, well when it's over it's over.
- Easier to focus on 2 classes at once rather than all in one day
- It gives me time to study well for one test for each subject, even if I have multiple. It's easier to manage then studying for 2-4 tests in a week.
It isn't so crammed and stressful when you only have two classes to study for instead of 3 or 4
- Less home work
- Because I don't have to much work.
- I prefer the smaller amount of classes to focus on, it makes things a lot less stressful when exam time comes! i would prefer if the work was slower paced though, it's exhausting to go through a unit a day in social 30-1
- we have less homework and more class time to do work. we have a longer spare.
- Because I don't have to much work.
- The Quarter System has been the system that I have been through for two years already. It helps me to ensure that I'm putting focus into my classes.
- I like that I get more time to work on assignments.
- I don't have to worry about more then 2 classes at a time however they are very long and breaks are needed during class but many teachers don't give those breaks. also it's really hard to catch up if you miss a few days as the classes go by really fast. i've never done the semester system but i feel like if you had more then 2 core classes at once it would be difficult especially if you had diplomas to write.
-
- it enables me to get rid of a hole line of classes in one year (Japanese 10,20 and 30 for example) further more I find it much more comfortable to just concentrate on 2 Classes. Only having 2 tests every few weeks is way nicer than 4. With Homework its similar. It does not stresses me out nearly as much as 4 classes would.
- It's easier to manage 2 courses at a time and it gives you more opportunities for choosing subjects (for example taking Japanese 10,20,30 all in one year).
- the only reason why i like it is because its all ive known in highschool, and you can finish the course in a short amount of time. otherwise, it is too overwhelming and hard to fully grasp the material being handed to me. i do not like having 2 cores together.
- There's less stress in a day and as a student I have a better time learning as the quarter system provides much more time for access help if needed. Learning is also made easier as one can focus on the subjects more, than skipping from class to class and being overloaded with many different subjects.
- its less moving around and it may be a little more fast paced but you get a lot done
- it's easier to only deal with two classes at once
- i have no stress and i can focus on one thing at a time
- because it helps me to understand the lesson better, because when we take a four subject on the day I think it will be hard.
- I feel like it gives more time in class to focus on the specific topics that we are being taught, as well as not overloading us with 4 different classes all at once. It also gives me plenty of time in my cooking classes to finish recipes which is very useful.
- Because I can focus on one or two core classes, instead of doing 4 classes and getting stressed out because there is so much more to worry about and work on.
- It makes it easy to focus on two classes instead of four

- A lot less work to focus on, I feel like I can get better grades and be less stressed only focusing on 2 classes. With four classes depending on what they are there is definitely a lot more work then there is now, and that's a lot more pressure.
- Makes it easy to focus on two classes instead of four per quarter
- if you have 2 core class in the span of 2 quarters, if your not a high grade student you maybe could fail or not have a high enough mark to pass.
- I like that there not time to f**k around so i go to class
- it allows me to forces more on 2 classes
- because you only have to focus on 2 classes instead of 4 and having 4 classes would kinda be a stress overload for some students
- Makes it easier to keep task of classes - not overwhelming for final exams per quarter.
- less classes to work on and more class time. breaks in between quarters
- Less stressful and better time management and learning for 2 subjects rather than 5 different ones.
- It's easier to focus or classes instead of having 4 at one time
- most times u only have one core class at a time and i think it's easier to manage, i was at mccooy for the first half of grade 10 so i experienced kind of what a semester system is like and i preferred the quarter system
- It's the only one I've done but I would like semesters better probably
- It gives me a lot more time to focus on the two subjects I'm learning and I have already gotten used to the quarter system and it would just be to much struggle to get used to a different one
- You have more time in each class each day to finish work and get more done. This also gives more time to ask questions and get help. With a semester system there is way to many classes happening at once which can lead to more confusion and getting less work done.
- The quarter system has its up and downs, but so does the semester system. Since i am in grade 11 i'm only used to the quarter system other then when i went to chhs in middle school that was semesters. I like the quarter system becuase the classes are over pretty fast but that's also a down point of it, stuffing all this info into my brain in 2 months is very hard especially with 2-1/2 hour classes. Quarter system is also beneficial when it comes to final exams becuase you will have max 2 finals if you do 2 core classes but with semesters it can get up to 4 exams over a long period of time it's hard to remeber stuff from the beginning of the class.
- It has Less classes to worry about and it's Less confusing. I have never experienced the semester but it didn't sound fun. The semester system sounded messy.
- easier to manage
- Its easier to manage homework. I find it easiest to focus on on thing at a time for a longer period. Also when it comes to finals it's only one or two exams as opposed to 3 or 4 with how the semester system works. It also allows student who have a spare in the afternoon to be able to leave school and start working earlier than if they had to go right from school. I would like my grad year to still be on the quarter system.
- I like the quarter system because at most I only have to worry about 2 finals per quarter and most of the time it is only one
- This is only because I am used to it and it's nice to have two classes at once.
- As much as it can be hard to sit through the long length of classes in the quarter system, there is a sense of relief knowing that I only have to worry about two classes. It makes it easier to keep track of my assignments and test dates.
- I've never experienced the semester system
- i like the quarter system because i enjoy having a class for only about two and a half months and i feel like the quarter system allows students to focus more on two courses, not four. if you had four core subjects in the first semester, that is very stressful compared to if you only had two cores and a bit longer classes.
- You can just concentrate on two courses at the time and therefore you also have less homework etc.
- Less time to remember things for exams, less subjects to focus on (only not happy that we don't get band all year)
- more use to
- i like having only two classes to worry about rather then four, i think i would be way more stressed with 4 classes
- Because it's ballin
- i think that having 2 classes is easier to handle the work load rather than having 4 classes, right now i have chem and anatomy and it was hard to balance but it is easier to focus and do well in 2 classes rather then do okay in 4

- because it give you time to focus on 2 classes for 10 or so weeks you might have the longer classes and less time to learn and keep what you learned but its much easier to focus on 2 classes rather then 4
- Don't get distracted and bored as easily
- I like quarter because it doesnt overwhelm meon the workload because theres only 2 clssses in the span of 3ish months
- It's just easier and less stressful cause you only have to focus on two subjects
- I like how the quarter systems are
- only thing i have ever known in high school
- i like the quarter system more because it switches up your coueses frequently, i can't work on math for half the course. its just too much and it makes it a lot less boring
- It's a better balance and it's easier to focus on one main subject at a time, the work load is less and I've been getting way better grades like 10-20% better. Unfortunately I did not do grade 10 here but at my old school we did the semester system and it was really stressful and hard on my mental health dealing with so much work while also doing curricular activities, working and just starting high school.
- I like the quarter system because it allows be to truly focus on my ONE core class at a time. It allows time for my personal life, as there is only possibly one homework assignment each night. Even when you have two core classes together it isn't horrible. If you stay on top of your grades and get the help you need, anything is manageable. For me having four classes at once is to much for me to personally handle. This also allows for me to push through the 10 week class when the classroom environment is not ideal. I am sure the semester system has its merits, such as having more time to grasp a subject you are not proficient in. But it also puts more pressure on you when exams come around, you are then trying to study for up to four classes at once. I would like if there was room for a combination schedule. One class you take for the length of a semester another for a quarter. This would allow for a middle ground that might satisfy the most people.
- A lot less stress, you only have to focus on 2 classes and usually only have to study for 1 exam, sometimes 2
- I have never done the semesters so I don't know what they are like. I would prefer to keep it the way it is.
- because less homework
- I like just having two classes a day to worry about and well it is quick I doesn't feel like it is dragging on and on
- It is less stressful to only have to study for one to two finals rather than 3 to 4 finals at a time. Especially for grade 12 and diplomas.
- it is much easier to study for finals because you've learned the material in a shorter span of time. I find it easier to only focus on one or two subjects at time rather than 3 or 4.
- the quarter system allows students to solely focus on only 2 subjects which can be less stressful compared to 4 subjects. final exams will also be more spread out since they will happen at the end of each quarter which can let students study for only 2 subjects rather than 4 at the end of a semester
- because it is shorter and meaning you have more time to get extra help when necessary
- it allows me to focus on two courses and not get overwhelmed with too much work at once
- its become the norm
- The graduation class of 2023 is used to the qurter system, i think it should be extended one more year to keep things somewhat simple.
- d
- Because it's easier to focus on two classes than in 4 and I feel that I'm doing better than the last year
- is better have only 2 subjects
- I prefer the quarter system because it gives you more attention and focus on the 2 classes you take instead of trying to balance 4 classes at once
- I think the idea of having a quarter system is helpful to us students. As we only have two classes per quarter and students are able to be less stressed out with all the classes they are attending. If we have the semesters us students most likely will be more stressed out with the load of work from classes. Causing us to not do our best as we will be stressed out. Generally speaking, if the school system wants us to do our best then we should keep the quarter system.
- Less home work
- because you get a chance to meet new people
- I have never done a semester system
- I never being is a semester
- I didn't a semester

- i enjoy it more.
- I find that I receive better explanations in the 2 and a half hours of class. It gives me more chances to ask my teacher for help, so I can further understand it better. Though the core classes kinda suck for 2 and a half hour long classes, i would happily take another quarter year, then a semester year. It's just less anxiety having to worry about 2 classes opposed to 4 classes a day.
- It's easier to focus on two classes rather than the 4. And also some kids want to do all their science or the higher level classes and when it comes down to finals they'll have a lot to study because of the classes they chose. Or allows for more things to get down in some option classes like cosmetology, automotives or carpentry. Overall I like the quarter system way better because it also allows students who have extra time in class to work on their other class work/study for a test or quiz.
- i feel as if the people voting against the quarter system are the same people who have never experienced the semester system before, as of this year only the grade 12 have even experienced and could give a fair opinion while other may have ideas it take the time away from being able to focus on two classes rather four allowing for less worry and hassle come exam time. The opinions of students may be biased due to their idea be thought of what the semester system could consist of the thoughts of grade 12's could be rash since they are not affected by this next year, so there be rather than introducing a new system suddenly in the last year of high school for grades 11's after they have gotten used to it may be a huge stressful change for teaches and students
- it makes focusing on class's easier since you only have two per day. and you remember alot more about your class since everything is so quick
- easier to focus on two things at a time rather than worrying about plenty of things at once
- Haven't ever done the semester system and only 2 classes to worry about is nice.
- I would not like 4 final exams at the end of the semester
- Not too much at the same time
- It's easier for me to stay caught up when I only have 2 classes , I feel like I learn better when we have more time within one class. My grades have improved since I've started the quarter system.
- I find it easier and I find that my marks are better because all the information is fresh so when it comes to the final exam I am not as stressed because I don't have to relearn something from 4 months ago although the quarter system can be overwhelming sometimes and you can end up having lots of homework or there is just too much information in 1 day and you just get board and you lose focus because your just done with that class for the day so both ways have pros and cons but I have never been in a semester system so it is hard to make this decision
- I like taking my finals as soon as I'm done the course
- Quarter is just easier for me. I like it better than Semesters besides I can get work done in a jiffy so it's okay.
- Because I think it's better how it is this year and not last year when we had 6 periods at once.
- It's easier and better
- I feel it's easier for me to only have to focus on two classes each day. I've only ever experienced the quarter system and I feel like it would be really hard to transition to the semester system for me personally.
- The quarter system allows me more time in my option classes for me to enjoy myself and the class. With the quarter system I'm able to have a large amount of time to work on projects in classes such as construction.
- less classes
- Its easy with only 2 classes instead of 4
- gives me more time to focus on the classes i have instead of my mind going crazy with so many classes
- If you had asked me this question a year ago than you would have gotten an easy answer of semester systems being much more easier and less stressful. But its been a year, and I have gotten used to the quarter system maybe even more so than the Semester system, I think I am good with anything at this point, I do think that it is harder to make connections with a quarter system. I moved here last year and I havent felt a place to belong to.
- It is nice to be able to have the time to get stuff done in class and for option classes
- It's easy for me to take in the info that way
- Not having to worry about so much at once
- doesn't seem as much as a class once
- I like it more because once you are in a class you get it done right then and there and I like when most of the classes are longer instead of having to move to another class every other hour. also its easier when you have 2 classes that give homework instead of 6 it takes a load off of my life at home.
- It's more easier

- it is much easier because there is less classes to focus on
- because I find the quarter system is more easier than the semester system
- It feels less stressful because we get way more time in each day to work on whatever we have to work on. I personally hit a stride when I'm working on homework and if I can get all of my homework done in one good stretch then I'll never get behind
- better and dont have to worry about all your 6 classes and if your failing
- it is less stress on me, not having to focus on more then 2 classes every quarter.
- It's easier to pay attention because everything moves quickly and it's less likely to have multiple tests on the same day/ makes the homework more manageable
- It is much easier to focus on two courses at once rather than three or four. And longer periods mean that in one class we can finish an assignment or write an essay, without having to bring it home for homework. Or do a full lab for science classes. It also is way better for option classes or cts courses where time is needed to complete certain tasks or assignments. The only place where it isn't the greatest is math class, where it sometimes moves to fast. Again however now it might only be math class I have with an option instead of having math, and social, and science all at once.
- Less crammed days and easier to remember what you did in class
- I like the quarter system because you only have two classes to worry about instead of 4 and when it comes exam time you have a lot of the knowledge in your head already from the beginning of the quarter and don't forget it. Unlike in the semester system you have to reteach some of the stuff to yourself because you haven't went over the material since the beginning when you were taught it
- it's easier too focus on two classes rather than 4
- This is because I am so used to the quarter system at this point , that if it changed then it would mess me up. Although I hate hate hate the speed of the quarter system I would rather focus on two subjects rather than one
- It helps a lot for final exams. Plus, you have a lot of time to learn in one sitting instead of forgetting it over the span of 22.75 hours.
- only 2 classes, less things to focus on and fast
- All I know is the Quarter system so I can't prefer the other one if I don't know it.
- its easier to keep track of my work and only having 2 classes makes it easier to be better
- It's easier to stay caught up but too long
- In the middle, quarter classes is not as stressful especially if you have a core class and an option class. The bad thing about them is sitting in class for 3 hours straight.
- you get more time for that class and thing you need to get done.
- i prefer only having two classes at once
- I prefer to focus on two subjects at once. This allows to pay attention to one thing instead of a bunch and it allows to only have a maximum of two Finals in a short period of time.
- i don't like taking math for 5 months
- The quarter system is much easier for me as it allows me more opportunities to take a variety of classes and allows me to excel in the classes I do take as it provides an environment that helps my brain process the information and allows me to remember information much easier.
- Less homework, less studying
- I find it easy to learn one thing at a time
- less homework/studying/only up to 2 finals
- More time to focus on the two subjects, days feel shorter but classes feel way longer
- Only two classes to focus on at a time
- It's easier to keep the information fresher. However, I don't feel it's preparing students for a university workload.
- I like that we don't have to learn as much between classes but we have to learn much faster each quarter plus I've never had semesters

GRADE 12 (these students that have experienced both and think the QUARTER system will benefit students better):

- It makes it easier to get through the homework if you don't feel like you have assignment after assignment and instead just have one or two things to complete
- Its easier to attend and less on my shoulder to worry about

- Getting done classes faster especially for grade 12 where we have diplomas and if in semester, more diplomas to worry about.
- because the work of the students is more focused and they can put constance in classes better
- There is only 2 courses to focus on, and they move faster so you only need to remember things for 2 months for exams.
- For me personally I prefer the quarter system. It just jives with my brain and i don't hate being in the same class for nearly 3 hours at a time. However most students and some teachers despise the quarter system for how quickly it moves and how easy it is to fall behind. I think it would generally be a better idea to use the semester system, it works best for most people.

