Final Project Summary and Conclusions

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As you already know, my final project examined year round education and traditional calendar education. I did my best to thoroughly provide both sides of the argument to my classmates. Throughout this paper, I plan to discuss the presentation activity and my project itself.

It was very difficult to field all of the questions that came to me during my presentation. Because of that, I learned that I probably should have set some groundwork from the beginning as far as when to ask and respond to questions. As difficult as it was to answer so many questions at once, it was still flattering that the students took the subject so seriously. I was very pleased that students really dove into the subject and thought of excellent points to both sides.

An important aspect of the presentation that I pulled was a statement by a classmate. The statement concluded that year round education brings another important aspect to education that we need to be aware of. A statement as powerful as that really helped me understand that my research did have a purpose. It had a purpose of educating other professionals about the option of YRE. It was amazing to see that the purpose of my study was easy for others to see.

I did my best to present the information in an exciting manner. I tried to create a scenario that could make people apply it to themselves. I feel as though that were successful, but we did not have that much conversation about it in the presentation. I consider this okay because we talked about so many other great ideas!

My research concluded that YRE is a very new thing. Although it has been tried at various places throughout the United States, it has yet to take flight. I mentioned that some schools have tried it, and gone back to traditional calendars. I also mentioned that the majority of the state of California uses it. These are important factors. We came to the conclusion together
that it would be much more successful if several schools tried it. Several schools could be more successful because they could use each other to get accustomed to it. Also, because the schedule change is so huge, having the entire community supporting it might make it an easier transition.

While YRE does not have a great amount of research to support it, it still seems like it has great potential. If students, teachers, and parents could get used to having smaller, more frequent breaks-- it could benefit the student. I fully explained the pros and cons in my PowerPoint presentation.

All in all, I really like the idea of YRE. I did not know much about it going into the study, which helped me keep an open mind. My study lead to a lot of ideas that could be great. I’ve concluded that even though the intentions are great, to get an entire community of parents, teachers, etc to accept such a radical idea is a great challenge. I think that is its biggest downfall. I hope that in years to come, others gain acceptance of YRE and keep student achievement as the first goal. After all, it’s for the kids!