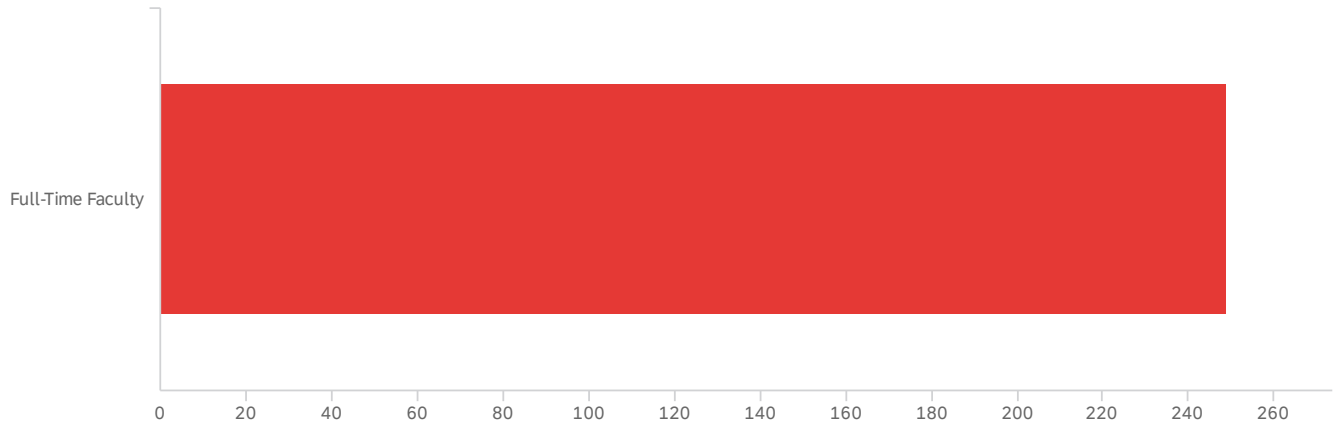


All full-time faculty

Compressed Calendar Survey VCCCD

April 26, 2021 12:00 PM PDT

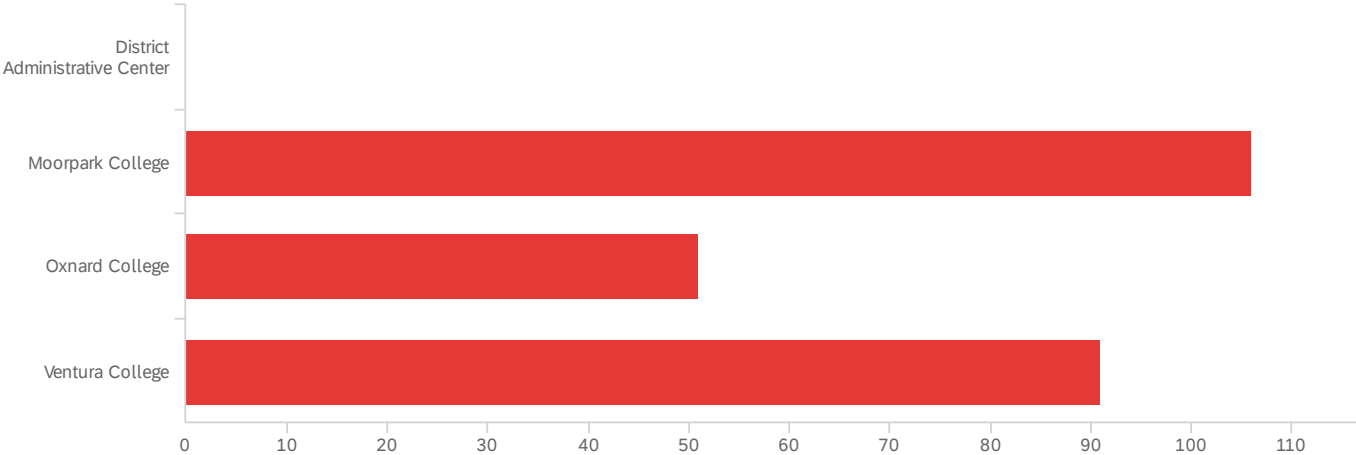
Q1 - Role



#	Field	Choice Count
3	Full-Time Faculty	100.00% 249

Showing rows 1 - 1 of 1

Q2 - Location

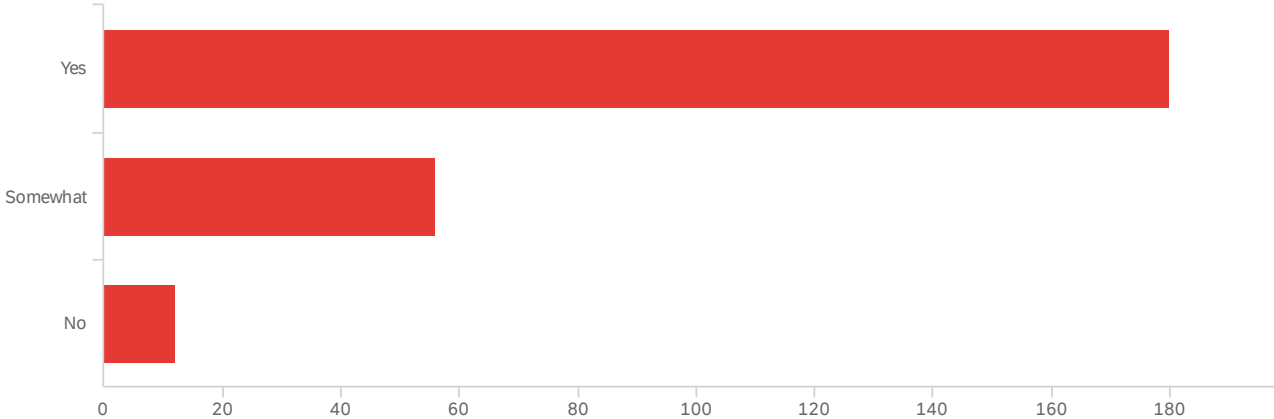


#	Field	Choice Count
1	District Administrative Center	0.00% 0
2	Moorpark College	42.74% 106
3	Oxnard College	20.56% 51
4	Ventura College	36.69% 91

248

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

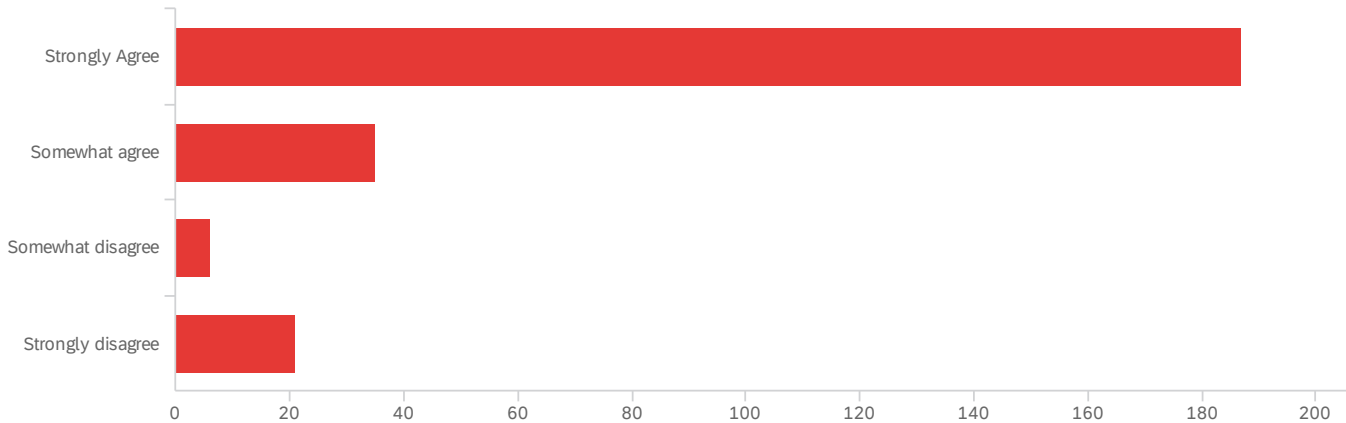
Q3 - Do you feel well informed about the proposed 16-week semester instructional calendar ...