COMMENTS for grade 10&11 students who think the SEMESTER system will benefit students better

GRADE 10:

- Sitting in one course for a long period of time is frustrating. Even with breaks. I kind of want to pull my hair out. 4 courses per day would be more broad (not learning about one subject for too long).
- It's easy and 3 hours of English is boring
- it causes less stress on the students.
- i can meet alot more people and i have a better chance to have a normal high school experience
- I think that there are advantages and disadvantages to both, the quarter system makes the year feel like it goes by faster and once your done the class you're done. And the 2 hour classes aren't terrible. However, classes like science and math go too fast, you can't comprehend anything and get it to stick in your brain as easy.
- An even amount of each class and a lot slower so its easier to remember stuff
- Quarter system to long of classes and to much workin the class
- Because if we have 4 courses per semester, 2 quarters per year we don't have to sit for hour and hour in the same class it's really boring,sitting in the same spot for hour and hour and seeing the same teachers face everything.
- I prefer the semester system because I don't have to sit in a classroom for 2 and a half hours
- I think I would prefer having more time to do work, and I would like to have slower classes so I have more time to learn.
- because having two and a half hour classes everyday is way to overwhelming
- I myself get super bored and restless staying in each class for such an extended period of time.
- i think its less stressful and id rather have 4 classes a day that are shorter than 2 long ones cause its easier and more manageable.
- its better for kids with attention issues like me
- Less class time for one subject
- It's much easier
- Even tho it's rily not that safe I want the social with people
- Its less tiring and repetitive
- Because I'm the quarter system you retain 3hrs of the same subject and you can't process what's going on and if you miss 1 day it's equivalent to 3 days
- More normal
- The semestered system would be my choice because you have more time to absorb information, learn better, and have "less homework". (Less homework in the sense that you dont have homework from the work you were working on in class. Ex: assignments and work sheets that can be done in class). With the quarter system, its harder to learn and harder to absorb information in core classes. Its also hard to keep up with the pace in some classes because they go so fast.
- I like the semester system because it gives you more time to learn and understand the curriculum. With the quarter system, I feel rushed and I feel like i'm not given enough time to learn each concept because we have to move on to the next lesson. Although the classes in a semester are shorter, I would still be able to work one extra questions on my own time after school.
- The quarter semester is extremely stressful, and it has had a severe impact on my academic performance. I barely have the time to sleep, play, or study. There is no balance in my life all I do is study which I do not even get the proper time to when dealing with other responsibilities at home. I'm not doing well in fact poorly than I have ever before. These past quarters, I haven't been able to absorb enough information to succeed in my studies tests/assignments. I understand that it pushes students to work hard, but the increased workload and lack of time to comprehend materials make this

quarter system detrimental to our academic studies. To be honest there is not much difference to online classes and this if you ask me. If any problems have arisen as a result of the pandemic, this system will be at the top of the list.

- I Cannot take in that amount of information I am in math class right now and I am a A student and I am almost failing math and that's taking a toll on me bc it's stressing me out and i don't know how to bring it up when I can't understand it
- I find it easier to pay attention in class and remember more with shorter classes
- Because its so much work and information to take in especially in the little time we have, i work a part time job and half the learning we're supposed to do is on our own time which is something 90 percent of students don't have. its overwhelming and taking a toll on kids mental and physical health. some students that are insanely intelligent are struggling and failing because of the course load and the pace we have to go to. Especially grade 10's i'm noticing kids that were high 80-90's are getting 40-60's. the transition needs to be smoother for us. We have no time to take care of ourselves and are lacking in sleeping trying to get assignments done but they cant be done to our full potential.
- I feel that classes are currently way too long in a day, sitting in the same class for hours is mentally and physically tiring, and the work is much more rushed because of the quarter system. Semesters are better for our mental health and make it easier to learn.
- Everything feels more organized and not as rushed
- The semester system allows people to intake more information and actually remember it
- I prefer the semester system because I don't like sitting in class for so long and I would like more than two classes.
- It gets less repetitive
- i think it would be easier for the students so than its not a super long class
- I've only done the quarter system, but it can't get much worse than this.
- In a quarter system the units flow by and is over all just extremely stressful. Being a student athlete I feel it may add more stress, having practice and having pages and pages of homework is a lot. I really liked the quarter system in quarter 1 and that was only because sports weren't put into the mix now I have stress on two things. It's not fun
- Because they are not as long and exausting
- i just feels like im in school than the quarter's i got used to this if we still do quarter im ok with that to but it is different.
- Although quarter system seems to be ideal, I found that for harder subjects that students need more time to process information that it's difficult.
- Some classes go by to fast and I'm in able to retain the knowledge or sometimes even learn it.
- The quarter system doesn't let the ideas sink in as well as a semester system would but if you already know the stuff a little bit then it's very good. For example I got a 68 in math because I did not understand the stuff being taught because it couldn't sink in in time while I've got a 88 in science because I already knew some of the stuff being taught. In the end I think that the quarter system is unhelpful and that we should go back to the semester system. Thank you for your time.
- The semester system gives students more time to absorb the information and do school work. The symester system allows students do do better in school because they won't have to focus for three hours and the school work is not rushed like the way it is in the quarter system. The symester system is much less stressful, esspecially for students, students have more time to complete homeowork and understand concepts. A lot of students cannot understand concepts as quickly as they need us to in the quater system.
- I think that the semester system is better because there is more variety. With the semester system you are not doing one class for such a long time because it can be boring when you do one thing for such a long time.
- The classes are too long in the quarter system
- I like semester because it spreads everything out so I don't have so much homework to do in one class
- I prefer it because it gives us longer to get our grade up, instead of 2 months
- Although it is easier to focus on just 2 classes at a time within the quarter system, having 4 classes in a day would make a school day less boring. Furthermore, it would be easier to fully grasp information and build upon my academic skills over a longer duration of time.
- I feel like with the four quarters it's a lot more stressful. We have two, 2 1/2 hour classes a day, which we are expected to focus through. It is very difficult to stay focused through a class that is so incredibly long, with maybe around one 5-7 minute break per lesson. Plus, there is alot more content to remember in such a short amount of time.
- Because it's hard to pay attention in 3 hour classes,

- The quarter system is too fast and can be stressful at times
- the semester system allows me to space out my assignments more also i find that i am a better student in the semester system
- All the classes especially core classes seem to extremely rushed and I've noticed everyone doesn't seem to be learning as well since we don't have as much time to learn things more gradually.
- Things are too fast paced, it's hard to even remember half the things we learn. Like we're learning what we'd learn in a week on one day. Also like 3 hours of gym? Are you insane? I'd rather fail
- You have more time to understand what you are learning within your class which will ultimately allow you to do better
- Being in a class for almost 3 hours is just too tough, our brains tend to stop learning after 90 minutes straight. This doesn't help the fact that our classes are so long. Personally I think the quarter system is stressful because of how fast paced the classes are, especially when you have 2 core classes. It is just too much!
- To much is learned in a shorter amount of time with Quarter system
- The quarter system doesn't allow you to process information because it's way to fast. In class we don't always have time to review past exams cause there's not enough time, but I strongly believe we learn from our mistakes and should be able to review them. Missing a day of school is extremely stressful. Students are wanting to miss out on fun opportunities (sports games, etc) because they would miss so much in class. I also feel like it's not preparing us for university or the future in general. Since when in life do you only have to focus on three things? In university people will take multiple classes per semester and us students who are in the quarter system won't be used to it.
- Quarter system is too long, it may be less classes but it's so much harder
- I just find this is easier to achieve higher marks
- because it moves very fast and its hard to keep up
- In short, it sucks. You never have any time to retain information and it is not very well organized. The classes are too long for the attention span of most students. Plus, missing 1 day of school for being sick and or other reasons puts you too far behind. So, basically, it sucks.
- In the quarter system everything is rushed and if you miss one class you miss multiple units it is also hard to focus for such long amounts of time
- Everything is so rushed in the quarter system, and we dont have time to internalize concepts that are taught to us. Not to mention the fact that you can have 100% cores for a full quarter in some cases.
- Not as long classes, get a better understanding of class since there is more time to the learn the material
- classes are shorter and it's less work per class

GRADE 11's:

- Other than methods that specifically pander to the quarter system, everything just feels way too rushed. You get through five months worth of work in two, and class is only extended by double the time. Especially the second quarter, which, in the quarter system, is substantially shorter than the other three.
- Quarter system sucks
- Gives me more time to learn the material and prepare for exams.
- the quarter system classes are too long and too hard to focus in
- If you get sick, you miss way too much work that it's impossible to catch up
- easier
- The quarter system is only good when you have a class you like, but its also bad when you have a class you like because its over faster. and hard classes are difficult to do well
- With more overall time being given to each class, hopefully lessons won't feel as rushed, and sort of keep trudging ahead no matter where you are, leaving students who didn't understand right away feel left behind. A more personal reason is that classes being around 2 hours each can get "boring", being in the same classroom learning the same thing for an extended amount of time. Only issue is the possibility of more homework being overwhelming, since you have to focus on material for 4 classes at a time, rather than just 2.
- Being in Grade 11, I actually haven't experienced the semester system. But I think with having now two years of the quarter system, I think it should be stopped for the upcoming years. I think having shorter classes allows for a better focused mind. Personally, the quarter system has created a short-term memory within myself. This causes me to not retain the important information as much. I think it's fun that we have done the quarter system, but I think it's time to move on.

- I think there are advantages and disadvantages to both. For students such as myself who have trouble sitting still, I think the semester system would definitely be better with more times to move around.
However the quarter system is good because I feel since there's only two classes, there's less work and less stress.
- The classes in the Quarter system are too long
- you have time to understand the work given to you, you don't have to blink your eyes and be on the next chapter, shorter classes, (sucks for option classes)
- because quarter's each class time is too long.
- I've never done the semester system, but with the quarter system it can feel like I'm not actually learning anything. A semester's worth of knowledge in 10 weeks is a lot.
- i like having only two classes to prioritize but there is way too much learning in one subject. we can not spend almost 3 hours learning a subject because there is almost no 1 on 1 time with our teachers then
- more time do work and its easier
- i haven't experienced the semester system, but from what i've heard i would prefer it more than the quarter system because even though our classes go by faster i don't like sitting in the same 2 classes everyday for 2-3 hours and having a lot of homework and learning a lot in class and i would rather prefer having different classes everyday and overall just not having as much homework
- I've never experienced the semester system but I feel like it would make work easier because it would be less rushed. We wouldn't have to learn a bunch of content in 10 weeks.
- I personally find the work load to be a lot more manageable during a quarter system but it is a lot harder to find the time to learn what you have been taught because you are doing close to 2 if not 3 lessons a day, therefore making it very difficult to ask questions and practice what you have just been taught if you don't have a full understanding of it.
- Classes are too long
- the quarter system is very fast paced and is sometimes hard to keep up with learning so many things
- The quarter system isn't too bad if you have easy classes. However if you have two core STEM subjects, there is barely any time to prepare for them in the evenings. This is made even worse if you have work or other activities.
- In the quarter system we 'learn' everything much more quickly, cramming in tons of material in a short amount of time. In this system, I and my peers struggle to remember information learnt just days or months ago, much less years. This hurts our ability to build on our learning later on. The semester system allows us to build better routine and gives us time to properly process ideas before learning new ones.
- i have never experienced the semester system but i would prefer it. as an athlete i have to miss quite a few days due to travel, which makes it really easy to miss important lessons and quickly fall behind. missing one class in the quarter system is equivalent to missing 2-3 normal classes in the semester system. since you move on to different outcomes so quickly, once you are behind it's really difficult to catch up. the quarter system does not allow for you to miss days due to being sick or travel or anything else. due to how fast the quarter system moves, it makes it really hard to thoroughly understand outcomes, therefore making it hard to excel in your classes. i think because of this, most would prefer the semester system.
- I HATE IT RIGHT NOW. MUCH TOO FAST AND STRESSFUL PLEASE PLEASE CHANGE IT! MATH AND SCIENCE AND SPANISH HURT MY HEAD I COULD GET AT LEAST 10% HIGHER MARKS THAN I HAVE NOW! PLEASEEEEE
- i feel like i would have more time to study and learn my classes
- The quarter system goes by fast, and I was not able to comprehend materials, especially in STEM courses, within the time span.
- Semester system gives especially me and other students time to process material learned in class. The quarter system is too fast for me and I don't have time to fully understand what is taught and I end up failing tests due to lack of time given. The quarter system is too fast paced and I am unable to sit for a full 2 and a half hours at a time especially when not all teachers give you a break
- my focus isnt lost and 4 course gives me longer time to study for subjects.
- Learning in semesters is less stressful as there is a longer time to learn the content rather than cramming it in to 10 weeks. Having two and a half hour classes is way to long. Teachers should not expect students to be able to sit through a class that long and be able to focus, it is too much.
- less to cram, more classes at once so you won't spend so long on an assignment for one class (like just doing math homework for hours because there's so much)

- Everything goes by way to fast in the quarter system and it's hard to stay focused when classes are 2 1/2 hours long
- Can go at a more reasonable pace whereas quarter system is too rushed.
- Practice - since moving to university doesn't really do quarter system and it allows people to take the time to do time management again - like with test and work load
- Subjects such as mathematics and science are near impossible to retain information from the previous year due to the short compact courses and long times in between them. This year I am currently in mathematics 20-1 in the quarter system and am struggling to understand the quadratics unit and many other units within math 20-1 as I have little foundation from math 10-1 to work off of. I took math 10-1 in the first quarter of my grade 10 year and am currently taking math 20-1 in the second quarter of my grade 11 year. Furthermore, I and many other of my friends who are also students at hat-high, find it unnecessarily difficult and stressful to perform under the quarter system as the rate of information introduced to students is hard to process in such a short period of time With two new lessons every day and a unit test every other week (If not every week). This causes many students to have a much harder time in the quarter system than they would have had in a semester system. Not only does this fast rate of information cause hardship for many students in the classes they are currently taking, but it also causes problems for the following level of that course as the quarter system creates a learn and regurgitate environment for students which causes the student to be able to generate decent grades in the class they are currently taking, but have a poor understanding of the concepts overall and struggle in the next level of that course.

This year I have been working with a tutor to better understand and learn the concepts presented in math 20-1, however, the tutor also noticed how difficult mathematics is in the quarter system and sent this e-mail to my parents to explain that I would have to temporarily fall behind in the quadratics unit for him to help me re-learn the foundational concepts taught in the 10-1 level required to succeed in the 20-1 level in the quadratics unit.

The Email:

This unit has proven what the detrimental effects of COVID learning and the quarter system have provided to so many students. Our child is having a very hard time retaining or even remotely remembering learning some of these foundational past concepts which is not a surprise due to the circumstances but we will definitely be taking the next few lessons to get a concrete understanding as we move into the new topics as well so he is not lost in quadratics.

Parent

Thank you for the opportunity provided to students to share their feelings on the quarter system. Please consider switching back to the semester system.

