

This essay contains several errors involving the Formal Writing Rules. Highlight or underline every problem you can find.

Prompt: Should schools stay with a traditional school year (ten months of school and two months off for summer) or should they change to a year-round school year schedule (forty-five days of school, then fifteen days off throughout the year)?

The final bell rings. It's the last day of school, and Summer has finally come! Students don't have to think about school for at least another 2 months. That's the way I think it should always be. Schools should continue using the traditional calendar and not a year-round schedule. There are lots of downsides to year-round schooling. What are they? There are no positive effects on education, it adds to costs, and it disrupts the long-awaited summer vacation.

Contrary to the well-accepted belief, year-round schooling has no constructive impact on education. Most year-round schedules have us go to school for 45 days followed by 15 days off. Because of this, there are many 1st and last days of school. All those transitions disrupt the learning process. Also, there's no evidence of higher test scores. Due to that, many schools that change to year-round schedules end up switching back. For example, since 1980, 95 percent of schools that tried the year-round schedule changed back to a traditional calendar. It's obvious that changing to year-round schooling does not help us; therefore, why is the change necessary?

Like any other facility, keeping a school open requires a great deal of money. When a school changes to a year-round schedule, the costs skyrocket! Keeping school open in the middle of summer requires air conditioning, and that adds significantly to the school's expenses. The usual utility bills grow because of the additional open-school time. Finally, Teachers must be paid for all the weeks they are working. With all these factors, the cost of keeping schools open becomes immensely high. For example, a high school in Arizona had a cost increase of \$157,000 when they switched to year-round schooling. Some schools may not be able to handle such increases, and other schools that can handle these expenses could be doing better things with the money. Is year-round school really where the \$ should go?

An important part of a child's life is summertime. With year-round schedules, we would hardly have any time to relax. During the 15-day breaks, we would be thinking about our quick return to school. It would also be difficult to coordinate family vacations with your parents' work schedules. Similarly, children would not be able to go to most summer camps. One expert, Dr. Peter Scales, says, "The biggest plus of camp is that camps help young people discover and explore their talents, interests, and values. Most schools don't satisfy all these needs. Kids who have these kinds of [camp] experiences end up being healthier and have fewer problems." Obviously, the summer is crucial to our learning & development. Why should this invaluable part of a young person's life be taken away?

So after reading this essay about the school year, it's evident that year-round schooling is not the best option for the school calendar! There is absolutely nothing wrong with the traditional school year. Why change something that works so well? The final bell rings. Let's make sure this bell means that the real summer vacation has come!