#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	72.58% 180
2	Somewhat	22.58% 56
3	No	4.84% 12
		248

Showing rows 1 - 4 of 4

Q4 - Which best describes your response to this statement: Overall, I am in support of a 16-...



#	Field	Choice Count
1	Strongly Agree	75.10% 187
2	Somewhat agree	14.06% 35
3	Somewhat disagree	2.41% 6
4	Strongly disagree	8.43% 21

249

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

Q5 - Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semeste...

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

Seems like it creates a system where time is used more effectively.

Student success rate will increase and there won't be the same level of burn out. We will align with virtually everyone else.

Higher student success/retention/matriculation; need to do something to change low success rates

I feel it better matches the expectations of all other area colleges and universities.

I the opportunity to have a Winter Session is valuable to students. What's more, an 18-week semester is simply too long. Truthfully, I'd rather opt for a 17-week semester, but between the two options, I think 16 weeks will be a breath of fresh air.

It makes good sense to match our schedule with other colleges in our region; students might prefer a shorter semester.

Shorter Semesters

Many colleges have already adopted the 16-week semester. It's about time VCCCD also moved in this direction.

To prepare for students for a quarter system at a 4 year institution.

It has been widely used by other colleges and universities, with good student/faculty turnover.

Student's learn better, when there is so much lag time, they tend to focus on other things.

I feel that 18 week semester is very long, and other colleges in So Cal. are already administering 16week semester. We need to be competitive and forward looking.

I just like that we can minimize the time to 16 instead of 18. More convenient.

Have taught in a 16-week semester system. Just the right amount of time and instruction. Preferred.

Most other colleges are on 16 week schedules and I truly believe it will benefit out students.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

What evidence is there for student success?

I agree that 16 weeks is more in keeping with other colleges and universities and may be beneficial to our students. I also like the idea of a 4 week winter session. I am just not sure how the hours in a week would be calculated.

the opportunity for students to take additional courses to accomplish their goals in a timely manner.

Retaining student engagement and course completion.

Pedagogy and student learning is not beneficial to a shorter term and longer learning sessions. Look at learning in quarters verses semester. If it is better, then let's move to a quarter system.

Benefits to the students success rates. More scheduling flexibility.

Our semesters are too long and are not the standard in the state or nation. Students find the long semesters difficult and this would really help with student success and retention.

There are MANY reasons why I'm in support of a 16-week academic calendar, and I've been hoping for one for a long time. In my opinion, there are significant downsides to our current calendar, which negatively impacts part-time instructors, full-time instructors, AND to students (most importantly). 1. An 18-week calendar negatively impacts part-time instructors. When I was an adjunct, I used to AVOID teaching at colleges with 18-week semesters. An 18-week semester required instructors to work 4 extra weeks a year AT THE SAME PAY. The longer semester also meant less time to plan classes over breaks, less time to recuperate (let's be honest, we all need that time), and a different schedule than every other college where I worked. This means that adjuncts that accept positions at colleges with 18-week semesters likely have to turn down opportunities to teach winter or summer sessions at other colleges. As a part-time instructor, money can be especially tight and this is a huge problem. In summary, I believe our longer semesters make it much harder to find applicants to teach at our district (or the ones that start here don't always stay for long). 2. An 18-week calendar negatively impacts full-time instructors: Having experienced both calendars, I can say with confidence that an 18-week calendar is EXHAUSTING. I spend my entire winter break cramming in work and trying to get everything ready for spring. That means that I work without a break from August - May (and then usually teach a summer class or two to make ends meet (especially since our district is low-paying in general). I haven't had a decent break since getting hired in this district - I'm exhausted. Given that the time spent in the classroom is the exact SAME, I'd rather have 4 extra weeks off per year to plan and take a breather. 3. An 18-week calendar negatively impacts students - If I'm feeling this exhausted, I can only imagine how students feel. Our student population generally needs to work while going to school. The shorter semester allows them to work more during breaks to afford things like tuition and books. And, it allows them to get more of a "break" from school to recuperate or to focus on work or family obligations. It also allows them (if they desire) to graduate more quickly by taking more summer or winter classes here or at other districts. While additional intercession sessions aren't a requirement of a condensed calendar, they're certainly an enticing option down the road. I believe that we lose many students to other districts for the reasons stated above.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

While we could spend more hours a week lecturing, it'd be very difficult to accommodate all of our labs. Adding 15 minutes to our lab weekly isn't enough time to complete a new topic. A shorter semester would erode the integrity of our classes.

We can have a Winter term which is very important for students to complete some courses they need.

I've read the materials and also know other community colleges that are on a 16-week semester schedule.

It gives students more opportunities to enroll in classes throughout the year.

Aligns with other colleges, and will provide a winter break in January.

Allows students an extra chance to earn credits

In order to better serve students as far as taking more classes. Also, it is beneficial for faculty to get a good rest especially after Christmas should they choose not to teach during the winter and summer. More family time.

To align with other institutions & avoid fatigue/burnout of such a long 18-week semester. I believe that less students would drop classes.

Need more information as to how it is going to affect my work hours and days as an Academic Counselor.

I like the option to give students a winter session opportunity to take classes.

1. We lose too many students in 18 week courses. 2. The winter session is a great way for students to earn extra credits, or work, or relax. 3. The shorter term aligns with more colleges and universities.

The longer semester significantly contributes to the overall high performance and success of MC students

Most classes fit nicely into 16 weeks instead of the longer 18 weeks. Time productive makes sense.

16 week semester is better for student retention.

I'm convinced that it will benefit students.

Most other semester systems in CA don't use 18week semesters. Students might have better motivation to finish the term.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

I read the proposal but I am concerned that I may not have enough information to make an informed decision.

It fits with every other nearby school. So along with being better for students in terms of academics, it will also benefit their scheduling.

I do believe the 16-week compressed schedule will have a number of problems for many areas at the college: 1) Sciences and Engineering will lost two full lab sessions from their semesters. 2) Nursing will be negatively impacted since they have required clinicals with required numbers of hours for their students. 3) Schedules for areas such as EATM, Theatre Arts and Music will have their obligations/schedules negatively affected (especially EATM that has to have the Zoo staffed and covered). 4) Math courses will be compressed. This may cause Math not to be able to offer a six-unit course. 5) This will negatively affect pedagogy, and many students (especially those who struggle) will have to learn/retain more material in a less amount of time, even though the claim is that the "number of hours in the classroom will remain the same". Student "study hours" over the semester will be greatly reduced. This will result in lower success rates among disadvantaged groups. 6) This will affect faculty workload. The current 40-hour work week (in 18 weeks) will become a 45-hour work week (in 16 hours). This may bring up legal/labor issues in requiring, by nature, faculty to have to work "overtime" during the week. 7) The semester won't be shorter for classified staff. They will likely have to work MORE days than before. 8) The claimed advantage of the 16-week schedule is the insertion of the 4-week "winter intercession". The benefit for Math would be small, as only a few 3-unit courses could be offered (the 3-unit courses in Math are those that only have 2-5 offerings in an ordinary semester anyway). 8) The only apparent benefit voiced by faculty is "more time off". This appears to be a benefit for faculty, but not necessarily for students. 9) Under the current 18-week schedule, we already have the option of offering "Late Start" classes (15-weeks). By compressing the schedule up front, we lose a lot of this flexibility.

Most other JC's and universities are in this schedule. In addition, we could offer (short/4 week) winter sessions

Because 18 weeks is too long and serves no pedagogical purpose. Much research supports that student success rises with a shorter semester.

It will allow student to take more classes in Winter semester and transfer faster.

I would have to see how non-teaching faculty's scheduling will be impacted by the change.

The 18-week semester is too long.

Effectiveness

It aligns better to other colleges and students needs

Additional 4-week winter session benefits students.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

It creates the possibility to offer a winter session

A 16-week calendar is more equitable and is what most other colleges and universities use in our area. The winter term will provide students added schedule flexibility and could help improve retention and success.