- quarter system is to overwhelming and the classes are to long.
- In has a more diversed options and students can get more support from teachers as well
- Opportunity to attend more classes. Classes are shorter.
- Much slower pace, easier to digest classroom information and learning but it is what it is.
- i kinda feel overwhelmed in quarter system because i have to sink in 3 lessons in a day also i feel like it is not good going to grade 12 next year doing the quarter system because it is a 30 level it is more harder and complicated
- Quarter system goes so fast, too many homes.
- Because of the quarter system I am doing terrible in my classes, I am a slow learner and it takes me time to process things, in hr high I never struggled with math or sciences but now I'm barely passing, I don't think that I'm stupid but the quarter system is leading me to believe I am. I want time to study and actually process things instead of everything being shoved down my throat; I get that some people like it but those people don't know what it's like to be so burnt out you can barley get out of bed; I'm tired and I physically can't do this anymore, I want to go back to the way things used to be. Right now I barely know how I'm going to pass math 20-1 and that's something I should be able to do if we didn't have to learn 3 lessons a day. I can't stay focused for 2.5 hours on the same thing, I need movement and change, I get that it was for covid and all but I'm sick of this I can't do it anymore I'm so tired. I don't know how I'll do bio 30 either I'm done, and physics 30 I should have been able to do but it goes by too fast and I can't process it in two months, it's not fair. Please go back to semester sincerely, burnt out and depressed student

- It is easier to learn things in a longer amount of time then in a short amount of time
Math and Science suck in a quarter system
- better for a missed day instead of mass amounts of homework
- Quarter system is too fast paced and we don't have time to comprehend any of the material that was just taught to us before barreling into another unit
- Time to actually learn
- Some classes are too condensed in the Quarter system to actually take anything away from them.
- Quarter system is too much to handle in too short of time
- We have more time to absorb the information given to us. And the classes are way to long in a quarter system. It's hard to focus and sit for almost three hours per class. Lunch is only 30 minutes but if you get out late you only have enough time to eat. We barely have time to talk to our friends outside of our classes.
- It's longer and we get more time to learn the material we're given. In the quarter system we can't do that.
- I HATE THE QUARTER SYSTEM WE HAVE NO TIME TO LEARN ANYTHING, SO MANY KIDS ARE STRUGGLING
- I used to like the Quater system but I find with more advanced classes that it can be too demanding and insanely hard to keep up with.
- it's a slower pace and a lot easier to retain the knowledge that i'm learning. the quarter system moves very fast. half day fridays are nice though
- classes are long and its hard to focus for such a long time, and if you have two core classes in one quarter its heavy work and you have no time for yourself since you are doing so much homework, plus if your also working a job
- Classes are too long in the quarter system and it's super repetitive, get way to much homework and it's too fast paced
- Because the quarter system is to fast pasted and if you font understand something then its almost impossible to get caught up. Classes are to long, and people tend to lose motivation a lot faster then in the semester system.
- I begin to burn out after about an hour and a half of a single subject. Having 4 classes a day fixes this
- It gives you more time to practice work and get it down so you aren't cramming and stressing yourself out to an unhealthy level. With the quarter system using math as an example: we have about maybe a week or less to get a unit down. By the time we're writing the unit test we're moved on to the next unit. It's so hard to practice when you get a day go do it and no student wants to do homework everyday, especially because a lot of us have jobs or extracurricular activities. It's so stressful, hard to memorize and practice In this span of time.
- I like how much slower it goes, I feel less pressure and it gives me more time to get to know my teachers and class mates
- While the quarter system operates well for English, Social, and options. It becomes SEVERELY difficult in math and hard in the science courses. It would be much easier for high-school students to manage their work load and grades (especially for those taking math and science courses in the same quarter/semester) for us to change back to the semester system.
- Classes go by way too fast and it's really hard to keep up, and I know it's the same for teachers. But on the other hand, the quarter system is nice because then you only have two classes to worry about. However, the semester system was a little less stressful.
- Better preperation for Uni, not as stressful
- 2 and a half hours of class can be really hard to sit through. Missing one day can royally screw you over.
- three hour classes is a very long period to do constant work for especially when you have 2 core classes during one quarter. we need more breaks if we are going to continue with the quarter system, one 5 minute break is not enough time to even go to the bathrooms when we have one bathroom for only high school kids. we are going from a 3 hour class with a 30 minute break an then 3 more hours, it's exhausting. there is way more homework, having 2 quizzes an then a unit final in both classes in the same week is too much. it's mentally and physically draining for us students.
- Its too fast paced and makes it awfully difficult to retain information
- I'd rather take things slowly then all at once.
- The quarter system puts too much content in a smaller amount of time. I find myself swamped with work both in class and at home. also, the quarter system was only meant to be emergency protocol in case covid hit, and since it blew over, now we should not have it.

- Overall having a hard time focusing, I don't know if it's because of the repetition that occurs with that system, but even switching it up would be better for students.
- Because everything is so rushed in a quarter system
- The quarter system moves too fast
- In the Quarter system for me the information goes by way too fast and doesn't give much time to really process what I'm being taught (I honestly don't remember much of what I learned last quarter) and it gets really stressful. In addition to this with the amount of information we need to learn on one class it makes it really hard to catch up on things if you miss even one day, so let's say you get sick and have to stay home for a week we are pretty much screwed for the quarter as we would miss what would normally be about 9 (or more) days of information in each class.
- We need time to process the information we learn. In the quarter system we don't have time to actually learn or process it.
- My marks and mental health have declined because of being held in a classroom for long periods of time, the quarter system moves too fast to accommodate learning at all levels. My best friend was not able to continue her education because of being held back, she has sadly dropped out and now works full time. I would like my education and my home life to stay separate, but I often find I have homework on a daily basis. Since the beginning of the quarter system student morale is lower, all my friends and I can hope for is to feel normal again.
- I like the quarter system because you only have to focus on two subjects and two finals at a time however it does not have a very good school/life balance. We have tests and quizzes almost everyday and I feel like I'm always studying and catching up on homework. It causes me a lot of stress. 3 hour classes are also way too long.
- Not enough time to fully understand what we are learning in a quarter and, if you don't understand, it's VERY hard to get caught up.
- You don't go as long without core courses and in French immersion sometimes we go almost the whole year without French which makes it hard to get back into it.
- Quarter system is stressful because there are quizzes and tests almost everyday of the week. Not a good school / life balance
- More time to absorb information and better prepared students for a full class schedule in post secondary education.
- Diverse and more absorbable content- a more attainable grade system and better comprehension of material (slower pace)
- You have more time to learn in class, as well allows you to have variety in your days to challenge out minds more
- Although quarters are helpful for having less homework or less stress because there are less classes to focus on, I don't think they are useful for my life in the long term. With the long classes, I am rarely left with homework. It may seem nice, but that just means by the time I attend college or university, I won't be properly prepared for the work and many classes I will need to take at once if I get used to the quarter system.
- I think the quarter system moves too quickly. While having less classes at once is nice, I think the amount of information required to learn at once is absurd. One lesson in the quarter system could take up to a week in the semester system. Because there isn't enough time to absorb the information, I have found myself forgetting it by the end of the quarter and the following year, the teachers have to reteach concepts knowing that it has become foreign to us. I also think that the lack of variety throughout the day makes it harder to concentrate near the end. After learning math for three hours I'm not very keen to spend another three learning about history. I end up brain dead by 1:45. The quarter system also makes it nearly impossible to miss a class without repercussions. This ends up causing large amounts of stress. It also encourages students to go to school while sick to not have to play catch-up. Overall, I think the quarter system was a step in the wrong direction for the education system. The only benefit is that we get half days on Fridays.
- - There's more time to receive help and support from teachers before quizzes or a new unit.
- - If you miss a day in the quarter system due to health or an appointment, it's much more difficult to catch up than it is in a semester system.
- - In the semester system, we don't move onto a new unit every week, which allows students to fully understand the concepts presented in each unit without feeling they have to rush to understand before the new unit
- - The semester system gave students a substantial amount of time for chat, 15 minutes in the morning doesn't cut it. And most of the time my teachers are scheduled to meet with another student in the morning unless I ask to set a meeting up a week ahead.
- - In the quarter system, the courses we take feel rushed, if we take a class to revise concepts that as a class, we are not grasping, the teacher begins to rush the new concepts in order to make up

for lost time. This leaves students confused and with more questions than answers.

- The quarter systems classes are too long. I found myself many times both this year and last struggling to stay focused on one subject for such a long time. There's also a lot of confusion surrounding whether or not students are allowed to take a break during class. Most of the confusion comes from substitutes.

- Very swag
- 3 hour classes are very sad

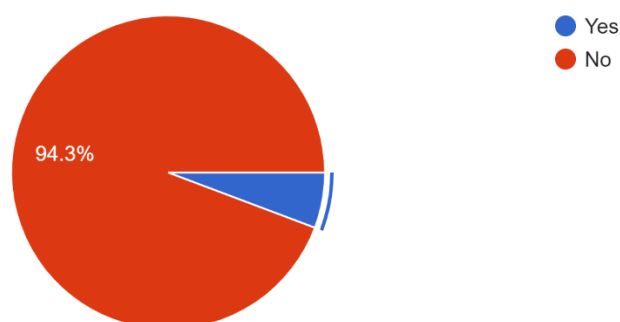
Grade 12 students (that have experienced both), who think the SEMESTER system will benefit students better:

- The quarter system is very rushed and I feel like I don't have enough time to truly grasp certain concepts before we're already moving on. Math is definitely the worst as before we have a test for one unit we're already halfway done the next.
- For a better comprehension of the single class, It's hard for students to sit still for 2 hour classes.
- two and a half hours is too long to sit in one class for, it gets hard to focus and i think it causes me to actually do worse. Also because its only a quarter it feels too short to be prepared to write a full diploma at the end
- Less Material all at once, more down time, able to have options and cores at the same time

FRENCH IMMERSION STUDENTS:

Are you in the French immersion program

874 responses



OF THE 50 STUDENTS IN THE FRENCH PROGRAM 30 STUDENTS CHOSE QUARTER AND 17 STUDENTS CHOSE SEMESTER.

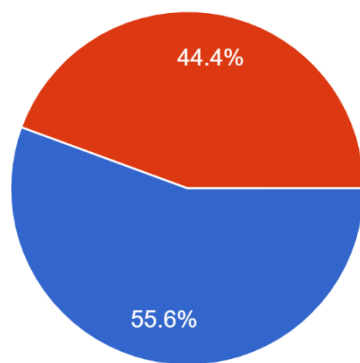
	Quarter System		Semester System	
Grade 10	63% (22 Students)	68 % (15 students)	37% (13 students)	42.6% (1 Students)
Grade 11		32% (7 students)		56% (12 students)
Grade 12	53% (8 students)		47% (4 students)	
TOTAL	67% (30 students)		33% (17 students)	50 total student responses

- **IN FRENCH, 63% OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 10 & 11 CHOSE THE QUARTER SYSTEM AND 37% CHOSE THE SEMESTER SYSTEM. 53% OF STUDENTS IN GRADE 12 CHOSE THE QUARTER SYSTEM AND 47% CHOSE THE SEMESTER SYSTEM.**
- **IN TOTAL, 67% OF FRENCH STUDENTS CHOSE THE QUARTER SYSTEM AND 33% CHOSE THE SEMESTER SYSTEM.**

PARENT RESPONSES

Do you prefer the quarter system or the semester system for CHILD ONE?

455 responses



- Quarter (2 courses per quarter, four quarters per year)
- Semester (4 courses per semester, two semesters per year)

	Quarter System		Semester System		Totals
Parents of Grade 10	60% (229 responses)	53 % (122 responses)	40% (260 responses)	44% (68 responses)	383 grade 10/11 responses
Parents of Grade 11		47% (107 responses)		56% (86 responses)	
Parents of Grade 12	40% (71 responses)		60% (106 responses)		177 grade 12 responses
TOTAL	54% (300 responses)		46% (17 responses)		560 responses

COMMENTS for PARENTS who think the QUARTER system will benefit students better

- It allows my child to focus her energy on one subject at a time
- Less stressful on children, but doesn't work great for kids who are sick as they miss much class time
- Core classes are split between the 4 quarters
- It just works well
- Less to concentrate on all at once and deeper learning of the subject in a shorter timeframe

- My son has been able to concentrate on the classes he is in way more than when he had a heavy class load. His grades have never been better. I really hope it stays this way.
- Grades have been better with the system this way. Able to concentrate on the subjects and give them the attention they need to complete quality work. With more subjects at a time our son wasn't able to switch himself from class to class and have good marks. His marks are the best they have ever been.
- I'd prefer core classes to be split quarterly as well. My daughter has 2 core classes this quarter and is stressed right out.
- Keeps it focused and not as overwhelming.
- I find that even though it's a lot of information packed in a small time frame my child is able to retain the information better as there is less going on at the same time. Meaning: she is able to focus on the subjects she has instead of having to divide her attention 4 ways. She says she doesn't like it but I feel she is doing better with it.
- Being immersed in only two subjects has made it easier to learn the material. Also, she loves drama and having half a day of it each day has done wonders for her mental well-being.
- Easier for student to focus and remember curriculum topics
- Seems to be easier to focus on extra work at night.
- Easier for the students to concentrate on classes when only 2 per quarter, his grades are better as well.
- My son enjoys the quarter system
- He finds it easier for a work/life balance and can focus better
- Allows student to focus on subject with more class time to work and ask questions
- The amount of learning that is required for typical brains, let alone atypical, is a gruelling brutal process that only increases their self-doubt and anxiety. This is clearly not best for kids.
- It is less overwhelming for my child having only 2 classes to focus on rather than 4. I find he is doing better in school this way.
- Breaks things up and gets courses done quicker
- Provides more time to concentrate on a class and decrease stress. When a kid is off sick it makes it easier to catch up especially if any extra help is required.
- students can focus more on specific classes. More time each day to flesh out the lesson. More time to make sure each student understands each day. Less juggling of classwork.

A specific example would be film studies. The quarter system allows more films to be watched and analyzed due to longer classes every day. This improves the critical thinking and writing skills the student can develop from the course. Physical Education worked much better for my son. He gained much more benefit physically from the consistent longer classes and was able to develop the sports skills much more than had been possible in any previous school years. In science my son benefited from the longer more in-depth lectures as opposed to being short interrupted lectures.

- My son has enjoyed focussing on 2 classes at one time.
- The child seems more relaxed
- More like college courses
- I find my daughter takes more time to study and take in the information. She seems more focused
- We like the quarter system better because it is easier to remember the information, you can get more stuff done in the day so feels more efficient, the breaks during the classes help to keep the classes from feeling too long, with fewer classes to learn it is easier to understand what is taught.
- My daughter has more time to study and I see that she is more focused.
- Child is enjoying quarter system
- They have enough time to focus on two subjects, and achieve the best academic result. There is no excuse for them to slack and they don't feel overwhelmed.
- Less stress for the students, my child is enjoying school more this way.
- My son has adhd, autism, ODD, and anxiety. Focusing on 1-2 classes per semester appears to be easier for him, even with the 3 hour classes. Teachers seem to allow enough mental breaks for him to remain engaged the entire class
- Less stressful for both student, teacher and parents if they don't feel overwhelmed and struggle less in classes do they don't fall behind
- Ability to focus more significantly on less subjects
- My daughter concentrates better with less to figure out

- I find the quarter works better because students can get assignments done without stressing out and don't feel overwhelmed during school hours with this system
- Can focus on two courses and isn't juggling 4 different ones. Making it more streamlined.
- Able to focus more and do better instead of trying to divide there time between multiple classes
- I find it isn't as overwhelming for my child to apply ho self with just 2 courses instead of 4
- I feel that there should be semester 4 courses however my young man likes the quarter 2 courses
- My daughter is thriving with 1/4 semester she loves it
- Allows the child to focus on what's being taught at hand. Also the length of the classes reduces homework
- Easier to manage homework and finish work in class
- The work load on my daughter is favourable. She is able to focus on one core class at a time and one non-core class at a time. Having homework from only 1-2 classes vs. 4 classes is so much better for her and also for our family. She is more focused with her school work and is able to keep her grades up. The time allotted for each class also provides opportunity for them to dive further into lessons during the school day rather than having them cut short.
- It's way better!!!!
- Better focus on two classes at. A time have found it easier to get extra help when needed
- My son struggles in school with academics and anxiety he loves the quarter system he finds it easier to concentrate on two subjects at once
- It doesn't seem so stressful on my child.
- It is more manageable to focus on two classes instead of 4 or more. With various athletic and work duties it allows my child to have a better school/life balance
- With 2 classes at a time we were able to get a core class and an option. The pacing works better for my child. We would be upset to see the quarter system leave.
- Concentrated learning. Mostly only one core subject per quarter...only need to study for one large exam each quarter. The only drawback would be math...if you have it spread out between quarter one and quarter three or four the following year.
- It allows my son to focus on his two subjects without being overwhelmed by having too many subjects at the same time
- The shorter terms make it so that the students don't have time to slack off and lose interest in the class. If they hate the class it's over in a jiffy lol.
- More focused courses
- My child can concentrate on two subjects snd has proved to be a great option for him.
- Less pressure on student
- Focusing on one core at a time
- Keeps things organized and have longer in options
- My child is able to focus more, feels less stressed, has less homework.
- More time to concentrate on a subject, less jumping around between 4 classes
- My child prefers the current system
- For my child it's better he just have to focus on 2 subjects instead of 4 at the same time.
- less home work with only 2 subjects
- I prefer the quarter system because my child can focus on one subject at a time.
- I believe the students can concentrate and do better when they are not overwhelmed with to many core subjects at one time , I know I wish it would of been that way when I was there .
- My child learns better this way
- This is a tough one honestly. For most subjects it has the huge benefit of not having to remember material for months on end. The other advantage is less homework when you just have two classes to be concerned about. The biggest disadvantage is Math! My daughter is a straight A student and she is struggling a bit with how fast math concepts are. The only other disadvantage is missing one class for health reasons is like missing a week. Being that we have only made it through one quarter so far it's hard to say if the advantages still outweigh the disadvantages mentioned here.
- I feel that with the quarter system the workload is evenly balanced. The students are able to concentrate & put more effort into the classes.
- My child is able to heavily focus on one subject and do a great job of it.
- more focus on one subject. easier to study for 2 subjects then 4.
- As a parent, I like the quarter system. I find my son is more engaged, more focused and able to fully comprehend what is being taught. He has been more successful this year so far, then he has in the past. My son said he enjoys being in two classes where he is getting consistent information

with out worrying about multiple classes at once and being bombarded with a lot of information. We hope this is something you continue to do in the future.