I have a couple concerns, but overall I agree.

Students learn just the same and in fact, I believe they learn more and retain more in a shorter period of time.

Students (and faculty) have a hard time getting through 18 weeks. I've been other places where we had 16 week semesters and I enjoyed it

I do not have enough information

The 18 week calendar produces greater burnout as there is a longer middle period where the semester is neither new and exciting nor can students/instructors see the light at the end of the tunnel.

I do agree with the change. I'd like to see a break between terms.

I am not sure that I support a 16 -week instructional calendar. I would like to see data on how reducing the instructional calendar to 16 weeks will help students. Also, I am not certain that the current proposal aligns with the Ventura Unified School District K-12 calendar (particularly the week of Spring Break) which greatly impacts students with children in local schools. The wording of the current proposal to adopt a 16-week calendar is not accurate and misconstrues the implications on faculty schedules. The current proposal indicates that this calendar offers "an additional earning opportunity by teaching over winter." This calendar does not provide an additional earning opportunity because we already offer a four-week session from May-June. The district may lose enrollment by moving the current four-week session (May-June) to January because university students who take semester classes from January to mid-May will not be able to take a 4-week class in January. The number of service hours that faculty will need to do on a weekly basis will increase because the total number of hours will need to be completed in a shorter amount of time. Faculty schedules will need to accommodate longer teaching days and more weekly service hours (87.5/16 rather than 87.5/18) which may not be feasible on a Monday-Thursday schedule. I would like to hear the student survey feedback before faculty get to vote on the proposed 16-week schedule.

To bring VCCCD into conformity with nearby CC's and CSU's.

18 weeks is much too long and far longer than any other campus I've taught at.

I've wanted this for 15+ years

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

We need this for faculty and students

I believe a 16 week calendar is more conducive to student learning

I'm accustomed to the 16-week teaching structure and I think students are in favor of shorter terms where possible.

Lack of information on how contract will be impacted for both classroom and non-classroom faculty.

Some classes require more time for practice/lab practice

I support the 16-week semester instructional calendar in order to provide a winter session for students; however, concerned about the impacts this will have on staffing schedules: classified, both classroom and non-classroom faculty. Additionally, would like to get student's input.

It provides another opportunity for students to take another class during a winter session.

Based on the research it's better for students to have a shorter semester, to be able to advance coursework in Winter and Summer sessions, and to provide support. With a balance of DE and on ground courses, we can serve students better.

It negatively impacts health sciences programs from a clinical hour standpoint and a student learning standpoint. The lecture content is so dense for all of the programs, and students struggle to synthesize the content that they need to in the 18 week semester already. For nursing from the clinical standpoint, the problem is with our clinical rotations where 13 hours shifts are better for learning or that's all the clinical placements that we have available. There are no make-up days available at some of our clinical sites. The hours will need to be redirected to outrotations (limited supply), simulations (need funding for a lab faculty to lead and evaluate them), or other indirect patient care. Rearranging the clinical hours for nursing isn't totally insurmountable, but the students will have one or two direct patient care days changed to non-direct patient care hours in about 5 out of 8 clinical rotations. With COVID we've had students with decreased direct patient care hours due to quarantine or hospital closures; and rotations where we lengthened their clinical days up front in case a surge closed the hospitals again or an entire clinical group was quarantined. The decrease in number of direct patient care days is noticed in performance; likely from an effect on breadth of diagnoses and patient situations. For radiologic technology from the clinical standpoint, their 2nd year students are already in clinical for 32 hours a week and Fridays have 6 hours of lecture. Regulations rightfully do not allow them to go over 40 hours in a week of clinical plus lecture time, for the protection of the student and patients. There are only so many hours available in a week.

It seems to be better for students, and requires only a bit of a shift for employees in my area.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

VC is the first district I have worked for that has a 18weeks semester and I have worked for 3 other distintas in SCal. I was actually flabbergasted when I found out that there was also no winter session offered as this always allows and benefits students who want to get ahead and complete their degrees at a faster pace or transfer. A 16 week semester allows for enough time to cover classroom curriculum without burning students and faculty out. Given the CCC Vision for Success and Guided Pathway initiatives it would behoove the district to highly consider moving away from the antiquated 18 week long semester.

Students first. It allows them to take a winter session.

The evidence gathered by the work group that the 16-week semester calendar benefits students.

Important for students to have a winter session for an opportunity (other than summer) to complete or retake courses and not fall behind. We lose a lot of students to other schools during the winter sessions.

more efficient, congruent with other schools, love the longer winter break & will have little effect of schedule for students or load in my area

This would be amazing. I hope we can get this done.

Having taught under both semesters, I believe the 18-week semester to be superior pedagogically, especially for lab classes.

For the nursing courses I am teaching our students are already learning a tremendous amount of content in the short duration of 18 weeks to further take away 20% of the length of the course would require them to pack too much information in weekly and would I believe impact not only learning outcomes but the overall physical and mental health of our students.

I believe that students will benefit and we may have less attrition.

There is so much research out there that supports the 16-week calendar. Students would be the biggest benefactor of this move. I support it 100%!

Students are more focused in short semesters. This aligns with other colleges and gives them more opportunities to complete their education on time.

Students- they need a shorter semester

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

It is better for students: more in-line with the vast majority of other community colleges and universities (helps planning and eases the transition from our institution to a different one); will lessen "burn out" often seen 2/3 of the way through the semester; slightly longer class periods will allow for more in-depth group discussion or activity and gives longer for test taking; a notable number of our students currently miss the first week of the Spring semester because they are still out of town or the country for the holidays; winter session gives flexibility to students who want to graduate more quickly.

Aligns us with all the other colleges in our area. They start later than we do in August, which allows them to attract students who are not ready to start in mid-August. For my courses, the compressed calendar with slightly longer class sessions is not a problem. The inter-term session is a nice opportunity for students and also can take away the intense wrap up/holiday/ramp up cycle we do in 2-3 weeks every December/January. This also brings us more in line with the Cal State schools and many private universities.

I would like more clarification about the following: *If we adopt the 16 week semester instructional calendar, will faculty have to teach their classes M-F (as opposed to our current calendar where most faculty only have classes 4 days a week.) *Would faculty be required to teach during winter session?

Agree with research on student learning outcomes.

It will align the VCCCD calendar with that of the neighboring districts and the CSUs to which our students transfer, and will very likely increase our enrollment by both FTES and head count.

This conforms to the overwhelming trend in our area. We must not stagnate!

Each Spring semester, students start "falling off of the radar" as their counterparts head into finals and we have several weeks more to go. They burn out. The 18 week semester diminishes student success if you measure student success by the "# of students completing the course / # of students enrolled in the course" metric.

It is best to be in alignment with other local colleges.

There is no good reason for us to continue with the 18-week calendar. It is burdensome to both faculty and students, and it is clear that student performance suffers from extending it beyond what is necessary. Moreover, having slightly longer classes during the week is helpful for digging deeper into the material. By the time I am done taking roll and getting things started, it always feel like we have to cut things short once the discussions start getting good. Being able to go a bit longer will help me to develop a theme in the depth it merits, but without going so long that students and teachers get exhausted (like the one-day a week classes often do).

For students

The 18-week module induces student burn-out and consequential drops in performance.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

Most of the research that I have seen says that a compressed calendar is better for students.

18 weeks is just too long for students. They see more likely to burn out. Too many potential students don't realize school starts in mid-Aug.

I "strongly disagree" with going to a 16-week calendar because of it is unethical to offer, teach, or take a 4-week class. Injecting a winter session into the schedule, rather than extending the summer session to include only 8-week classes, is an unethical proposition. If the argument is being made that a 16-week regular semester will produce better success rates for our students, than go for it, but not if it creates a new problem (a four-week winter session). We already have summer sessions that are 4 and 6 weeks long, which is not long enough to provide the same level of material and learning as a regular semester class. Thus the summer classes are mostly ways administrators and faculty can make extra money, while students get cheated out of a top level educational experience (just like the winter session is going to be, but worse). Rather than improving our regular and summer sessions, we will be possibly improving our regular semester system, leaving our summer session flawed, and introducing an unethical winter session. If the realities of the market or greed are driving this process, than so be it, but I find it hard to believe that we are making a student centered decision.