- The quarter system is less overwhelming for my child. It has helped him succeed in his classes having only 2 classes to focus on rather than 4.
- Focus is better on just two courses per quarter
- Easier to manage time with less classes,easier to study, better when child needs to balance school with sports , better if you are home ill(easier to catch up) , more in-depth learning with big chunk of time,
- Less stress on students.
- The homework is way more manageable. My child is thriving as he is able to understand the concepts better with the longer class times.
- My son struggles in school and I feel like the quarter system really helps him by only having 2 subjects to focus on at one time. I hope this system stays.
- Works better for my child's learning style. He has more time to focus on his academic classes.
- The homework is much less as there are only 2 subjects to do compared to four. Also, I feel my child is able to focus and attain a better grade when there is a quarter system because she can put forth a better effort and retain more information .
- My child seems to thrive. Grades have improved and he actually wants to go to school. Although it is still too early to know for sure as we are only in 2nd quarter.
- My son is better able to focus and strengthen his knowledge and understanding with focused teaching on one core subject balanced with one elective of his choosing. He has some form of activity everyday due to his elective choices, which helps him to sustain his attention during the three hours of core subject teaching. He does not have to compete with other subjects, soley focusing on one -two areas at a time =greater success in these subject areas. I hope that this will always be an option.
- More focus on each subject.
- My child is able to put more time and effort into only 2 subjects.
- I believe it will give the kids stronger focus
- It's easier to concentrate on, my child does very well with it.. keeps a pace so they don't get side tracked.
- Less stress for my child. Only has to worry about two subjects
- She is able to handle the amount of work and can concentrate on only 2 subjects.
- Short sessions are easier to maintain attention
- He is doing better in this system.
- My child finds it easier to concentrate on two subject at a time for shorter periods of time.
- My child grades have been better being able to concentrate on less subjects at one time. It's not as overwhelming for him, and he is able to concentrate more.
- Find it easier
- allows for more focus - prepares kids for university
- I think it is much easier for the students
- More focus on a couple of classes rather than four. May be more intense at the time, but better retention as less time passes until the final
- Gives her the opportunity to focus all her energy into 2 classes as opposed to 4
- Intense at the time but then done for the year
- Works best for my child that is on the autistic spectrum
- My child has autism. He finds it so much easier to focus on two classes and relate to two teachers at a time instead of 4. It has been excellent. I would not change it. He has been more successful. It really works for him.
- Faster pace less time for boredom
- Easier to retain info when they attends the same two classes every day.
- With my son being on the autism spectrum its easier in long run
- More time to focus on 1 subject
- Easier for the kids to focus and not be overwhelmed
- My child seems far less stressed by having one core and one selective course at a time.
- More time on each subject in a shorter frame
- She finds they get more in depth as the classes don't break off in the middle of something interesting or that needs further explanation. She also likes having only two classes to focus on at a time.
- Focus on two classes instead of four

- I find she is learning better in one class longer days
- Students can just concentrate on two subjects.
- I find she is learning better in one class longer hours a day
- It is much easier for her to concentrate on two classes instead of four, as a result she is getting better grades.
- The quarter system has been VERY beneficial to my daughter. With only 2 courses, her ability to maintain focus has increased her skills in balancing school, sports and work. The fast pace of the quarter system requires students to stay on top of assignments. This has been an EXCELLENT last 2 years of education! Thank you!
- He retains information better and does well with the pacing of the courses.
- I have 2 now graduated sons who thrived in summer school because they didn't have the time to get bored. The course didn't drag on and they stayed focused! When they went back to school for the regular 4 courses in a semester, their grades went down! They got bored and distracted easily. My daughter in grade 11 is also loving this system with 2 courses a semester. Loves it!!!!
- Because you only have to focus on two subjects at a time and you can spread out your core subjects with options.
- More focused approach, he likes having a harder class in the am and then a fun one in the pm. It's a more enjoyable day
- My son is able to stay on task and keep up with the workload. He is doing better on assignments and tests as he is able to focus on just one core at a time. His grades are higher and he feels more confident in his schooling.
- I think it's nice for the kids to only have to focus on 2 classes at a time but yet I feel 3 hours in one room at a time is too much
- Although classes move quickly, I prefer how students can concentrate on two subjects at one time rather than four.
- Seems to learn more
- Firstly, my son prefers it. Secondly I think it's easier for him to focus on just one core subject at a time.
- Focused learning
- More convenient
- With the way things are right now with the pandemic, the quarter system lessens the number of people they are in contact with. I would like to see it go back to semesters if/when things ever get back to normal.
- I feel that my son excels better only focusing on 2 classes. He concentrates more
- I love that my child can focus on 2 classes instead of trying to temper stuff from 4 different classes. Helps him in his core subjects.
- My daughter is able to better manage the work load of two classes as opposed to four or more at a time. As she's in grade 11, this is all she has known of high school. I worry about a switch for her last year of high school, especially with diplomas.
- Nice that kids only need to concentrate on 2 subjects at a time. My child feels like he gets more done with the quarter system
- I feel the kids are more focused when they only have the two subjects to worry about each semester. Once it's done they can move on and not have to revisit it again until the next year.
- Focus more if your attention on less classes
- I see benefits for both. My son struggles with organization so managing only two classes is helpful to him. However the stamina needed for 2 1/2 hours of one class is also challenging. Communication with 2 teachers a semester rather than 4 is also helpful. The downside is if he gets sick and misses any school it is very challenging to stay on top of course work.
- This is my child's preference as he is into year two of this. He finds he can focus and learn better with this system.
- My child only has to focus on two subjects
- The quarter system although challenging at times has proven to be quite effective. I find my daughter can really dive in and focus without the distraction of so many other classes.
- My child prefers the quarter system because they find it easier to finish the course and the exams on the quarter system.
- Let's my child focus on less subjects at a time. For kids in options such as art it gives them a longer class time to get in to projects.
- More time to focus on each course
- Although classes are longer, it feels better that there's more focus on 2 classes rather than 4.

- Quarter system for my daughter as it has helped her to not feel overwhelmed. My son will be in grade 10 next year and I don't think that will be as important. In a dream world there could be a hybrid model with courses that really benefit from the extra time being quartered and the rest being semestered. I am also a teacher and know that the quarter system puts a different set of pressures on teachers that makes it challenging.
- He burns out on the semester system where he stays fresher, more energized on the quarter system.
- This faster pace system prepares them better for college level courses. I feel that this quarter system teaches time management better than a semester's system
- Only 1 core subject
- Only 2 finals per quarter.
- My child is better able to focus on just 2 classes at a time.
- This is the best for my child as 2 courses on being a core to concentrate on.
- It allows them to focus on the core subject
- My son likes having quarter system. It is better for subjects that are more challenging to have a more focused time. Also easier for students if they miss days or have to work from home.
- Less homework and less stress on student to have so many classes to juggle at once.
- It's great that they are able to focus on just 2 courses at one time. Also means only 2 finals at a time.
- I like that they only have two classes to focus on.
- Easy work load on my kid. Easier to focus on 2 subject at a time.
- I think it gives my child more time to focus on only 2 subjects instead of 4 at once so seems like less pressure. He doesn't like how long the classes are though.
- My son's marks have improved a lot. He isn't stressed about finals like he used to be.
- My son isn't stressed like he used to be when it comes to finals. His marks have improved a lot.
- Better focus on two subjects so although the class is longer there are less classes to focus her mind on especially with homework
- My daughter prefers the quarter system because she only has to focus on 2 subjects at a time, they delve deep into content and then are done in only 2.5 months.
- Less things to learn and focus on at once. Less exams at once time.
- Can focus on less core classes. More time each day in CTS
- Seems to be working for our daughter
- It's easier to concentrate on less subjects
- Its seems like the retention isnt there when its so fast
- My daughter seems to like it and is doing very well.
- Better to concentrate on courses
- Our family prefers the quarter system because there is so much More consecutive time in a day to learn and retain the information that the kids learned. Consecutive Time is important for learning anything I notice a difference in my son and his learning. Because of this amazing new system. The semester system is to overwhelming for a lot of kids including mine, its to much to fast and way to hard to retain information that way. I hope we keep it quarterly
- Gives more time to understand the course
- She has more time to focus on each class and I've seen a huge improvement in her grades
- He can focus one one or two subjects and helps seems to be easier to get if he doesn't understand a concept.
- It's tough to choose. The quarter system is nice in that they only have one core to focus on However some courses such as math need a bit of time to sink in to grasp the concept. Like that quarter system seems to get to point faster and they get to move on rather then dragging a course out half a year.
- We love that our student doesn't have too many subjects rolling through their mind and has more mental energy to put towards her coarse.
- Our son seems to concentrate better
- There seemed to be more latitude to explore other things to due with the life of an almost adult.
- Kid seems to enjoy slamming it out in 2 months, rather than it dragging on
- My son really likes it
- Less of a workload with 2 classes.
- Less homework and more information per class
- The children get more involved in the class

- Less coarse overload
- I like the simplicity of it all and the child only has to focus on two classes per quarter.
- Time until final exams is shorter and that may help them remember what they have learned
- Can focus on fewer subjects at one time
- My child is able to focus more attention when doing less subjects at a time.
- I chose the quarter system because it is more easier and advantageous for the students to study their course..
- It is easy for a student to focus on learning 2 courses than 4 courses.
- Having only 2 classes to focus on produces better marks.
- Only have 2 classes to concentrate on at a time
- More time to understand the subject
- Quickly earn credits, with time to retake or switch classes. Focus on 2 classes rather than juggling 4. Time built into day to meet with teacher before class and Friday. Able to fit in an extra class rather than have a spare for doing homework in anticipation of intensive semester with several academic classes at once. Later start to the day is easier, makes morning more relaxing.
- My son has been getting better grades. You're immersed in the subject so easier to remember concepts from previous classes and having the same class in such a concentrated period of time allows them to apply and practice those skills more frequently
- Allows focus on less for shorter periods of time.
- I would chose quarter system because In quarter system, the students can do their assignments in a best way since they will not forget easily whatever they have learned during the classes,.Secondly, they will have shorter breaks which helps them to come back to the grooves of the school. Finally, The students have more opportunities to learn more things by changing their subjects and take other subjects in a short period of time .
- Less time to remember what learned-easier.
- More time to focus on the courses.
- For classes that take more prep time the longer classes time allows for students to complete. For the classes like math I think the semester system would be better giving the students more to process the following concepts. It is too bad there can't be a combination.
- It seems to work well for my child... less at home homework... more ability to meet with the teacher with challenges.
- She seems less stressed with school
- Good to only focus on mess classes for exams
- Easier to maintain course work and homework, less stress during exam and test times
- He can focus much better on the 2 subjects at once, rather than the 4 subjects at once.
- It has been far easier for him to keep up with assignments and less anxious about many different classes
- They can focus on just 2 classes at a time
- Our son seemed to prefer this system as it afforded the time to concentrate on the subject matter and really understand it. He feels that managing his time in regards to learning course information and completing assignments is much easier with this system. He did mention that at times the courses can feel rushed, but overall preferred this system.
- Except Gym 3 hrs of straight gym is to much. She started fainting and not being able to do derby that we pay for her to participate in.
- Easier for him to focus on 2 courses then 4. Way better mark.
- They are able to focus their efforts on 2 subjects rather than 4 at a time.
- Better time to focus
- She finds it simple to set priorities and focus on the tasks at hand. She loves it for PE and Drama, as she gets to get in and really do the work.
- Seems to work well for this child and he is successful in his classes so far
- Kids seem to like it better
- I feel like my child is excelling with the quarter system. I do believe that they will continue to excel if they have a core course and an option not two core classes.
- Better to transition from jr to sr high also better to focus on just two subjects and labs can be completed for example kids don't dread the school year if they don't like a subject it's over and done with
- My children are learning more with more time in the day to focus on two classes in the semester which is giving them greater confidence with higher grades.
- Student only has 2 classes to focus on and do work for. It's not overwhelming

- We feel our children respond better to having only two courses per quarter rather than 4 courses per semester. Less to remember = better grades.
- My child can focus on one core subject per quarter
- easier work load for kids
- A lot of research in learning shows that longer periods of focus on a single subject is more effective than switching subjects/tasks many times. They call it a state of "flow". Multiple task switching doesn't let you enter flow and is therefore less effective. That's why I believe 2 subjects at a time is better than 4.
- Child has done much better academically and this system seems to be less stressful for finals. More motivated
- Likes only having 2 exams at a time.
- Child can focus on 2 courses alone
- Labs more productive kids learned more
- More time to focus and learn the course material
- It's nice to have one core subject and an option class in one semester. It's less stressful on the child.
- My child may do better with doing two courses per quarter because of peer pressure distraction reducing his ability to handle 4 courses per semester.
- I like that they have a chance to really get into projects and that final exams are broken up through the year.
- Only have 2 subjects to focus on works well for him, even though the course work is increased
- You get to enjoy favourite classes longer, less stressful, concentrate better
- She will have more time to focus on two exam in one semester instead of four in one semester
- Seems less for the student to handle.
- It's easier on the student they only have to worry about one core
- My girls love it. More time with the teacher. More time to work on subjects.
- It works for some subjects but not all
- So much easier for them to focus on 2 subjects! However the disadvantage for grade 12's is not as prepared class wise for College possibly.
- More time spent in class per day and more support
My son will need more support and I believe with longer class times he will have a better understanding of what is taught
- More time to focus on courses that can be difficult.
- He can focus on the two classes. When he missed school for a week due to his appendix bursting he only needed to focus on catching up on one class as the other was an option. However, missing one week is like 2-2 1/2 weeks so that is a challenge though as well.
- If taught PROPERLY- it provides the students with a better education, knowledge and understanding.
- For a grade 10 student, she enjoys only have to have one core subject at a time. However, she finds classes exhausting and incredibly long
- She stresses with more classes and homework

COMMENTS for PARENTS who think the SEMESTER system will benefit students better

- Missing too much information due to pace of instruction, from what I have seen with my children it has created a lot of pressure and anxiety as the pace doesn't allow them time to work on things they feel weak on as there already having to move on to the next assignment.
- I find that kids feel too much pressure going through so much curriculum in a short span
- Too fast paced not enough time to learn and practice concepts
- Too much information compressed over too little time. Our daughter is in a constant state of stress trying to stay on top of course work going at this pace - frequently reduced to tears or anxiety attacks from stress levels. This did not happen before the quarter system was implemented. Four to five tests/exams every week since school started. Completing a full unit in as little as two to three days is high-paced memorization with little content actually being absorbed before moving on to the next topic. This is not effective learning of the curriculum at

hand and I am concerned about how much will be remembered for the next grade. Much better doing more classes but slowing the pace down.