I believe it is important to be better aligned with other institutions in terms of schedule, especially since our students may take classes at multiple schools. Anecdotally, as faculty, I also know that 18 weeks is a very long haul for our students. A shorter, more intensive approach will be easier for them and therefore more effective.

I would like more details as to how it would affect my added time needed to deliver the same content for both lecture and lab hours

It is about time VCCCD went to a 16 week calendar. Almost all of the other districts have seen the benefit of this and have made the change. It makes sense for student success and completion. It was proposed by the AFT 1828 negotiations team back in 2016, but the VCCCD was not willing to negotiate on it then. I am glad that VCCCD has finally seen the light and is willing to make this change. It is time for VCCCD to embrace the reality that 16 weeks is better across the board for all parties and make it happen.

I like the idea of a 4 week winter break and 12 week summer break.

I really like the idea of being able to offer students the opportunity to take short term classes during the mid year break in January. In addition, students get fatigued with such a long semester.

Student engagement and commitment will improve, student comparison to other community colleges knowing VC is the one of the few that have 18 week long semesters. Students will be able to complete their courses in a more timely manner.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

In general I don't think 18 weeks of instruction is necessary. The fact that we keep offering more and more 8, 9, and 10 week classes illustrates this point. Many other community colleges have changed to a 16 week semester so there is no reason that our District couldn't as well.

In my experience students loose attention/motivation in an 18 week semester. 16 weeks is long enough to present the material but short enough to keep student focused and motivated.

I have been asking for this for years. I feel that it is best for student retention and gives students a chance to take winter courses. Most of us have gone to late start classes and see improvement in student success and retention.

I strongly believe we need to offer a winter session.

Students are in favor of it

I feel that the 16-week semester would not only benefit our students but also our part-time faculty as it would align with other districts they could be working at. As a faculty member that has taught numerous semesters of 18-weeks and 16-weeks I find that students tend to stay on tract better with the slightly shorter semesters.

Having taught both 18 and 13 week long classes I know my students and I would learn and teach well in a 16 week mode.

The semester calendar alignment with the majority of higher learning institutions provides students an opportunity to prepare for the rigor of 16, 10, 8-week courses when they transfer to UCs, CSUs, and private universities. Additionally, the winter session is often taken by students who are motivated and determined to transfer. An extra semester during the calendar will provide them that opportunity. As it stands faculty, winter break is bleak. Adding a 4-week winter session allows faculty who wish to take a break and not teach the choice.

It is not stated how are salary would be affected and whether the 4-week intersession would be required of faculty.

More student opportunities

the winter session needs to be 6 weeks long... NOT 4 WEEKS...! 6 weeks will have MC end at the same time as local high schools - and will better serve those students wanting to take summer classes...!

I believe the district needs to reflect the semester length of other institutions; 18 week semester is too long for students.

My worries about lab scheduling.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

opportunity for additional work for part-time faculty

Benefit our students the most with such a shortened schedule. It creates more flexibility for students to add more classes with more options in the time frame. It will enhance students' transfer rate quickly. In addition, it can increase our college's FTEs in competing with the neighborhood districts and universities in attracting more qualified students. The benefits is way greater than costs in the long run! It's a win-win situation for all Mooparkers.

Provides more opportunities for students to take courses.

Concern with additional workload for student service areas

There would need to be major changes to the contract in order to make the 16-week change. I am not sure how this would all work out.

To support student success. I also feel 18 weeks is too long of a semester, which becomes a very long marathon for students to survive.

I believe the 16-week semester instructional calendar would put our schedule more in line with other colleges and universities. It could help combat student burnout at the end of the semester, and it would be nice to give students the option to possibly take classes during a 4-week winter session.

It would align with the students taking their final exams and the state boards

In my experience of teaching short term classes, the students do better with having a quicker more intensive course than a longer and drawn out semester.

Our is a program that runs 365 days and our hours are limited by the sunlight outside. We will not be able to run our all of our classes within the time frame.

More to fit with the near by community colleges (LA) schedule.

I chose this answer because I believe student would be benefit from a winter session. The winter session will allow them to achieve their academic goals quicker.

18 weeks is exhausting for students.

I have not taught an accelerated 4-week course ever. I'm hesitant to "strongly agree" with the 16-week schedule if winter session will eventually become a requirement for me.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

I have seen many instances where my students run out of steam around that 15th or 16th week in the term. The 18 week term is just too long to keep their energy up.

The 16 week calendar has seen widespread adoption across California and VCCCD will benefit from moving to this calendar in many ways. These include the new option to include a 4-week intercession, which will allow our students to complete degrees and certificates in an accelerated fashion.

More opportunities for students to complete studies in a timely manner.

Greatly improves student success rates as well as transfer rates. Aligns with all other surrounding community colleges and universities.

I think it is valuable for students to have the opportunity for a winter intersession and I think a 16-week semester is much more aligned with other schools and will foster an easier transition for students who transfer to semester-paced four-year colleges/universities.

Students will be more focused in completing their coursework.

All the other college districts do it and it is the right thing to do. Our current semesters are too long. A winter session option is a great idea also.

Students burnout after 15 weeks

The current semester is too long, does not sync with educational organizations around our colleges, and contributes to student burnout.

Beneficial to students and providing winter intersession of classes.

The 18 week semester is way too long. Students begin to drop out - officially or just mentally. In addition, the 4 week intersession offers students a great opportunity to earn more units!

I am concerned that the college does not have enough science lab space to accommodate longer lab sessions, especially for anatomy and physiology and microbiology. Most of the labs are occupied morning and night. Would you have to cut some sections during the fall and spring to allow enough time for longer periods? I don't think that benefits students or faculty. I only favor the change if lab space is added to prevent cutting CRNs.

More enrollment options for students. More prep time for instructors. Better alignment with other institutions.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

I chose this answer for a couple of reasons. First, our students always hit a level of burnout towards the end of the semester and I feel and have heard from students that it is related to the time they are in classes over the term. At a certain point, they are just done and wanting to complete the course. I also think it is a wise move to move to a 16 week schedule so we are more in alignment with what is happening at most other colleges across the state and with our feeder college.

It would be more beneficial for students

Research indicates students do better with a slightly shorter term. My own experience bears this out. Most students do best with courses that are 12-16 weeks in length. It provides enough time for most content to be delivered effectively, for students to process and apply the content, while short enough to help maintain focus and engagement in the course.

There seems to be less student drop out when classes are on a compressed schedule.

Shorter semesters promote student success during that semester. They also open up the Winter intersession which gives us more FTEs and allows students to take a class or two towards their educational goal.

18 weeks is entirely too long! Students check out the last two weeks of class. The content taught in an 18 course can easily be taught in and compressed to a 16 week semester.

Best for the students, provides an additional session for taking a course.

Previously worked at an institution with 16 week terms, and could see the benefit for students. 18 weeks is too long.

Need more information about how this would impact my work hours &/or pay. Do we still get paid the same for 10 month contract when the semesters are shortened? How many more hours/week would a 3 unit class need to meet in order to have the hours required.

It has been shown to be better for students, it helps prepare them for transfer to universities with shorter semesters and allows for the possibility of a winter session again beneficial for transfer.

To help the students to have the ability to take more classes within a calendar year.

I went to school in a 16-week format and I loved it. Being on the same schedules as other schools would make us more competitive to students. A winter session is a great opportunity for students to take more classes.

Alignment with other districts; ability to take time off/travel in January or work an extra contract then.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

In hopes our spring break would align with K-12 system.

The course curricula for several classes in my department have mandatory content that must be covered each semester. The content increases every year, including this past year. Shortening the semester will negatively affect our ability to cover the full course curriculum.

18 week sessions is too long for students and faculty. I still think 16 weeks can be shorter. I would advocate for 14 week sessions. Or even go to quarter system.

Based on the research, this is better for students.

A 16-week semester benefits our students.

I chose this option because allowing students a 4 week option has shown to advance student success.

There are pedagogical benefits to both schedules, so my vote is based on alignment with other four-year institutions so that students get a common experience.

All the research shows that a 16 week semester is better for student outcomes and better for preventing teacher burn out.

Increased student success with a shorter semester. Better year-round use of the campus.

Studies show that it is in the best interests of students. My own children have taken advantage of winter sessions at other colleges.

It allows us to be more efficient with our resources, it matches two- and four- year colleges around us, and allows us to have a winter intercession.

16 weeks provides students with more options such as Winter session to catch up or get ahead. Flexibility benefits students. Providing better choices/options for students will benefit everyone.

Will we then reduce the amount of material from 18 weeks to 16 weeks? In some disciplines, 4 weeks is not enough time for a student to digest and learn 25 or so chapters of a course. Teaching them would be strictly from a monetary side, not for the students.

Students need to have credits in timely manner for transfer and winter session will give opportunity to secure credits for fall transfer that summer sessions do not.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

I am a full-time counselor at OC, but I also work part-time at a different college where they have the 16-week semesters, a summer session, and the 4-5 week winter intersession.

Student success, ability to take classes to catch up or progress in a Winter Session, and make our schedule more compatible with other campuses to generate more enrollment here for other college and high school students.

It makes sense on so many levels: reduced student burnout, more flexibility to take Winter courses. Other colleges have done this and it works well!

Decreasing semester length would allow us to offer Winter Intersession so that our students can take more courses each year

We have agreements with universities to teach our students specific concepts and skills and we'd have to have longer lectures and laboratories to meet these expectations. We in the Biology department do not see any benefit to a shorter semester. Also I personally think it takes time for students to fully absorb these concepts. My whole being is dedicated to their learning, and think my colleagues feel the same in my department.

Data supports that this move would be the most beneficial for our students. They would be able to retain information better and have a higher success rate for completing classes.

The 16 week semester will strongly impact the Allied Health programs, especially nursing. The nursing program semester is already divided into two 8-sessions with up to 14 hours a week in the clinical setting. Procuring additional clinical hours to meet the requirements in a compressed semester will be very difficult as our clinical partner facilities are impacted with other school programs.

Less semester burn out for both students and faculty

So many other colleges do a 16 week semester.

The additional winter session semester opportunity for students. I took winter session courses during my undergraduate work and found those helpful in completing my degree on time or ahead of schedule.

To line up with other colleges, allow for winter session, and allow for 12 week summer course

Proven to help student success

a) increase student success by providing a winter intersession, and b) match with 4-yr campuses around us

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

Our weekly class meeting hours will no longer agree with the unit value of a course. Some courses (particularly labs) will have to be redesigned in order not to reduce the content.

Because it is without better for students: the addition of a Winter Session is very helpful for students to remain on their paths to completion.

Every other school I teach at follows this formula

Beneficial for students

A shorter semester is better for students and adding a winter intersession means they can knock out degree requirements faster.

Student Fatigue during a long semester.

Research shows it is in the best interest of students as well as my personal experience is students always request winter sessions. We must follow our mission of a students first philosophy.

The 16 week calendar and addition of a winter session will help our student athletes in their educational goals and ability to transfer. This will create more opportunity's to pass Math and English working the first year and stay consistent with their NCAA time clocks.

All of my questions about salary, winter intersession, assignment, 30 LEH and other items have not been answered in the proposal. I will not support it until I have all of the details to make an informed decision.

Student success rates have been shown.

Research performed by your colleagues found that the 16-week semester calendar is beneficial for students

The winter intersession allows students to make up courses failed in fall semester before proceeding to spring semester, which is crucial when it is prerequisites that are failed. It also allows students to take more courses per academic year or take fewer courses per term and still complete the same number of units over the academic year. All of these allow students to complete their certificates and degrees faster and therefore get to work or to transfer in fewer semesters/years which benefits the students, our colleges, and our community.

student success. students will be more successful with a slightly condensed calendar. i notice a significant drop off of retention after the 15th week of the semester.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

The current semester is too long and students suffer from burn out and lose focus. In addition they have to run into personal issues during such a long time.

It is more logical, we can offer a winter session, students will benefit.

Gives students a chance to take extra units in winter and makes us competitive with local colleges

16-week is better for students and faculty. 18 week winter semester is exceptionally long. AB-705 aims to get students through the pipeline faster and if we can do shorter semesters that will help.

Everyone (both students and me) starts to lose focus toward the end of the semester.

Susan success, preparing students for transfer to universities that are 16 or 10 week is also important. Very few of our students will transfer to 18 weeks semester so we are setting them up to struggle.

18 weeks is to drawn out, students lose interest.

16 weeks aligns better with student retention and engagement.

A compressed schedule can better support students academic success and allow for greater enrollment options.

The compressed schedule is going to create more work for our already over worked staff.

I believe it will align our colleges with other colleges in the region and attract more students who want to complete their degree/certificate/transfer requirements in a timely manner.

We have time to process applications and New Student Orientations, events before school starts during the winter break. We typically don't have time to distribute school supplies, laptops, etc. for students.

Better for students!

i like having wintersession but dont want to lose the two Summer sessions

Less student burnout near the end of the semester. Increased student success.

I think giving students additional time to take summer and winter courses is important. I also think that many students may choose other CC if they know their semesters are shorter, so this would increase enrollment.

Why did you choose the answer above about supporting a 16-week semester ins...

I have been a student on a shorter termed calendar and a faculty member. As a student, I felt the material and time frame was more succinct and less time to get bored. As a faculty member for 20 years, I have the same experience. 18 weeks "feel" too long and unnecessary. I also teach the 4 week PACE courses. If I can condense 18 weeks into four weeks, that is telling.

Adds a winter session

Improved student success.

There is more information for teaching faculty and how this would affect them than it does talk about how this would affect non-instructional faculty. I would like to hear more about that before providing my support.

Better for students and aligns us with competing Districts

More in line with standard semester length at other CCs and all CSUs on semester system

semester is too long in most cases and some students might drop

It's better for students and faculty

Q6 - Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

The only concern would be if the typical M-Th teaching schedule is changed to encompass Fridays. I use Fridays effectively as a buffer for work that I build into each next week, so losing that would be a major hit. As long as that remains unchanged then I see no reason why we wouldn't change to 16 weeks.

Student success rate will increase and there won't be the same level of burn out. We will align with virtually everyone else.

Positive benefit: Getting teachers to do "something" different by reimagining their curriculum and timeline rather than same status quo every semester!!!

Improving STEs, easier coordination with other schools, more flexible course offerings

It's beyond frustrating to see, every semester, students who have worked hard, been diligent and committed, implode--and essentially undo--twelve or thirteen weeks' worth of good work. While there are several factors contributing to this, one of them HAS to be, I believe, that the semester is long and taxing on a student body who, for the most part, are juggling being students, employees, parents, and caretakers. To have the finish line a bit more within sight can be empowering and liberating. I can't provide any hard proof that a shorter semester is going to result in more students sticking it through, but my gut tells me it will to a certain degree. I hope we give it a shot.

Look forward to the intercession option.

By switching to a 16-week semester, we would be in step with the many other colleges in Southern California that already use this calendar.

How classes will be schedule? Can we avoid course overlaps?

I have short term classes now and see the success of my students.

An additional Winter session. More opportunity to offer students classes to complete their goals.

Having the optional winter session for students will allow them to catch up or get ahead or even just focus on one class so they can take less in a semester. It will be easier for students to transition to any other university almost all already having the 16 week schedule. The extra time between semesters will allow me as a teacher more time to prep and actually be able to enjoy some time off over the holidays instead of prepping the entire two weeks over Christmas and New Years.

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

Less time to absorb the material seems like less success.