- It is not so rushed. You spend time on a topic. The children are so overwhelmed. You miss a day, it's a week. Ridiculous
- If the child is absent, they don't seem to miss as much content. Would be easier to catch up
- Only having 2 classes a day makes for long days, 3 hours for some students is not easy, and if they miss a couple days due to illness it is a lot to try and make up when then get back, 2 missed classes of 3 hour length makes almost a week of regular semesters missed.
- Unable to miss a day of school for vacation and also my daughter is in band and only gets to participate in on quarter.
- I feel like the 2 courses have so much work it is hard for some students to keep up
- More time to absorb what is being taught.
- the ability to learn material at a more even pace, the possibility of more classes including option classes and fast tracking classes.
- I think that by having semesters, students have more time to process the material and have more exposure to other classes and teachers.
- Long class times, difficulty staying focused. Fast pace through material does not allow enough time to actually understand concepts.
- Pros are definitely variety and the ability to not fall so far behind after a few days of illness.
- Unsure, haven't experienced a semester system. However our child has difficulty staying focused for a class that runs two and a half hours.
- More variety and the classes are not as long.
- Students have more time to master concepts taught. The quarter system covers a lot of material quickly. If a student is having difficulty they can fall behind fast and not catch up.
- Whatever works is good with me
- I think I prefer the semester system for two reasons...one things go at a slower pace and two if they miss school for extra curricular they aren't missing two to three days work.
- While it's nice to only focus on 2 courses at a time, it's been challenging for my child (with adhd) to follow the speed/focus required of the class for 2.5 hours straight, with minimal breaks. This is ok for some classes but for math it has been extremely hard on him. I also have concerns about the large gap of time between classes from one year to the next, especially in things like math (potentially 9 months).
- The quarters can be off balance, 2 options in the same quarter, then Math and Science in the same quarter. My daughter feels that the pacing in quarter system is too rushed and it is overwhelming to stay caught up if she misses one day of school.
- Based on my child's preference
- More variety for my son, difficult to study one Subject for so long.
- Depending on course load you can be overloaded with work. Take an English and Social quad. That could be a lot of reading and writing outside of normal school hours to get through course load
- Recently my daughter missed 3 days of school due to illness. Under the semester system, this would have been a minor challenge, but because of the quarter system, she missed 7.5 hours of each class, which is a significant amount of information. Also, I do wonder how kids can handle 3 hours of information on one topic at a time. I don't know if there is any information about that, but I feel like they may not be paying as much attention in hour 3 as hour 1.
- Kids get bored having to do one subject for 3 hours is to long
- Quarter system causes my child stress. When sick with covid, they almost failed. You miss significant amounts of content with the quarter system. They need to learn too much in a short period of time.
- Because my former honour roll student said it is way too much information packed into 3 hours, she said she can't process it all. She also said there could be a year between courses and she is worried she will forget what she learned. She is struggling, and she is normally a fantastic student! Please end the 3 hour quarter system. I was already considering moving my younger daughter (currently grade 8) in a different school because of this.
- Classes in the quarter system just seem too rushed. There is just so much information per class. Plus 3 hour gym classes? Crazy
- Not enough time to learn concepts
- Students have the ability to absorb more information over a longer period of time, and they can learn better. They also have the opportunity to work slower than you would in a quarter system, meaning they can work at their own pace while still learning and handing in work on time.

- My daughter tells me it is too rushed and teachers are giving exams the next day after new material is taught. No time. She hates it and is going to transfer to MHHS
- Too rushed. Teachers are giving exams for material taught that same day or previous day.
- For math and science in particular, there is test fatigue. My son has 2-3 quizzes or tests per week in one subject. The pattern of lesson-assignment-lesson-assignment does not allow for discussion, exploration, or inquiry. There is a lack of joy in learning. My son adored science in grade 9 and would talk our ears off during dinner about all that he was learning. This year he is stressed and frustrated. I had never seen him cry due to stress before this quarter. It breaks my heart.
- Matches post secondary (at least it used to), found due to no parent copied on school communication (no grade feedback or assignment missing) the first quarter our son managed to almost miss getting into the higher level math class next year.
- I prefer the semester system because it's not so rushed. A lot seems to be crammed in to a short time with the quarter system.
- It's moving too quickly for children just starting and adjusting to high school. The class average for my son's math class average was 53% that's a clear picture of how the 10s are doing
- Many subjects require time and bite sized chunks for effective learning (math especially)
- Slower pace so my child has a better chance to grasp the subjects.
- Our son has ADHD and the length of the classes is a challenge to sustain focus. The volume of material cannot be retained considering his limitations in executive function.
- Class length very long especially phys ed, I heard a lot of complaints about that one
- It is difficult for children who struggle with attention to stay focused for such extended periods on one subject
- Spreading the learning out over 4-5 months instead of 2-3 months helps them understand and retain the material better. Also, the longer class hours makes it hard to hold their interest.
- The quarter system classes are very long, it is cram cram cram and then don't remember anything for a year or more.
- Classes in the quarter system are too long
Decreased organization and time management skills for kids
Missing classes means kids miss a lot of information
Less socialization for kids
- I think that the schedule needs to be more flexible. Running based on what works well for courses.
- The quarter system seems to be a tad fast for my son. I think he'd appreciate the semester system.
- Easier for kids to study.
- Pace is too quick in quarter system. Child is considering changing schools due to fast pace
- 4 classes is better to keep focus
- The classes are too long, especially for the core subjects. There isn't enough time in the quarter system to properly learn and retain the material. Students learn something one day to be tested the next.
- The quarter system is an information overload. It doesn't give the opportunity to retain the information presented effectively and concretely. The go go pace is not beneficial for young minds and their brain development. Sure...they can do it and perform but it doesn't adequately portray their ability to be able to actually think about what they're doing...right now it's about just getting it done...and fast. There's no time to breathe and sitting in a class for 2 and a half plus hours is not ideal for anyone. The semester system will help break down info and the child will be able to retain better for the years ahead.
- The class length is WAAAAAY too long for anyone to pay attention. Also, we are encouraged not to send our children to school with a cough. So if it takes a couple of days for them to return to 100% health, they've gotten substantially behind.
- My child finds it hard to sit there and learn one subject for half the day. Her attendance this year is horrible because she highly dislikes the quarter system and so if she is not going to class then it is really difficult for her to catch up because of how much they teach in one class now. It's like 4 days in one class. It's ridiculous! Then she finds it even harder to go to class because of how far behind she is now. Honestly, she has tried hurting herself because she feels like terrible about how school has gone this year. She now has several counselors/therapists and she's missing more school because she has appointments she needs to go to and it makes life even worse for her, it's a vicious circle for her right now. I'm really worried about her and she's worried about

school. I think the quarter system needs to go asap. Like after Christmas holidays would be great actually!

- My son is in the Lap program and it's hard work others have finals and he is unable to go to school
- Variety of classes instead of two
- Too much information for my child to handle in a short time. Too long to sit in one class.
- There is too much material for teachers to cover & too much information for students to retain in such a short period of time. My son has found the stress level to be debilitating & overwhelming while in the quarter system & I've seen his grades take a hit. By the time they move to the next quarter, most of what they learned in the previous quarter is forgotten. The quarter system is not preparing my child for post-secondary education & I worry that he will be behind once he starts college.
- The amount of content in the quarter system is a lot for kids to learn at once, and creates a heavy workload nightly for kids. My daughter has had to ask her part time job employer to change her hours to only weekends. I'm not sure how kids can afford to play sports or do other hobbies to create a balanced lifestyle when they have so much nightly homework and studying to do. Tests and quizzes are more frequent, which causes a lot of stress. It is very intense. My daughter has never been more stressed out. In her words, the quarter system "is horrible". 3 hour classes are very long. It has been especially hard with math and science. The quantity of new material at once, i.e. new formulas and concepts etc, with not enough time spent learning and practicing, makes it very challenging. Having content spread out more with the semester system was much more manageable.
- Too hard to concentrate for 2+ hours for 1 class. Miss 1 class you miss 3 days, no online is proving difficult this year when kids need to stay home. Get way too far behind.
- I'm hearing that class times are just too long
- Quarter systems are too intense and do not allow enough time for the students to understand the content. Frequently multiple tests a week just to get through the content and no time to process or ask for help between classes. Also classes are too long per day to keep students engaged. Semester system is much better.
- Many reasons. My child is in French Immersion. With the quarter system, they spend half the year without any exposure to French. When they are in Social or French, their language skills and comprehension has atrophied so they find these courses harder than students may have in previous years. With so few courses in French in High School, getting to speak a little French each day through the whole school year is vital. I am sure other programs meant to run the full year, like band, have a similar issue. We have found that for some subjects (Math 10C comes to mind) that the amount of concepts needing to be covered in a week does not allow the student the necessary time to reflect and absorb the information before it is time to move on to the next topic. Very stressful. For many subjects, I feel the students are being "short-changed" in their learning. Two and a half hours is too much time for teachers to fill with content, so much of the period is spent working on assignments. This is a "bonus" for students who never seem to have any homework; however, this is not doing students any favours because they are not learning how to manage their time and their studying. I have heard from parents whose children have gone on to post-secondary after a year of the quarter system, that their kids are overwhelmed with the normal full-time requirement of doing 5 courses and are dropping out, taking fewer courses (thus prolonging the time it takes to finish) and/or are suffering from poor mental health. Not all kids go on to college or university, but even those doing something more technical or going straight into the workforce need to be prepared to manage their time and deal with some degree of normal stress.
- Quarter system not suited for heavier classes like science and math. Too much material that is not being taught thoroughly.
- I feel like the 4 quarter go to fast.
- My daughter has an increased anxiety level with the fast paced academic courses in the quarter system. She has commented how it would be nice to have more processing time before moving on to the next topic. It would also give more chances to ask questions.
- The quarter system moves too quickly for my child to develop understanding of concepts. There is no time to consolidate learning. If he is away sick he misses too much.
- It is situational I am sure, but for us having a longer time to focus on in depth subjects such as Math or physics is beneficial. It is a lot of material, and having such long classes doesn't always work well with that material.
- The amount of content my child needs to process in one day with the quarter system is too much. It's not learning, it's survival.

- The quarter system makes math and science more challenging/intimidating than needed. There is not time to fully understand and apply concepts. My child would consider AP math under the semester system only.
- We have noticed that our son struggles with the longer class times. Struggle to stay focused with the extended time in a class
- For the heavier core classes it gives student more time to comprehend the material.
- Band is preferred all year. Learning instruments is better long term. It requires consistent practice over many years. A few months of practice each year would see little progress. Also, going through courses so quickly is hard to process information. Missing a day makes it hard to catch up because so much material is covered, yet illness requires quarantine for 10-14 days. That's a large chunk of a course!
- With only two classes things just move too fast. I worry the students aren't retaining what they are being taught. Also I feel like that is too long to expect students to be focused and absorbing information on one subject.
- Not as rushed
- Three hours a day of math or physics is mentally exhausting and if they miss a single day they can't keep up. The brain can only retain so much at a time, it's setting them up to fail with the quarter system.
- More time to master a new skill before being tested.
- Variety in the day
- Many reasons why.

The Quarter system goes by too quickly to fully absorb and then apply the learnings. If a child is out for a day or two due to any symptoms they miss so much work and it becomes difficult to catch up.

The speed at which quizzes and tests occur is overwhelming and stressful for the students. As well we are not setting them up for success in post secondary where they will most likely be taking 5 classes. Having students only focus on 2 courses at a time is not helping them learn the organization and prioritizing that will be needed for post secondary.

The Quarter system further decreases the amount of french language that high school students are receiving in a year. It might amount to the same amount of hours, but it is not spread out over the year in any way that aligns to a daily immersive experience for the french immersion students. This negatively impacts their readiness for the DELF exam in grade 12 which is something many of them have worked very diligently towards. Already with 1.5 years of a quarter system there has been a marked decrease in language comprehension and fluency.

The Quarter system does not support the band program. Students are not able to play together and that is similar to a football team only having their offense and never playing with the defense. They also only get to play for 1 quarter which does not support the actual learning and further understanding of theory and practical work. This also sets them up to not be at the same level as other students not in the quarter system who are applying and needing to audition concert bands and instrumental music programs in post secondary.

As well, as many know, sitting and having to focus on one subject for 2.5 hours is very very difficult (even Hollywood knows that is too long to keep our attention) and therefore how much are the students actually able to absorb in that time period.

- It is VERY difficult to catch up if you have to miss a class. I'm always worried my child will get sick and have to stay home and will get way behind. Last year wasn't so bad because all the classes were streamed, so if you weren't feeling well or had a cough, you could still fully participate in a Google meet and not get behind. One day makes a big difference in the quarter system. Also, the classes are SO long. My daughter says it's often difficult to sit and concentrate for so long on the same subject matter in the quarter system. It's also difficult for test taking sometimes because the quarter system has to be such fast paced that you are often doing a unit exam for material you covered the week before and have already moved well into the next unit. It's not my favorite.
- It will allow our kids to get used to more classes to prepare for college or university.
- He is very driven and wants to do well, but he is overwhelmed with the amount of information and pace of the quarter system. It is causing him too much stress. There is not enough time to get extra help (at no fault of the teachers - there simply isn't enough time in the schedule)
- Children do not learn well in such large chunks of time. They need smaller pieces to be able to integrate their learning. Also the amount content to be learned in such a short period of time is unreasonable. It causes undue stress and pressure and our children are already stressed to the max.

- I think the quarter system does not provide enough time for the students to think about and incorporate new learnings. I am concerned that the focus for both students and teachers in a quarter system is to get through the material quickly
- My kids are in French Immersion. As it is they don't get enough French and if they only do two pure French courses they are each done on different quarters. This means she is only speaking French in 2 out of 4 quarters. In the semester system they speak French all year.

Also 2 courses at a time in no way prepare students for university where they will be taking 5 to 7 courses at a time. Learning time management is not possible with 2 course per term. Also kids need time to absorb information and 2 courses per quarter throws the material at them pretty fast.

Please switch to a semester system.

- Classes are too long, especially if the child dislikes the subject. Less time to process the info before moving on.
- My daughter does not enjoy the quarter system at all. If she were to miss a day she is weeks behind. She had two core classes first quarter and it was almost too much pressure.
- More engaged and higher grades
- It imitates typical/more common college schedules, preparing students for the next possible part of education. Missing one day of class due to illness is not as detrimental in the semester system for loss of instruction time.
- Grade 11 math was extremely difficult for my child. She is very dedicated and a high academic achiever but the disruption to online learning in grade 10 left her feeling very behind when grade 11 started. She felt as though she was expected to be a lot further ahead than she was able to be going in to grade 11. With the quarter system she has become very overwhelmed with the lengthy classroom time and has expressed this. Together we decided to seek out counselling at addiction and mental health because she was quite overwhelmed as she was dealing with other issues as well.
- I think 2.5 to 3 hours for one class is way too long to keep the attention of students. My student has had 2 core courses now in each quarter - first math and English and now physics and social - these are heavy courses for all day focus -- too much.
- The amount of content compressed in to such a short timeline is ineffective and unreasonable to expect teenagers to be able to integrate the content into tangible knowledge. Our current circumstances (pandemic) have caused intense stress and the quarter system exacerbates that stress.
- the classes are too long, and it is stressful to learn so much material at once
- I can only speak for my child but the quarter system is too fast paced and she feels like she isn't learning anything she will remember. She just tries to memorize it enough to pass the tests, there isn't enough time to adequately learn things before moving on to something new. The classes are too long and they end up distracted and bored which again they can't learn properly if they aren't engaging. When it comes to the core classes they need a slower more in-depth approach that the quarter system does not give them.
- The core subjects have a large amount of material to cover & the quarter is rushed. I found for my child that if a section of material was challenging she didn't have enough time to understand & get help before moving into the new material & because of this her grades suffered as well as her mental health.
- The Quarter system moves way too quickly and if students struggle to understand the material there is no time to review it
- The quarter system doesn't do anything for those kids that learn at maybe a slower pace, difficulty with comprehension, different learning style than the teacher is teaching and no time to adapt, socially it's been difficult because of the lack of moving around.
-
- gives student more time to learn and retain subjects
-
- It is overwhelming to be in 1 subject for such a long period of time. My child struggles with ADHD & this length of time is very taxing on her.
- Quarter system too fast paced for some kids
- It seems to be too hard to keep up in quarters. Too much to absorb in Physics or Spanish. Lose too much if you miss a day.
- Moves too fast. Classes too long.