See above. I teach a lecture/lab class and I am unsure about how those hours/week work in 16 week semester. I just don't know enough

I think that the 16-week semester instructional calendar would severely impact a student's performance.

will this include a Monday - Friday finals week?

The proposal shows a term timeline; give an example of a standard teaching schedule and the block class schedule for a comparison. Students will vote for 16-weeks versus 18-weeks, but tell them what their class schedule will look like. Also describe what the evening schedule will be. The first session begins between 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm, and students complain about having to start at this time when they are transitioning from work and family responsibilities. When will they begin class now? 3:00 pm or 3:30 pm? And when will the second session block begin and end? Will one-day-a-week class have to go to two-day-a-week? Two-day-a week to three-day-a-week including Fridays? To show people a year's calendar and not show a teaching schedule or a day-student instructional schedule or an evening-student instructional schedule is an extremely bias presentation. Is the District viewpoint that the Winter Intersection will not be part of the Employee Assignment? If one works this session, can the Assignment be reduced for the other part of the year?

I previously worked as an instructor at a different institution for several years that used a 16 week schedule and it worked very well.

I have NO concerns about the 16 week semester. I found it to be hugely helpful when I was employed in other districts. Here are the benefits: 1. The time in the classroom is the SAME. There is no loss of learning... it simply requires some creativity in adapting the current schedule. If instructors can do it at other colleges, why can't we? 2. We'd become more desirable to part-time instructors who teach in nearby districts. A shorter semester allows part-time instructors to accept intercession classes in other districts. Also, why would a part-time employee want to teach at a district where they work for 4 extra weeks at the same pay when they can work at districts with 16-week semesters (especially when they have these options nearby)? 3. Shall Ventura College ever WANT the option to offer winter session classes, a 16-week semester allows for this opportunity. An 18-week semester makes it impossible. 4. A 16-week semesters gives students an extra 4 extra weeks off to work at their jobs. Many of our students work full-time jobs, have kids, or financially support their family members. This extra time is HUGE and necessary to our student population. It also allows them to better save up for things like books and classes. 5. Students may opt to graduate more quickly by taking intercession classes (here or at other districts). 6. Less burnout (for students and employees) – Many students never return from fall and spring breaks because they are exhausted. Many faculty members work through their winter and summer breaks to prepare their classes for the next semester. An extra 2 weeks off in the fall and spring is a tremendous benefit to all. 7. The last benefit (and I'm only half joking) is that I'd complain less about our low pay. As is, we are one of the lowest paying districts In California, yet we work 4 more weeks than employees in districts with condensed calendars. Truly, I believe that a 16-week semester would help morale and give people a much-needed break.

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

With 18-weeks semester, students and faculties get tired and it is efficient. We cannot have more students from other colleges to take classes at our Moorpark college. So we can increase enrollment. We can also offer Winter session.

18 weeks is too long and it would benefit students to have a winter intersession available to help with students who are graduating the following May as well as student-athletes.

To some extent, I am concerned about the intensity of some five-unit courses.

The only concern or question I have is whether this means class time will be extended. I am guessing it will and I have no problem with that.

I'm concerned that there will be a lack of support needed for classified staff because of the reduction in work days.

it would be beneficial for students to complete their courses sooner and transfer out less than 2 1/2 years.

It's a lot of work to adjust content and pacing of a course. I'm not sure if it's worth it if the data (as shared in the proposal) shows that there are no significant improvements in student success or retention until a semester is reduced to eight weeks.

Listed above. Should help students achieve success.

The shorter semester impacts staff and faculty and reduces time with students during the regular school year.

I teach at other districts. The ones with 16 week sessions have lower drop out rates

A longer winter break will give faculty and students more rest between semesters.

Again, not having enough information or input from other individuals who have critical input.

Wondering how it will affect contract/work load.

My main concern is that the change is meant to benefit faculty (more time off, longer vacations), and less so a benefit for the students. Furthermore, there will be many unforeseen impacts if the change is made too quickly, such as the impact on the AFT CBA, where the entire contract will need to be renegotiated. I'm also concerned how this will affect service hours, prep times, FLEX hours and how non-classroom work hours will be assigned and scheduled. This will also require a wholesale pedagogy change in compressing courses from 18 weeks to 16. Will Fridays now become instructional days instead of work days, or days free for departmental, division or campuswide meetings?

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

See above

We could have a winter intersession allowing students to move through their degree path more efficiently.

Potentially will allow student to take more classes in Winter semester and transfer faster

I'm not sure that our language courses can work in the short, winter semester.

More efficient and effective with shorter semester.

The students want a better academic calendar to meet their needs and having an intersession allows students more flexibility.

Alignment and makes more sense plus gives more opportunities

It aligns with more colleges in the state

We should have done this years ago!

Students having the option to take a 4 week Winter Break course.

I believe students retention is somewhat defused after a certain amount of time. I think an 8-week semester would do really well for them, however we are looking at 16 week semester which aligns with every other college in the area.

What does this look like? is there a sample calendar? how would this impact faculty contracts?

A 16 week semester would allow for a winter semester that could allow more student to finish programs in a timely manner. E.g. Students could take general courses in Fall, anatomy in Winter, physiology in Spring, and microbiology in Summer to prepare themselves for nursing or other health science programs.

I agree with the change. I'd like to see a break between terms. Also a fall break like a spring break.

How will longer class sessions affect scheduling and classroom availability? If the proposed schedule impacts classroom availability, will faculty have to teach more classes on Fridays? What is the break down of the adjusted instructional time for 3, 4, and 5 unit classes for face-to-face and hybrid courses that meet two days per week and one day per week?

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

Concerned about trying to fit the same amount of material into a shorter period.

I have questions about what is required in terms of teaching winter/summer sessions for full-time faculty. Would the winter session be required?

I don't know that there are any potential benefits other than adding a winter session. A better option would be to add a short term spring 2 session from May 20-June 15 range. This benefits students as universities will be able to count this for fall admission and it allows students a chance to make adjustments for any classes that were not successfully completed. The enrollment in this term if called a spring session, would likely provide more enrollment FTEs than a Winter session.

The practicum classes to fulfil the state requirements for future teachers

Shorter semester is best for students endurance

Some concerns are balancing scheduling, need for more classified and maintenance staff to keep up the campus, infrastructure, and services to students.

I would like to know the impacts of the change to a 16-week semester on career education programs that have mandated content and regulated clinical hours.

As a student, it was a real hassle for me to transfer to a 4-year school from my CC because of the calendar differences. Now, we utilize CSUN interns, and such a shift would make it far easier for them to get all the hours they need. Holidays would be uninterrupted by this schedule.

A potential benefit to students, in addition to the benefits listed in the proposal, is that most students who transfer to a 4-year institution will encounter the 16-week semester calendar, therefore better preparing them for the transition.

Love a 16 week session and hope we can adopt it! Also give faculty more earning opportunity which is wonderful!!!

see above

16 week calendar will increase the amount of work tat students will need to complete on weekly basis. While our program is very challenging to complete in 18 weeks, compressing it to 16 weeks might potentially lead to increase attrition rate and lower success numbers

It the calendar is adopted I believe the professional tract programs such as rad tech, nursing, emt, eatm should be considered exceptions and be allowed to assess within the department to stay on the 18 week schedule

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

Class times, how/what the block schedule would look like, making sure it benefits the student and not instructors

Benefits: It is better for students: more in-line with the vast majority of other community colleges and universities (helps planning and eases the transition from our institution to a different one); will lessen "burn out" often seen 2/3 of the way through the semester; slightly longer class periods will allow for more in-depth group discussion or activity and gives longer for test taking; a notable number of our students currently miss the first week of the Spring semester because they are still out of town or the country for the holidays; winter session gives flexibility to students who want to graduate more quickly. Question: with the change in daily meeting times, how will finals week be effected? Will lab and/or activity classes meet during finals week?

Benefits listed in my last entry. I have been part of discussions about this possible calendar change for the past 15 years (as a former department chair). Through those considerations, it seemed in balance that the 16-week was better. Those I know who have implemented it have said it was a positive change for their institutions.

I think the biggest potential benefit would be increased student enrollment due to Moorpark College not having a semester that is 2 or 3 weeks longer than most of the other community colleges. My concerns are stated in the previous question: *If we adopt the 16 week semester instructional calendar, will faculty have to teach their classes M-F (as opposed to our current calendar where most faculty only have classes 4 days a week.) *Would faculty be required to teach during winter session?

Students find it difficult to remain focused over the entire 18-week semester. A 16-week semester will be more focused. It will also accommodate 2 8-week sessions for those classes that can easily be offered in the shorter format. There would still be an option to offer 5- and 4-unit classes in a slightly hybrid online online format to prevent class meetings from becoming overly long.

Benefits to students are significant. We must keep up with the competition.

16 weeks fits in with the Universities in the area. It is very difficult for students from the CSU and UC systems to take one class with us as it disrupts their summer work abilities by several weeks. I have worked in the university full and part time since 2008. 16 weeks promotes student success.

I listed benefits in the previous answer. One concern I have, though, is that this will be used as an excuse to force people to be on campus 5 days per week. Having very short 3-day per week classes is worse in my opinion than having longer classes fewer times per week. I've done those kinds of 50-minute classes at a previous college I taught at and they were worthless. By the time you got things going it felt like it was time to start wrapping things up. It's very high schoolish. I would only be in favor of this schedule if we don't institute a required three-day per week class schedule that ends up forcing faculty and students to be on campus all five weekdays.

Better for students and better for colleges and district competing for state funding

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

Faculty would easily be able to adjust to the modified schedule and MORE IMPORTANTLY students would perform optimally in this 800 meter dash version, rather than the marathon approach which the 18 week module represents. Thank you for considering this important adjustment.

A compressed calendar will boost student retention, success and FTES. Life events often derail our students and getting the semester completed faster gives them a greater chance of success. We have seen success and retention benefits already in 9-week courses. We also lose students to other colleges with compressed calendars.

Concern is the winter break is too long. Do we really need a winter session? Starting in Feb is late and academic year momentum is lost. Benefit is starting in September is more students will have time to sign up for classes and we match other local school schedules. Many students have children and can't leave them at home mid-Aug.

This survey is extremely biased and intellectually dishonest. The survey was introduced in the email as wanting to know the stakeholders' opinions about moving to a 16-week regular semester. But in the second sentence, it showed it's extreme bias and ruined the objectivity of the people being surveyed by the following sentence: "Research performed by your colleagues found that the 16-week semester calendar is beneficial for students as it aligns with other educational calendars and includes a 4-week winter session providing another opportunity for students to take classes." Note that this statement not only destroyed the survey's legitimacy, it also made the administrative arguments that the things that would be "beneficial for students" would be alignment with other institutions and a "4-week winter session," not improved their level of learning or success. Furthermore, the main question in this survey was worded in such a way that implied that the only reasonable answer is to strongly agree (see question below). "Which best describes your response to this statement: Overall, I am in support of a 16-week, regular semester, instructional calendar instead of the current 18-week semester calendar?" By introducing the survey by showing favoritism for the proposition and then framing the proposition with the phrase, "I am in support," you have determined the outcome already. Don't be too excited by the overwhelmingly positive results that are likely to be received, they were arrived at through a flawed process and a flawed survey.

I am thrilled by the inclusion of a 4-week winter session. This provides an opportunity to diversify our offerings and offer classes that do not fit well into a 18-week window.

NO questions at this time

There are several questions remaining many of which will have to be negotiated with the faculty and classified unions; such as: will the winter sessions or summer sessions be changed to assist faculty to make their contractual load across the academic year, how does this change effect the STRS contributions of faculty, how will classified faculty be effected by this change in their workload, how much time will have to be added to courses to keep up with curriculum requirements, etc. These questions are not daunting. They merely require that all parties are willing to sit down and honestly seen agreement on these and other remaining issues. It is time for VCCCD to realize the benefits of the 16 week calendar for students, faculty and classified staff and to work with faculty and classified to make it a reality.

In the nursing dept we will have to adjust our theory and clinical schedules to meet the required BRN hours. But that should not be an issue.

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

Same as above.

Student engagement and commitment will improve, student comparison to other community colleges knowing VC is the one of the few that have 18 week long semesters. Students will be able to complete their courses in a more timely manner.

My main concern is that it takes a lot of cooperation and goodwill to make the compressed calendar happen. It seems like this is something that the Academic Senate is banging the drum on, but do we have partners in the College Presidents and the District that also want to make it happen?

My biggest concern is that this will most likely require a substantial change in the contract. Based on previous contract negotiations with the district I feel that the district will use this chance to take away benefits we currently have.

See above.

N/A

If the faculty would not have their salaries affected I think it would help students from burning out before the end and I believe a lot of students would either be enthusiastic to take the 4-week session and for others the longer break would help them feel more enthusiastic to begin the next semester.

How are classified staff negatively impacted? Comments are not generally positive from staff.

Winter must be 6 weeks long... not 4 weeks...!!!

It should improve retention and success rates, reflects the semester system at other institutions, students prefer a shorter semester.

Had stated above.

I am concerned about the impact of this 16-week calendar on our instructional time with our students. Currently, with some of my courses I barely have enough time to completely cover all the necessary content, so shortening the teaching time I am afraid will adversely impact my pedagogy. It is very difficult to cram difficult topics into a short time period, and believe me even an extra 3 hours with the students makes a difference!

none

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

I feel a more condensed 16 week semester will help our colleges with student success and retention. The winter intercession will also aid students in completing their goals.

I know that the length of class times would need to change a bit, so I'm curious how long classes would need to be and how scheduling of class times will work.

Will there be an options for some classes to go 18 weeks?

Courses move quicker, energy levels and enthusiasm remain stronger with shorter term classes.

None.

It's better for students. There is potential for faculty to earn more.

This would be a wonderful change and would better fit the schedules I've experienced and preferred at other institutions.

The move to a 16-week semester will involve negotiations teams working with their faculty and classified pro constituents to implement, so be sure to share these results with AFT and SEIU!

More flexibility for students.

One single department should not be holding back the adoption of a 16-week semester for all students, classes and programs simply because it may be more difficult for their program. We completely changed the design of education as we know it when we went all online - over one single weekend last spring. We CAN handle changing to just 10 fewer days in a semester and be ready with that change in two years. One hour of instruction should be one hour of instruction which will be the case when we go to a 16-week semester. One hour is NOT 50 minutes! All other community colleges have made this change. We are #1 in the state and among the top 25 colleges in the entire nation. I think we should be able to handle this small change over two years. LA county changed over 2 decades ago. It is time for the VCCCD to actually enter into the 21 century. Change is good; we must always be changing how we teach to reach all students in each new year as it comes. If the "times" change, we must change too. If not, we will soon be at the very bottom of the successful colleges in California. It is time for VCCCD to change to the new and most student centered schedule.

I do not have any remaining questions and fully support moving to a 16-week semester.

Many students have cost to attend courses on campus, such as, paying for babysitting or leave work early.

Let's get this done ASAP please.

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

A 16 week schedule allows students to take an extra Winter session class, and would prepare them more for when they transfer to a 4 year institution, which would have a similar schedule.

Our current system is not like that of the CSU or UC systems, either. Moving to a 16 week semester would create a more realistic and comparable experience in the first 60 units of college for the many students who leave is and go to a school with 15 week semesters (the typical standard, rather than some sort of "compressed" alternative.). The ONLY schools I have ever worked at in 25 years with 18 week semesters are in the VCCCD.

I like the opportunity for students to complete a 4 week winter intercession. I did this in my undergraduate degree and it was great to complete one intense course so quickly.

No concerns. We should have done this a long time ago!

Give students ability to take additional courses.

I know of students who have moved to take courses in LA county so they can complete their semesters in a shorter session. I think this could help us to retain more students. I also think a benefit will be having more sessions that would offer students more opportunities to complete coursework in a more timely manner having the abilities to start more courses over a year than just through 2 semesters. In addition, I believe that students will remain more focused during the 16-week period rather than extended by a few weeks.