- The quarter system was seemingly created more out necessity rather than a well thought through approach.
- A student misses one core class and they fall behind and have to play catch-up for the rest of the course. Especially hard and ineffective for those with learning disabilities. You can't put a square peg through a round hole. I'm very annoyed at this. Many children are struggling.
- My child is really struggling with math/ physics/chemistry with so much content condensed into such a short period of time. They stated they prefer having more classes in a semester with a longer period of study
- My child has never experienced the semester system however, seeing the hours put in to homework daily due to the pace of the course is substantial. Being a competitive athlete it is impossible to miss a class.
- The pace of the quarter system makes it very difficult to achieve mastery if you are struggling with a concept due to the pace. It also makes it challenging if you absent due to illness. Finally scaffolding is difficult. Could be too much time between course sequences in the quarter system making Learning slide/regression a concern
- The semester system allows for the kids to have time to absorb the information taught to them over a longer period of time. The quarter system moved way to fast and 2.5hr classes are too long! A ton of stress and pressure on kids (and teachers!) in the quarter system. Courses like math and sciences are especially hard to learn in the fast pace of the quarter system..
- My daughter is really struggling to keep up in the quarter system. They learn a unit in one day and have an exam and begin another unit the next. She doesn't even have time to get help if she needs it. Also if she misses one day she misses basically a whole unit. Her marks are really suffering.
- My child's preference
- better for my child's wellbeing
- 4 courses per semester is not nearly as draining on the student. Switching up more classes throughout the day helps concentration levels more and gives refreshing awakening for mental function to get work done more efficiently. Missing a day or two of school being sick makes it nearly impossible to try to catch up. I see a huge division between students for those that are able to attend and those that have been sick due to Covid or whatever the reason, can't make up the material since the workload is too much in one day.

My child is also still coming home with homework which I believe they should give them enough time in class to do, especially with such long hours. unfair with math as one concept leads onto another for if a student misses a few days. Getting online doesn't work nearly as effectively even though I am thankful for that process. It's harder to hear, to see what's going on, to see the board right, to be able to interrupt and ask questions with trying to deal with technology in between of things not working right. A student may have a teacher they feel is more boring or more difficult to learn from, which makes longer window Space of hours that much harder to get work done. From our experience this way of learning with longer Classes has not been very effective. The number one concern I have is the mental health of the students. It's too much stress, especially with everything else going on right now. I see kids at a breaking point. I am concerned with suicidal rates going up for students with how stressful The quarter system has been of two courses per quarter.

- The quarter system moves too quickly to properly absorb the information. My child is academically focused and finds learning concepts in Math and Physics for example, quite challenging. There isn't enough time to review and solidify concepts before moving to the next topic.
She is also a French Immersion student and is finding she is not able to read/write in French well enough due to not using it for a minimum of 2 quarters (more of summer falls in the schedule). She feels she would be doing better in Social Studies if it were in English and that her English counterparts have a leg up on achieving higher grades.
- The quartered system is inefficient and puts barriers for kids with special learning needs. Core subjects are too intense for these types of students and teacher/student relationships are difficult to make in this short time.
- The core subjects in the quarter system are placing a lot of pressure on my daughter to learn the subject quickly with not a lot of time to absorb what she's learned before a test. She is far less successful with this system. That length of time for a subject is hard for kids to stay engaged.
- Some of the newer courses seem very wasteful.
- Too condensed of learning and too long of classes.

- Harder subjects are difficult when they fall behind and need extra help, by the time they understand the concept the class is moving so fast they are now behind in the new concept
- It is more beneficial to French Immersion students. As only two high school courses are offered in French, FLA and SS, there is already limited opportunity for FI students to maintain their French language skills. The quarter system further reduces this into two 10 week blocks which is only half the school year. With the semester system students have the opportunity to have one course each semester in French throughout the entire academic year.
- The pace and duration of the classes is more suitable to teenagers.
- Quarter system goes through courses too fast daughter spends more time doing home work if she doesn't understand it and stresses she will fall behind cause tomorrow is another lesson.
- The quarter system is too fast paced for my child. She has been sick on and off, which has made it very challenging for her to get caught up when she has missed school.
-
- She found the quarter system to be very intense and it didn't allow for beneficial sequencing of her classes. For example, she took Physics 20 before Math 20 and the teacher indicated that she might have had quicker understanding of concepts if she had done the math class prior or concurrently to physics.
- In the event of being sick. It is Impossible to catch up on courses and maintain grades. Especially for 30 level courses.
International Students have a better opportunity to meet Canadian Students and have a better experience.
- The courses go to fast in the Quarter System. If you are a student who struggles or is falling behind, it is too difficult to stay caught up, or catch up and learn the new material
- The Material Goes to fast.
- Quarter system is terrible! Way too fast!
- The quarter system was very difficult for my child. There was way too much information to learn in a short period of time. I think this was the worst thing for any student that struggles in school. My child managed to pass her classes but it was a constant struggle. I am not sure if she retained much of the information that she was rushed through.
- I find with my child that if she doesn't catch on to something right away (math or science) they get left behind because too much is covered too fast. Also with only 2 classes for 10 weeks she seems to get bored with it and by the middle she isn't paying attention as she should be.
- The learning wasn't as pushed and fast paced.
- For many courses teacher did not adjust the pacing and assignments to reflect the intensity of a quarter system. In many cases, the semester schedule was merely transposed onto the quarter schedule which means students were not always able to take time to process information, practice and receive feedback. Punitive assessment mindsets (i.e. limited feedback, no chance for re-assessment) and an emphasis on test only summative tasks disadvantage students.
- The semester system allows more time for the kids to spend learning the course material. I feel This is especially beneficial for kids who might have difficulties with a particular subject or unit within that subject. The quarter system can cause anxiety as kids feel rushed with the condensed time line for learning
- Quarters are bad
- Kids are being overwhelmed with too much work in too short a period of time. They are struggling to keep up with the work because there is no break in 10 weeks from only 2 subjects. This is causing the kids to lose interest after a short time.
- For core subjects (math especially) it is too much content too quickly. And tests are too close together.
- It has been going well but sometimes with so much homework and test. I saw my son become overwhelmed and stressed out. He is doing well cause he's very committed but for some students I bet it was worst.
- The speed required to complete classes in 10 weeks is too fast. There isn't time to do homework or ask questions if you don't understand something.
- Not enough time for students who need extra help
- The system you are using right now does not work for kids that struggle in school. I'm sure your statistics for drop outs and kids failing have greatly increased since you have switched to this. It's a horrible system.
- The quarter system has been horrible for my son. He is a real social kid and being trapped in classes that are hours in classes has been awful. He has to work really hard in school and the content is being thrown at them with no thought of slowing down. The teachers keep saying they

have to teach 3-4 days of content in one class. It has been awful for him. Too much info coming at him way too quickly. The core classes are tough and if he misses one or two classes due to illness, he is so behind. Who ways to take a phys Ed class for hours? Brutal. Socially, grade 12 students want to see their friends in their classes. Not in the quarter system. Please go back. Please, it is too late for my son, but it needs to go back. Kids taking 2 core classes day the pressure is way too great! Chemistry 30 and math 30. Awful. Just awful.

I know of students who have had to quit their jobs because of the snout of homework and content needing to be understood.,

Please go back. For the kids who need the delivery in smaller chunks over more time.

I have taught many students and age I bump into the high school ones and ask what they think of the quarter system, they hate it.

- I like to see the development of work ethic and needing to learn how to manage more than one thing/ topic at a time
- I will state the obvious, there is no way anyone with common sense thought about the amount of stress you placed upon the students with this idiotic idea. Having the kids sit in a class for 2.5 hours at a time covering large amounts of information with not enough time to absorb all of the material, as I am certain had been reflected in the falling grades of the students. The next issue that I've personally seen is the huge amount of stress you have put on the students As they have struggled to maintain the highest marks they can and they have watched their marks fall and in effect change their future career choices because of this! As an adult and having to take courses to maintain myself in my field I can assure that never has any instructor thought droning on for anything over an hour was going to have any retention factor.
- Too long for kids to sit in chairs. Maybe better chairs? Not joking lol also difficult if kid has to miss a class to make up a three hour class
- These kids don't get the time to truly grasp, comprehend, and excel in the subject they're trying to learn. The quarter system is too rushed - learn this topic this week and by Friday you'll have a chapter test. And then they're moving onto a completely new topic the next week. I feel like students are being shorted in the opportunity and time to learn.
- My daughter needs time to process and study.... In the quarter system it goes too quickly. There wasn't enough time to book with a tutor Before they were onto the next unit and the things she was struggling with were already over. I believe the quarter system only supports students that can process quickly and do not need a lot of help.
- Let's look at the results of doing the quarter system, high student stress due to information overload in the 2.5 hour class time with not enough time to absorb it all, especially if you have issues understanding parts of it. Then the fall out from that, which I'm certain you have seen in the falling marks of the students having to learn this way, then the STRESS that this put on them and for some the career choice changes this has forced on them because of the difficult learning this way. You have teenagers who are going through a stressful part of their life as they physically and mentally develop which is hard enough without some idiot thinking we should make it more difficult by doing this quarter system...

Think back to when you were in high school, and wonder how easy sitting in any class for over an hour and then being expected to understand and absorb all of the information. We have had instructors say that this is not the ideal way to teach matriculation or other courses and have the students and their marks not suffer

- Quarters make any absence due to illness incredibly hard to recover from
- The classes are so long and there is a lot of learning packed into a short amount of time. It is difficult for my child to solidify the learning before moving on to the next concept or outcome.
- My daughter gets off overwhelmed with the number of exams. She feels like it is exam week all the time. For English she feels that she did not have enough practice for the diploma. They cut the number of essays.
- I think the longer classes doesn't keep students engaged.
- The material moves too quickly and there is not enough time process learning. That said, the quarter system is better than online learning.
- Kids are in the same class longer and it's hard to catch up if you are away sick.
- The quarters are making class lengths too long. If they miss one class they cannot catch up. Our brains are not meant to stay on one task for that long.
- With the quarter system my son had to spend too much time in front of a computer screen. Very little time was spent in class completing experiments or other hands-on activities. My son said that if he was not on his own chromebook watching slides, he spent a lot of time copying notes from the Smartboard with the same slides...

- Gives more time for kids to learn and actually understand what's being taught. I think the quarter system puts too much pressure on the kids
- Moves too quickly for subjects like math
- Too much too fast and hardly any breaks. After an hr or so the kids check out. I'm sure you wouldn't want to sit in math for 3 hours. so thanks for screwing my kid for the last 2 years.
- My son hates it. Says its too much of one class in one day. I could see that!
- There are good abs bad to the quarter system. It's very fast and doesn't allow kids time to process. The bonus is they have time to retake a class if they need to.
- If she falls behind there is more time to correct her and get help in the core subjects
- Too much info crammed into a shorter period of time. My child has a harder time with it. Not his learning style
- The classes are too long and so much is covered each day that it is very easy to get behind. It is also hard to sit there for that long doing the same thing. My daughter also doesn't see many of her friends as only 2 classes now. It's just not the same.
- My child found quarter system far too rushed for academic courses, especially in Science and Math. He needed time to process a concept before moving on to the next one.
- Student not so overwhelmed by content coverage in a short period.
- Classes are very long.
And subject material is taught too fast.
- She is finding the quarter system difficult. It is too much information too quickly. They are having tests, starting the next unit and still going back the next day for a test on the previous unit. It doesn't give them enough time to properly learn the material and let it sink in.
- The quarter system does not allow enough processing time for students. The pace is way too quick. If a student struggles with a concept there is no time to catch up they are left behind. Quarter system puts more stress on the students which can contribute to mental health deficiencies. The quarter system is also terrible for student athletes. If a day of school is missed for an out of town tournament it is like missing the equivalent of 2.5 days. This makes it difficult to catch up. The quarter system is not good for students.
- My child has expressed that it is harder to sit in the same class for longer each day.
- Too quick and too much info to retain in a short period. Math is a lot harder. It gets repetitive and lose interest in the subject.
- If you are a student in the 30-1 stream, the quarter system leaves little to no time for homework as the next day in class is onto the next topic. If your child participates in athletics or works, the problem is exacerbated. Moreover, every day of instruction missed is the equivalent of 2 days of instruction missed in a semester system. Heaven forbid a child is sick and misses 2 days of school because that is almost the same as missing a consecutive week of school in the semester system. Miss 1 day every couple of weeks to participate in athletics and a child is facing a disastrous quarter. Because of the need to move onto the next topic there is little time to keep and no time to try to catch up.
Throughout my years of post secondary education, the classes that my classmates and I disliked the most were our once a week for 3 hours at a time classes. We struggled to focus and concentrate for 3 hours at a time. Yet, in the quarter system children in high school are expected to find it in themselves to focus and concentrate for almost that length of time every day in the same 2 classes. Simply put, that is unrealistic and does not bring out the best in our children. The quarter system is the dumbest idea ever an educator could have for an active child in the 30-1 stream who tries to be well rounded student. Not sure what the agenda or narrative is for educators, but it certainly does not meet the needs of children.
- Not enough time. Moves too fast
- The timeline is much too fast for the students to properly learn and demonstrate their knowledge.
-
- The quarters go by too fast with a lot of info packed into a small amount of time, my child fell behind in Math 20-30 and had to drop as his mark wasn't good and retake, once behind there is no time to catch up with the quarters. At least with 2 semesters you can catch it sooner and be a little more proactive. Also looking at it from a social aspect they have more interaction with more of their peers right from the beginning of the school year being involved in more classes. My child started at CH in grade 11 and has struggled to meet "friends" with the quarters (and Covid). They don't really get to know their peers when they are so busy in the classroom packing all the info into quarters.
- This is tough to answer as for some of his classes like construction having a longer period of time to work on projects was great. However, it was a struggle for some of his academic classes like

math and science which moved quickly with little time to practice between concepts. This is also true for something like band which would be much better over a semester than a quarter. I've had three children go through high school and have experienced both the semester and quarter system. I would say that the semester system is the best way to go in the best interest of the students' learning.

- Too much information per class for the students. Also if the student has to miss a class it is difficult to catch up.
- Too heavy and stressful of workload on students especially with Math and Sciences
- Classes are too long
- In quarter you might take math q1 of gr 11 and then not take math till q3 of gr 12. Too long a gap in between. Classes are too long and too hard to cover all outcomes in 9 weeks
- It's harder to learn with the quarter system as it goes so quickly and if they miss a day or more of school because they are sick, it puts them even further behind and then they have to try and catch up.
 - He does better with the shorter classes and having a longer time to learn.
 - My child has time to absorb concepts. This quarter system goes too quickly
 - He has experienced both and prefers semester.
 - If they miss one day it is way easier to get caught up.
 - This student is doing very well with this system.
 - It's too much information too fast and then a long period of time before they take that course again so they forget what they learned!!
 - Too compressed and enough time to fully understand and grasp concepts from new subject like biology, physics and chemistry.
 - I feel with the quarter system the material is too rushed. The units are crammed in way too fast without enough explanation and chance to learn the material
 - I feel that the material per quarter is too rushed. They review units so quickly and some kids do not pick up the material that quickly and need more time to learn. Way too much homework evenings and weekends
 - Kids are struggling with the length of classes and how much is involved each day.
 - Quarter system is too intensive and overwhelming. Plus if they miss a day it's like missing 2-2.5 days of instruction. There's too much info crammed into one day and children can't concentrate on one subject for 2.5 hours effectively
 - Too much is lost if student is away for illness. Too much time passes from classes in the 1st quarter of one grade to last quarter of next grade.
 - Courses move too fast to get a full understanding in academics. Options ok but 11 weeks of 2.5 hours of physical education does not provide for a healthy lifestyle. Kids need to stay active all year long but semester is better than 11 weeks.
 - She sometimes finds the classes long & in some cases, hard to stay focused
 - I feel that the class times are too long for focus without variety. Also, if one day of school is missed it is much harder to catch up.
 - Band students have an improved opportunity to practice together. Creates more consistent social connections and gives students the time to build relationships with teachers and peers
 - It's more productive having a routine of regular classes, class times, and learning content over months not weeks.
 - I found that my daughter really struggled with math 20 and Chem 20 back to back, and she is a strong student.
 - Especially in the time of a pandemic where if a child gets sick they cannot attend. If they miss even a short time they are way behind. That was not a wise move. During regular times it would be good
 - The quarter system is next to impossible if a student already struggles in a subject. It's been almost a year since my son did math 10, and he remembers nothing, is really struggling now in math 11. It's very unfair.
 - The quarter system goes at too fast of a speed. My kid has mentioned that he just barely gets used to a concept and a new one is thrown at him.
 - The quarter system goes too fast. If you are sick for two days it's almost impossible to catch up. Also my son has said just as he is learning a concept that a new one is thrown at him.
 - If they get sick or miss a couple days they can't catch up. The classes go too fast and I feel she does do as well this way. She has also stated that she wished it was different.
 - My preference

- 1. Classes are too long in duration (3 hours/break)
- 2. Child one decided not to play Senior Volleyball as he had Chem 20 and Physic 20 in Quarter 1. On average there were 2 unit tests and 4 quizzes a week, plus assignments. If he went to practice for 2 hours an eventing, he would not have completed all necessary studying and assignments.
- 3. If a student is struggling with a concept, there is no time for teachers to reteach the concept, as they are moving onto the next unit/topic in a very short period of time. This is especially difficult for students when the subject content builds upon previous taught concepts.
- 4. The Quarter System does not work for French Immersion students ,as they are not immersed in French on a daily basis instead only 2 out of the 4 quarters. Our children had Social 10FI in Quarter 4 and then no course in French until Quarter 2 of Grade 11 (with summer in-between). We are concerned about their performance on the DELF B2 test.
- 5. We wonder how high students coming from the Quarter system are able to manage 5 courses in university.
- 6. If students are ill, absences can result in the student fall behind very quickly since the content is taught at such a rapid pace.
- Way too much work crammed into a very short time.
More stress, grades deteriorated. There was not enough time to learn or catch up before moving onto next unit.
- I believe the kids have too much coming at them too quickly. It only takes two poor weeks to set the stage for a poor grade leaving the student unable to catch up. My largest concern is that my daughter who is in grade 12, has a lot riding on her grades. I believe her to be a good student. She was at 78% in class for social studies yet her diploma she wrote a 58%. A friend of hers who is an exceptional student was at 95% and wrote a 60% on her diploma. There must be a major disconnect in the preparation done under this format that is not prepping even the best students to succeed at diplomas? This is a question that needs to be asked as this gap is too large by any account. I'm not saying that even the semester system is the solution but something needs to change in this front. I'm concerned the teachers are clearly not getting the complete curriculum covered in this shortened time frame and believe something needs to be investigated further.
- Difficulty focusing for the whole length of the class. Missed so much information when he was sick. Also, I feel that students need more time to process information. My son greatly preferred the semester system.
- The quarter system goes to fast and my children don't have enough time to process and master content before moving on. They often have 2-3 hours of homework in order to stay caught up. I also think the quarter system sets academic kids up for failure at the post-secondary level as a full course load is 5 classes. It's very difficult for them to retain much when so much content I'd covered in 10 weeks or less.
- The quarter system has created a great deal of stress on my daughter as it moves too fast.
- Quarter system means students are learning material twice as fast which could mean struggling for students
- My child would have time to actually learn the curriculum. The teachers might actually have time to teach the whole curriculum.
- 3 hours of PE is unrealistic to maintain. Course material passes too quickly for students to solidify learning . There isn't time to ask questions because new material is always being presented. Unrealistic 'school course load' as students transfer to university. Students are not truly learning, they are regurgitating.
- Quarter systems are too long of a class period. My child dislikes that it is too repetitive .. every day. It's too much work to try to fit into quarters.
- She has adhd so it's hard to concentrate for 2. 1/2 hours on one subject.
- Too much subject matter in too short a time in quarter system.
- the quarter system has limited which courses she was able to take during each quarter. she had worked hard from grade 10 to fast track and graduate early, with travel goals before university. Because one of the core subjects was not offered each quarter, she is forced to wait for it to be available, thereby not allowing her to graduate early.
- Teachers have not adapted thier teaching to meet the quarter system. All that has happened is they have squished all of the learning into a smaller chunk of time. My son was learning 2 lessons a day in math. Some days he would learn a lesson on a new topic and then have a quiz on the previous lesson in the same period and then still have homework on top of it. Both children spend up to 3 -4 hours a night on homework when they have an overloaded academic quarter. And this is in a covid year where their extra curricular activities have been reduced.

When my child missed school day due to waiting on a covid test he missed two lessons from one class. He was expected to learn online without any support. During that time he missed a quiz that he was told he would have to make up the day he got back even though he had no time to ask questions or get help. My son's marks have decreased by 10% due to the quarter system.

- I feel the semester system provides a more well rounded education.
- It's scientifically proven for students to learn properly that they shouldn't be staying on one subject for more than about 40 minutes without a 20 minute break. In between. With the semester system this was somewhat obtainable. With the quarter system Work classes are 2 hours and 50 minutes long after about an hour kids get a scheduled 17 it's at a scheduled 7 to 10 minute break and then they're back in class for a minimum an hour and a 1/2 is hour and a 1/2 without a scheduled break. I believe this is one of the main reasons for the increase of the decline of students mental health
- Allows for a variety of learning and not getting tied down with one course where struggles begin and no chance to take a break. Currently only has one lesson per day and when overwhelmed led to poor attendance
- the quarter system is horrible. its far too much time to spend on one subject and far too easy to get behind. my child's grades have suffered because of this poor choice
- Absorbing the information for core classes in such a short time has proven difficult for him, especially if it is challenging.
- Too much information in a very short period of time
- It seems harder to keep up in this format
- With the quartered system having extended classes (2.5 hours) for subjects like Chemistry, Physics and Math make for a lot of homework each night. Also, when away due to illness or COVID symptoms makes it difficult to keep up with course work.
- Long classes, lack of time to be able to catch-up after missing for being sick or for athletic competitions, each class actually moving faster than university studies. My son has high academic expectations of himself and he is having more difficulty in his 30 level classes than he has previously. As well, you can have up to 18 months between 10 to 20 or to 30 level course.
- Student is stressed at having to cram everything into 2 months and finds the length of time inn class tedious.
- Given the exceptional learning needs of my children in which they need additional processing time and, at times, will miss a few days of school because of health needs, a quarter system will be too fast paced and likely seriously impact their ability to accurately demonstrate their knowledge and skills.
- Too much time focused on one subject. Too heavy of a work load. This system failed my child.
- The pace of the top academic courses is extremely stressful for students. Missing a day for their extra curricular or an illness puts them incredibly behind. In preparation for post-secondary students need to have more than two courses they are responsible for at a time.
- Too much cramming into such a short period of time. Especially hard with math 10

OTHER PARENT COMMENTS:

- The way the system is running, it limits the amount of options a student can take. We never know what a child may show interest in if we keep taking away options. The system is closing doors on students that still haven't decided what their future goals are and the district is taking away a potential choice without realizing it. We want students to learn and grow and see and feel what things could be but with limited options they will never know. I've heard it that options are still there. Yeah options are there but they only happen during xx period in xx semester. Student has to fill his core classes first and then fill with option classes. My other concern is that because students don't have options they end up with spares and the. Have to rush and fill with classes they have zero interest in to get to 100 credits. Would you work in a place that you have zero enjoyment in a quarter of your day. How would your mental health be. How would your family and friends feel like after hearing you complain about your job. But, we put teens through that and they expect them to be happy engaged citizens.

- If they miss a day it's a lot to catch up
- Taking some of the core classes for 2.5 hours can be very draining and then having a tutor on top of that makes a very long day for some classes.
- Keep the quarter system!
- We don't like the quarter system at all
- I think the 4 quarter system is great and I really hope it stays this way.
- Do not like quarter system. Go back to semester system.
- For the students that need a little more time in order for them to be successful, The quarter system was a disaster.
- I do understand it is not ideal for students who struggle. There is also not a lot of room for review either, which is hard in math/science-based classes.
- This system is going to be a struggle/hard for my son transitioning from Grade 9 to Grade 10. It is too long for him to sit and too much work at one time.
- Just that core classes be split quarterly.
- Please change it back.
- Kids are not able to learn and absorb the information
- The quarter system was meant to be an emergency response to covid & most other school zones have returned to the semester system. The district is failing my child by continuing to use the quarter system.
- For the most part my daughter has done well with quarter system. I do believe having the lesson available online is helpful as missing a day in the quarter system can be detrimental. And absences are not always avoidable.
- I love it for electives but for core subjects it is a lot to pack into a short amount of time
- This is very rushed , quicker then college and too many substitute teachers who don't know the curriculum!
- Please bring back the semester system. Our teens are not college kids. This feels like a university approach to learning.
- not a lot of positives with the quarter system. we very much hope we go back to semester system.
- No
- No
- Only concern I have is if my child had to miss school due to isolation, they miss a lot if they can't be online.
- Need to get back to regular schedule
- No
- Please stay with the quarter system
- Love the quarter system!
- No
- If you continue with a quarter system, please expect me to request actual research that shows the benefits of this approach.
- Don't change back, please keep the quarter system!
-
-
- The quarter is terrible. If it continues next year we will pull our kids and do online school with semesters to ensure better chance of success.
- No
- No
- My son has thrived in this system. This is his 2nd year doing it at Hat High.
- I would like to see this system continue!!
- Classes are long and move through material very fast , not enough time to actually learn material properly.
- For some students/classes, the quarter system can work with effective assessment & pacing. Some disciplines lend themselves better to the quarter system. However, our experience has been detrimental to our child's feelings of worthiness and success. I don't know how feasible it is to run a system where there was choice between quarter, semester or even yearlong options for course completion. Time tabling & spec would be tricky. If we truly are wanting to provide more of a high school redesign model, choice and meeting individual needs of students could be served by a model like that. There are examples of high schools that run more flexibly scheduled courses based on grade level learning teams instead of discipline based

departments. If the pandemic has taught us anything it's that we have to be more open to changing the existing structures.

- I know the quarter system was in place for covid restrictions but honestly have you been to a Hawks football game? They're all drinking out of the same cup lol. I think it's time to go back to more traditional learning with more time to engage and learn the material. I really feel it's too rushed in the quarter system, classes are too long and they lose interest in the material
- I was sceptical when it was announced. I think it has proven itself to be an excellent system and I wish it had been available when I attended CHHS oh so many years ago.
- I understand the thoughts behind using the quarter system to cohort students for public health reasons. I'm sure it is nicer for teachers to have fewer students to deal with each quarter. I know kids enjoy the lighter load (imagine having phys ed and art in the same semester!) but we are doing our students a HUGE disservice by continuing this model. We want to build capable, confident students, particularly as we try to recover from the other learning issues that Covid has brought on. Give our kids a semester system so they have more courses to handle at once, and more time to do deep and meaningful learning. Prepare them for the real world, please.
- Mental health affected
- Quartered moves really fast and long classes but my son works better that way because he has less homework! More time to work in class!
- Semester system is best way to ensure students understand material
- Great that they pair a core course with an elective as it helps to balance their learning.
- The only problem is the large amount of information she could potentially miss if she is sick for a week and she is unsure if she can join those classes virtually
- Even with the quarter system, the class lengths maybe could be reduced to 2 hr lengths. Shortens the day, kids will focus more with like 1.5 to 2 hr class lengths compared to 2.5 to 3. Attention spans reduce with the longer lengths of classes
- Please don't switch back to the old system. My daughter is now thriving with this and has no time to get bored. Kids go to school to learn and are focused now.
- Nope, already have them previously.
- It is not conducive to student learning.
- Having an older child who has graduated, when you are trying to take all of your sciences and math, there is not time to process new info if you don't understand something. The pace is very quick and you can fall behind quickly.
- It is horrible.
- I hope to see the quarter system continue.
- Please go back to the semester system for next year.
- I think that they should return to the semester system. Although my children will no longer be attending a school next year as they are graduating. I feel that my children, especially as grade 12 students have been greatly impacted by the quartered system, for kids who take all 30 level classes, including all sciences and math 31, with few "options" classes other than a language the pace of the quarters are too fast. My children are high achieving and they struggled and became frustrated with the constant "go, go, go", I can't imagine the difficulties for the children who already struggle or who fall behind with, so little time to catch up or get the extra support BEFORE they learn or go onto the next concept.
- Love the quarter system and hope it stays.
- We are very happy with it
- Stop it now! Think back to when you were in high school being in the awkward stage of life, trying to keep good grades so that you can follow your career choices and then having some idiot day let's do a quarter semester because being a teenager isn't hard enough?
- My child's marks seem good, concerning if she is actually retaining any of the info in the short time.
-
- Love only having 2 classes at a time but feel the class length is abit much
- Please don't change it.
- Initially I did like it, but as time has progressed, I think that the system lets kids down right now, especially ones who struggle academically, in that the fast pace provides no time to play "catch-up" if necessary for those students. The lengthy delay between grade levels, say going from Math 20 to Math 30, could be a year and a half, which is much too long. I also think the teachers struggle with it as well.

Finally, kids who are absent should always have the option to attend class remotely. This was done and enabled during the pandemic, and I don't see why this shouldn't continue to be a viable option when necessary.

- It's way to compressed
- We prefer the semester system.
- I believe the classes are way too long to keep the kids engaged. Also, depending on the teachers, some classes did not take breaks because they were trying to make it through all the material.
- If your subjects are related, especially from year to year, there is less time between the time courses are taken in the semester system, which I think is more effective.
- Two classes at a time is nice until your child is sick for 3 or 4 days at a time and then catch up is next to impossible! Very overwhelming and no fun.
- Only down side is that the long lags between classes may cause stress. I.e. you take math in September and don't take it again until the following year. I am hoping the subject comes back and she will be able to pick up with no difficulty next September.
- I think the quarter system is great! My kids seem to prefer it as well.
- Love the 4 term system I hope you keep it
- Please keep the quarter system
- As all students have different rates at which they can absorb and retain information, I have to wonder how some of the kids that have to work harder for there grades are coping at such a pace as their in now, as well as the teachers having to maintain that pace and not having appropriate time to help some of the struggling students along because the timeline for them forces them to move on so they can cover the course material.
- Would like to see the semester system to return
- No
- Even university doesnt have back to back three hour courses every single day
- Four courses per half year also lessens the knowledge transfer gap during a day's absence.
- It has also limited social interactions which has also been damaging to their mental health.
- I like it.
- My child thinks it's great
- The quarter system is stupid. Why is it that crescent Heights did not change back?
- If you don't like a teacher your only stuck with them for 1/2 the time
- Even the quarter system is kept, as there are some advantages, teachers must find alternate ways to assess learning so that test fatigue is avoided. Science and math, in particular, are problematic. May I suggest that the school division provide PD or support so that teachers can add new assessment strategies to their repertoire. The impression I get is that some teachers refuse to adapt their teaching and assessment to the quarter system, and that is why quarter system is so problematic. Whether it is due to lack of confidence, knowledge, or effort —some teachers are not adapting and the cost is loss of joy, engagement, and interest.
- I firmly believe the quarter system is having a very negative impact on kids mental health and impeding the well rounded and inclusive education that the Canadian Education system aims for. Youth that struggle with core subject fall further behind and anxiety is at an all time high. Well the focus on academics is incredibly important we also want to create global citizens who have well rounded experiences. I do not believe the quarter system achieves this in any capacity. Connection has already been lost with Covid and I think we may be living in a Covid world where we have learned to pivot - we can pivot again if warranted but I don't believe that keeping a system that is clearly broken and will have serious repercussions in the future is warranted.
- If possible, please keep the two classes per semester as my daughter who has ADHD and is in grade 10 has never enjoyed school more and when I ask her how her day went she glows and brings out her assignments, wanting to share with me. Thank you so much for your time and considering the input from parents.
- The quarter system moves very fast. For tough subjects like math it can be very overwhelming. Students are easily left behind.
- My daughter felt that math was harder. Lots to take in, in a short amount of time.
- Just as stated before, phys ed and performance and shop classes can be beneficial to all in a quarter system, but many courses are challenging to deliver and receive in an almost 3 hr per day format.
- I hope that the quarter system stays!