In addition to the answer above, I also believe that being parallel to other colleges in the area helps students to make the best decisions possible, does not put VCCCD at a disadvantage (because students have continuously said they prefer a shorter semester), and provides the opportunity to increase enrollments, especially over the summer. Questions I have are in regard to the expectations for faculty during the winter 4 week session (requirements, assigning faculty, negotiable item, etc.)--other colleges have figured this out so there is no doubt that these can be resolved swiftly and fairly when there are so many models to look to.

How would the time slots change? Example, a 3 unit regular start class that was scheduled for M/W 10-11:15AM, would now meet M/W 10-11:XX (what is the XX?).

We can have a 4 to 5 week winter session. Students can easily benefit from this, especially those who intent to transfer as soon as possible to a 4-year institution.

It lines up better with what most of the surrounding area and state has.

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

I completely understand the importance of compressing it to a 16-week calendar. However, as a nursing professor and currently working as a clinician and nurse leader, I strongly believe that compressing the calendar will not be beneficial to the nursing students. Our schedule is already compressed as it is and I am concern that nursing students will not be able to provide safe and quality care to the patients/families we serve. Less classroom and clinical will jeopardize the skills and knowledge needed to prepare the nursing students into the workforce especially in these challenging times and uncertainties. Thank you for allowing me to express my thoughts.

Better for students to be lined up with the other 4 year universities in the area.

More students may choose to attend our colleges if our schedule is the same as other schools. Students can take winter and summer sessions to graduate sooner.

None, really. Seems like an idea whose time has finally come.

Concern would be fitting in the same hours in less time.

No complaints ready to move on shorter semesters. Again I think they should be 14 weeks instead.

None

An 18-week term allows for motr time for something to go wrong during the term. When students transfer they will either be on a 16-week semester or a 12-week quarter, we should prepare them to work at that pace. A 16-week term provides students a valuable opportunity to take winter sessions and increase their opportunity to transfer or complete in two years. It stinks when I have to tell students they must go to another college district to take winter session and double-up on courses because it overlaps with our spring term. I see no downside.

Benefits: increased vacation time for students and faculty (more time to recharge), better alignment with other four-year institutions (similar number of weeks of lab, etc.)

I have no concerns. I have been advocating for this for 10 years.

I'm concerned about the impact on higher-unit classes (or classes with longer meeting times than the typical 3-hour lecture course).

It is better for students.

I have none. Let's do it!

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

With increase in Online, some students will attend schools offering 16 week programs....like my son who attends school 75 miles away but its online and meets his needs.

For some disciplines, classified staff would have to do extra work if there were classes offered during a winter 4 week session. Will the district compensate them for that?

A full finals week gives students a bit of space between the last day of lectures and their finals (remember students usually take more than one class and it is difficult to have the last lecture on Wednesday for one class and prepare for a final on Thursday for another.)

This helps student tremendously in meeting the 60 transferable units, meeting completion deadline for science prerequisites for healthcare related majors, and helps students complete sequential science courses (which are preferred to be taken in the same institution) before transfer. This will be an excellent change for our students as they will not have to resort to going outside of the district to take winter classes.

Gives instructors more time to prepare for the upcoming semester and take off needed time as needed. Students can work more to support themselves and their families if given 2 more weeks off each semester. Students that are parents can spend more time with their school aged children and have to worry less about acquiring costly daycare while they are out of school.

Please see above.

Curriculum and calendar would be better aligned with majority of CSUs and CC across the state.

If student success is our goal then there is no need to accelerate the semester. There is no compelling argument to shorten the time for students to learn all the material.

See above. Students are often lost to attrition and lose motivation over 18 weeks, which feels far too long and stretches out class time and schedules much longer than it needs to be. Students would learn much better with more daily exposure to the material and a shorter term length.

None. I think students & faculty would benefit.

I've attended colleges with 16-week calendars and they had MWF and TTh schedules with the TTh classes having longer sessions. This utilized the campus spaces and classrooms effectively. Looking at productivity, using the campus more days a week increases productivity instead of leaving the campus idle for 3 of the 7 days.

I am all for this

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

Allow for faster graduation

how hard would it be to have 3-unit courses, meet for 3-hrs per week only, and not (3)(18/16) hrs/week (again, to match campuses around us)?

How would this affect other aspects of the calendar, including registration (would winter/spring be combined as summer/fall are currently), drop and P/NP deadlines, catalog and curriculum deadlines, and grade submission deadlines? Would this let us discard the concept of early registration? When would faculty have time to prepare for a new term if the previous term ends the preceding Friday and finals have to be graded over the weekend? A two-day weekend gap between the end of one term and the beginning of the next is not sufficient for both finals grading and next-term prep; we need five days to a week "off" between terms (not a vacation; we're still working). Faculty are not 24/7 machines; we need time to eat and sleep and use the facilities just like normal people. How would this affect the 175-day work year and the number of flex days required? Would winter teaching count toward annual load? (I think it should.)

We should do this as a district as soon as possible!

Aligns with the other colleges and allows students an extra winter session

Students can make faster progress on their degrees.

Additional time for course preparation and departmental duties to be fulfilled between semesters.

I have many concerns (see previous response) about my schedule, assignment, etc and how it will be impacted and if I must work on Fridays

My concerns would be that it will affect many points in our current contract and these will have to be negotiated.

Research performed by your colleagues found that the 16-week semester calendar is beneficial for students

The 16-week semester benefits students, faculty, and the colleges. It will increase completers (those who obtain certificates and degrees), decrease time to completion, increase funding via those completion numbers, increase local revenue from increased employment of skilled workers, give more flexibility in scheduling courses with 4 terms for the year, give faculty additional opportunities to earn additional salary by teaching more courses, move the calendar to start later in the summer instead of so early in August when the public isn't yet thinking about the fall semester starting, give a bigger winter break for those students/faculty not teaching during winter intersession to de-stress from the fall semester/prepare for spring semester, will make VCCCD more competitive with other districts already offering winter intersession and 16 week semesters, and retention is usually better in shorter sessions - less burnout for students. While I acknowledge that we will all have to do a lot of work to make it happen initially, I think it will be worth the effort.

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

wondering if the spring semester couldn't be started earlier, with the winter term branching over the end of december/beginning of january.

As a science faculty member I do have questions about how we would rearrange our labs and lab schedule as well as room concerns.

N/A

How would faculty contracts change? I work full-time with overload. I want to maintain that overload/pay with 16 week.

Help everyone to stay focus. The late starting day of the fall will work better with my kid's school schedule and I imagine that is also the case for our students.

I believe he will also become more competitive with our surrounding schools are also 16 week. I've had many students over the years who talked about how difficult it is to register in classes at Pierce for instance end of Moorpark because we're not on the same schedule.

Studies show shorter semesters are more successful for students.

Class retention and student success.

We are worried about making a schedule change at a time when we can't even figure out how to get students, staff and faculty back on campus safely.

No concerns. There are more positives than negatives for this proposal.

Many students choose other institutions because of our outdated calendar.

more focus in 16 weeks vs 18 is too drawn out

I am worried about the four-unit course time. It is already 1 hour and 50 minutes. Would it turn into a 2 hour 15 min course? Would we able to provide students with a short break to divide the long class time?

More scheduling options between semesters.

Calendars align with other institutions, more opportunities to take classes

Please share potential benefits and/or remaining questions/concerns about a...

More opportunities and more success.

Would non-instructional faculty still be provided the same contract days? Would non-instructional faculty be required to be on campus during the holiday season when currently we are not? How would this affect our counseling assistants since they are not faculty? Would they be required to be there more often than we are? That would be very fair. Would we combine Spring and Winter registration? If so, would be provided more support during that time as Summer/Fall registration is extremely busy, I would imagine that would be a busy time as well.

Winter intercession is a huge opportunity to capture enrollment

More in line with standard semester length at other CCs and all CSUs on semester system

some disciplines might need longer semester

Higher completion rates. Opportunity to teach more classes

End of Report