- Semester system is better
- semester i believe is better and i think home room is also very valuable to a student, no real 'connection' to school/peers/teachers right now ... basically in and out, not building community of learnings.
- A survey like this ought not to determine if the quarter system continues. I hope that actual evaluation strategies are being employed that relate to developing a system that relates to data about how children learn best and fits their developmental needs.
- Quarter is too rushed for math too intense
- It Is my belief that if you continue with the quarter system we're gonna have a lot more high school dropouts a lot more high school suicides and an incredibly increased in the decline of these children's mental health it's time to wake up school district 76 and do right by these kids. And And I know this to be true because as I write this I spend every 2nd of every minute of every day fighting to keep my oldest child Who has always been nothing but an honor student Alive so I don't have to bury her.
- I would like to see semesters return. It has caused my daughter so much stress, I think it's awful to cram that much information into one class and expect them to be successful.
- The classes in quarter system are too long for kids this age.
- Go back to the semesters. Putting in this change during a global pandemic was a ridiculous idea. Students are struggling enough! the quarter system has defiantly created a survival of the fittest scenario and is not something that benefits all students
- my kids loved it as we had one graduate last year on it. Would love to see it continue!
- Seems to be working fine for my child. Keep up the good work.
- No
- Child really likes the student support time...please keep this regardless of quarter or semester
- The quarter system was a good solution to reduce contacts but long-term the semester system worked better for my student. She has been more overwhelmed by the increased daily content in one class with the quarter system
- It looks great on paper but my children are they one saffected and no one has asked their opinion until it is too late for my oldest and my youngest has struggled all year.
-
- As a parent, I was very disappointed last year at the number of times class was let out as much as 90 minutes early. It was a disaster to coordinate as the kids aren't supposed to be roaming around but the teacher lets them out 90 minutes before busses arrive. It's better this year.
-
- They both have their pros and cons. Perhaps, getting the stat-numbers on how students have done academically in the quarter vs semester, then stick with which one works better. On the other hand I think for diplomas quarter would be more beneficial as the material learned should be more fresh in their minds?
- Maybe consider for options but not for core.
- It is not a good system for kids that struggle.
- We need to go back to the semester but my young man like the quarter so we are stall mate on this question.
- you should return to the semester system in the new year
- Please keep the quarter system for at least 1 more year until she graduates. I think it will be very difficult for her to transition to a semester system at this point.
- The boys seem less stressed about school now.
- We love it and can't say enough positives about it !!
- I understand why this was needed for the school shutdowns, but moving forward we need to return to the way things were.
- I dont like it
- Yes, get rid of the quarter system and bring back the semesters. Keep it at Catholic Central in Lethbridge...
- Does make for long classes.
- As a parent, I loathe it!!!! Go back to semesters!!!!
- Just wish it would go back to Semesters
- it was a ill-thought out decision that needs to end
- Love the quarter system
- I do not think it supports the learning objectives, and mental well-being for our students in the short or long term.

- Worked well for my kid
- His grades have improved drastically as he has time to get his work done and focus
- Just I think it works better than the semesters.
- For some classes, I wonder if a shift in the way in which instruction is delivered might be considered? Is a quiz or test every day necessary? Are there other ways to determine if students are understanding the content or skills? This definitely causes stress for my daughter, and I'm sure there are others who experience this as well.

I also wonder if there might be an opportunity to offer both quarter and semester style courses depending on the discipline. Fine Arts or CTS courses in the quarter system allow for longer periods of time to do projects, while Math might be better suited for semester long courses in order to allow concepts to sink in over time. Would allow for both teachers and students to operate in the time frame that works best perhaps.

- Prefer semester system.
- My daughter wants to add that it is tough to be in one class with one subject for that long, that it is rough to sit there and that other students get bored and start distracting one another. I also want to say that I know other parents who hate the 3 hour classes.
- In the event that a child is sick and unable to work for a day or two. It is equivalent to missing an entire week of content.
- Please switch back to semester system
- I know many enjoy shorter hours at school with the quarter system but our goal is to learn. Many kids love the fact they can sleep in and teachers let them leave early but I am not sure we are doing them any favours.
I'm also hearing top students in diploma courses having to get tutors to help them because course work is coming to them at a rapid rate. Often subjects like math need time for digestion and practice. If a child is having an "off" day, that could mean several concepts are affected.
- The semester system is easier on parents who have to supervise homework and might have to learn the material in order to teach it.
- I believe that the semester (old school) is way better than the quarter system, some of the students DO NOT learn as they do slowly. The quarter system is way to fast.
- I prefer the quarter system. Easier for students with higher anxiety.
- It sucks and now my kid has paid the price by being a Guinea pig
- Taking two classes allows one to be more organized and to excel in that class.
- Keep it!
- My last child is graduating, but our other two did semesters. I think the old way seems better for focus
- While I think my kids have done well within that quarter system, I have faith in their teachers to help them do well in either the quarter system or the semester system.
- School should go back to normal
- It is also not good that our son is in grade 7 but drives to school with our daughter who is in grade 12 so then they don't start and end at the same time each day so she always has to go early and stay late which also I'm sure is the case for many families who have more than 1 child attending. It's not fair to the older child having to always be waiting.
- The quarter system made it really difficult for student to catch up if he missed even one day. It seemed to to work well in subjects like automotive, cosmetology, golf and sport performance but was not well-suited for academic courses.
- I like the idea of being able to focus on only 2 subjects, however, the fast pace is detrimental for retention.
- The quarter system sets Neuro atypical children up for failure. I also would like to see any research on long term retention of knowledge and implications of same for even typical learners, let alone atypical.
- School should be more for the benefit of students than the teachers. Many kids get left in the cracks
- The downfall is when they miss a day, they miss a lot of teaching/explaining. The classes are long too, maybe more breaks or a longer lunch break would be beneficial?
- attention span of students is not as long as duration of periods in quarter system
- I would really like to see a return to the semester system, for the reasons I gave in the last answer
- none of my children enjoy school anymore due to the quarter system. its too much, too fast

- The grade 12's are at a huge disadvantage with the quarter system in our district. Other districts have gone back to the semester system and we have heard that the students are doing much better academically. I think it is going to hurt their chances of getting into post secondary institutions, especially coming off two years of Covid learning. They were in grade 10 when they went online and I think there are huge gaps in their learning from that year. With the quarter system, there is not the time to review properly and catch them up.
- The classes seem long for the kids.
- Quarter system has made it hard to keep grades up. If your sick, students are stressed about having to miss class.
- No
- The semestered system allows for more variety & not such a rush through subject matter.
- Please keep the quarter system!!
- As I recall, it was related to COVID and decreasing the isolation of close contacts. That does not apply anymore. As such, why was the quarter system implemented this year? Not sure.
- Would love to know if overall grades are improved or lower with the quarter system? I strongly feel it's too much material to cram into a quarter.
- I think that the quarter system works well for some classes and for some students. I hope that there is some thought given to how a creative schedule can look in the coming years, not just jumping from quarters to semesters.
- I feel that students and parents should have a choice. If a quarter system is desired by the people in charge of our district, perhaps they could make it optional in our city. One school could offer quarter and semester. Lethbridge is able to offer both. They have one school, with teachers on board and trained to teach in the quarter system, and parents/students who choose that.

The quarter system may have been helpful for quarantining times, but I'm not sure why we would carry on with it. It works for some option courses, but not the academic courses nor the arts courses. Work completed in the quarter system does not compare with work completed in the semester system. Perhaps marks were higher last year, but there were no diplomas. Students did not complete the same amount of work (ex writing samples) in the quarter system as they did in a semester system. To set students up for postsecondary success, learning to balance four courses is important. Having the opportunity to meet students in four classes is important for socialization.

Please think about the academic students.

- It is VERY fast paced with subjects that are more challenging for my student - for math we needed a tutor! One falls behind quickly if you miss a day.
Breaks are not frequent enough - it's a big brain drain - more breaks would be helpful for focus
- I think it is wonderful for option and CTS courses, it may be a struggle with core subjects as the teachers have to cram a lot in everyday to get everything taught that is required.
- Please get rid of the quarter system!!!
- I love it. I realize my child won't be in school next year but I have another child who will be in junior high next year and I think the quarter system is so beneficial for high school students
- I don't think it's a good idea at all.
- i would like to return to the semester system
- See previous
- quarter system does seem to rush through subject matter but I do think in the long run it is probably the best
- We understand the importance of Quarter system at the beginning of COVID to help limit cohort numbers for students to minimize the spread.

With increased vaccinations among students and teachers, the importance of limiting cohorts has diminished.

I think the quarter system provides less optimal learning outcomes for our high school students than the semester system due to the condensed timeframe and larger gaps between courses in continuing years.

If the quarter system continued, we would consider other education options for our students.

- More difficult to retain learning, cover too much material too quickly
- Change it back to Semester System :)

- My hope is that the district returns to the semester learning schedule. This will give the kids breathing room to comprehend, study, prepare and actually think and know the information presented to them. My child is TIRED everyday !! His brain never shuts off and it is not good for him to ALWAYS be thinking about school and the go go pace of it all.
- The quarter system is too fast for learning. My child is always tired. And always thinking about school and his mind doesn't turn off. I believe the semester system will give appropriate breaks to comprehend the material and him the ability to THINK instead of just trying to get it all done quickly. The go go pace is not working. It's making more stress and the joy of learning is not 'fun' anymore, because the information just whips by and you can't even catch your breath !!
- The quarter system is better due to the fact it introduces to the kids how fast pace university courses are.
- I'm concerned switching back to semesters will overwhelm my child.
- To have one main and one elective each quarter
- struggling to stay motivated in two classes
- End the Quarter System
- Please bring back the semester system, the quarter system is ruining my child, she hates school and she used to love going to school. I don't like seeing her go on this downward spiral.
- We have had issues with the amount of coursework missed when unable to come to class for illness or Covid testing. One teacher said he will NOT set up Google classroom unless you are 'deathly ill' and completely unAble to come to class. Seems unreasonable to me that a child who is legally required to isolate due to illness is now faced with the added stress of catching up after missing a day or 2.....which is a ton of homework. That being said, overall the quarter system works for us.
- Mine
- I do worry that content is delivered in very rapid pace and if they don't understand or miss any days due to illness or sports they can quickly fall behind, but I feel teachers are doing an exceptional job at allowing children to access lesson (video recording or via google classroom) if they do need to miss. I thought I would hate it, but my child seems to prefer it.
- The only thought is that if say a student has Math in the first quarter, then doesn't get Math again until the last quarter in the next grade level that may prove to be difficult for the student.
- Thank you for asking about our experiences. The quarter system works for my son. I do hope that this will remain an option in the future.
-
- I find my boys learn easier with two classes at time I prefer the quarter system as well
- In certain classes its like there not learning or retaining what they learned
- I support staying with the quarter system.
- Please go back to the two semester system.
- It's too soon to tell - but I think the semester system gives students more time to build positive memories of high school.
- Too much information in such a short period of time, not all students can absorb that much information in that time frame
- I have noticed the accelerated pace of a quarter system often means 3 or 4 quizzes/exams each week which they really struggle with.
- Teachers were not given time to properly prepare their courses for the quarter system. Some classes have not adjusted their assessments to reflect this pace, giving 30+ assessments with little tolerance to student interventions when necessary...focussing solely on 'we need to get through this'. Giving mass feedback on forms that don't reflect the individual students responses is another frustration I've heard from my child.

At this point, what is the rationale for continuing the quarter system?

When teachers are giving 'timed assessments' in class to 'prepare' them, I ask, how does taking 2 classes prepare students for post secondary?

- My kid has hours of homework every night now that they do quarters. Not healthy. Had to quit music to keep up

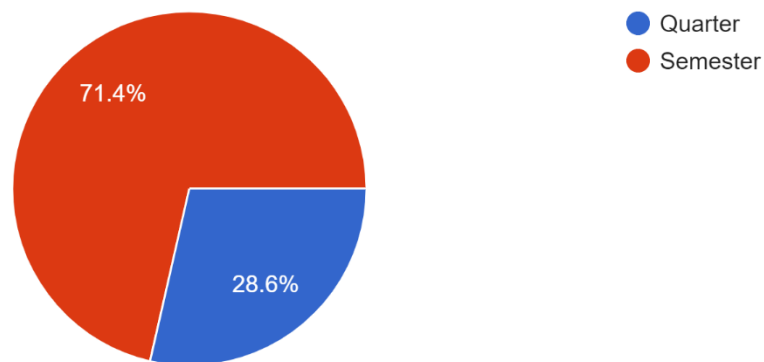
SUPPORT STAFF RESPONSES

-
- Admin (1) – chose quarter system
 - Clerical (2)

- Counsellor (1)
- Educational Assistant (9)
- Librarian (1)
- Success Coach (1)
- Not identified (1)

In your opinion which system benefits student better?

14 responses



COMMENTS for support staff who think the QUARTER system will benefit students better

- The student has only 2 subjects to focus on at one time and can sometimes feel less overwhelming
 - I feel both systems have pros and cons. I like the quarter system because students can get really engaged in projects, however, this is primarily a benefit in CTS courses.
 - For grade twelves, only two diploma exams maximum to study for. Not as many textbooks to keep track of.
-

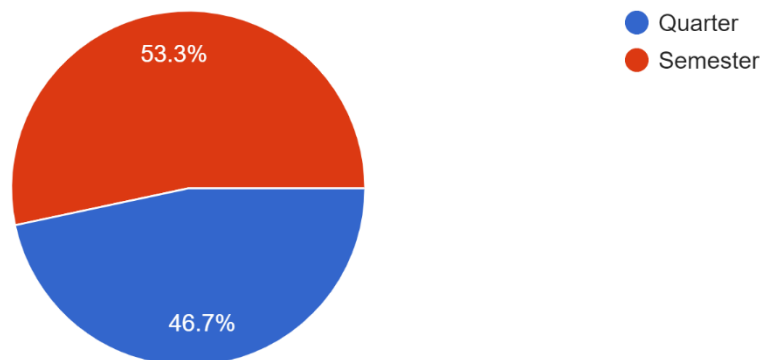
COMMENTS for support staff who think the SEMESTER system will benefit students better

- I like traditional learning
- To keep a student engaged for three hours a day for one class is almost impossible, they are given so much information at a fast pace, the concepts don't sink in. Basically too much, too fast.
- Attendance issues are difficult to recover from when one day equates to two and a half hours of classwork.
- Class times are too long for the students.
- The quarter system moves too fast for many of the students, they do not get the opportunity to master any of the skills because they need to move on and learn new skills. The other problem is being able to focus in class for a longer period of time is extremely difficult for students. They get distracted, fidgety, and then just overwhelmed with the amount of material covered each day, and so just check out part way through the period, missing important concepts.
- There is more time to learn subjects.
- I believe the quarter system does not give us enough time to build a good rapport with the students. In our role we need this piece to make any amount of impact on the students we are working with. I also believe that this is too long of a time per class to keep the kids focused. All around I do not like the impact the quarter system has on our students learning.
- there is no real answer that benefits all students but it does seem like the quarter system is too fast.

•

Which system do you prefer to work within?

15 responses



COMMENTS for support staff who prefer to work in the QUARTER system:

- Truth is, the quarter system is all I've known.
- It is easier to keep track of what classes they have
- I don't have a strong preference. Both the quarter and semester systems have pros and cons.
- It's easier to collect and sign out textbooks and novels, as the volume isn't as high.
- More time to work with concepts from different angles

COMMENTS for support staff who prefer to work in the SEMESTER system:

- It is slower paced, if a student doesn't understand a concept, there is time to go over it without such a strict time line, that other concepts will be only touched on or even left out. Also if a student misses a day in the semester it is equivalent to one day, not two, like the quarter system. It is slower paced and way less class time, a student will be more likely pay attention the whole class.
- It is difficult to form bonds or develop trust with students who struggle academically, emotionally or mentally within the quartered system. Some degree of trust is essential when you are working with the most challenging students in the building.
- More variety. Not having to be with the same behavioral kids too long. The same goes for them so they can have variety.
- I feel that the semester system allows much needed time to assist the students in feeling competent with the skills and information they are learning.
- More time to help.
- Same reasons as stated above. I believe we are not able to do our jobs as efficiently when we have less time to create meaningful relationships. I also believe that it is too much information to feed to these young minds in a short period of time. I feel that it does not give the students time for processing.
- more opportunity for student support

OTHER Support Staff COMMENTS:

- If there was a way to have core classes semestered and CTS and option classes quartered, I think the students would benefit substantially. The extra long classes really allow students to get into a project or take on more challenges because they have the time in each day. The

core classes can be challenging as students begin to 'zone out' and the teachers really have to push hard to get everything taught on time. I have noticed this particularly with our less academic and/or our students with various disabilities or learning needs.

- Although I support the semester system I do believe that the quarter system allows for more flexibility with student schedules. Additionally due to the fact that I work in many English classes I have seen times when the longer classes work well for written assignments.