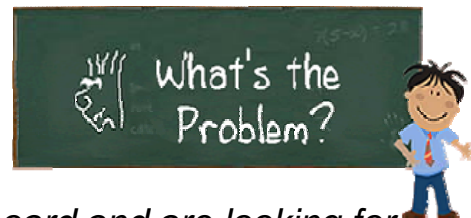


Teacher Instructions:



Problem Scenario: “Year-Round Schooling”

The Main Problem: *You are a member of the school board and are looking for ways to improve education. One possibility is to switch from a traditional school calendar to 'Year-Round Schooling.*

Your students will be viewing this problem from an **integrated** perspective.



Would this system achieve better results, and should it be implemented?

What are the pros and cons of “year-round schooling”?

Students will learn about the pros and cons of having “year-round school” and decide if it’s a better way to teach school children.

Step ①

**Review
Stimulus
Items**

Stimulus Item #1 — “The Pros & Cons of Year Round School” (article)

Stimulus Item #2 — “Year Round Education is Not a Good Idea”

Stimulus Item #3 — “Year-Round Education” (video/interview)

****BONUS Stimulus— School Calendar Comparisons**

***Students should take notes as they review the Stimulus Items*

Step ②

**Classroom
Discussion**

Lead a **class discussion** about issues related to the topic. You are being provided a sheet to help you guide the classroom discussion.

Extended Responses: Have students answer the following questions. Remind students to use information from the Stimulus Items to support their response.

- 1. What are advantages of year-round schooling? What are some of the main disadvantages?**
- 2. Do you think schools should implement a year-round school calendar? What are the key factors that make this the best decision?**

Step ③

**Student
Response**

****students should have access to their notes as they enter their answers*

****students may also have access to the Stimulus Items as they enter their answers*

EXTENDED PRODUCT (Optional): Divide your students into small groups, with each group acting as a consulting company known as “**School Improvements, Inc.**” The companies have been “hired” by a school district to compare schools with year-round calendars to those with traditional calendars. The groups must decide how they will do this comparison, including what factors they will analyze (test scores, costs, attendance, student morale, vacation time, etc.). Each group will **write a short proposal** to describe how they will conduct their comparison and what information they will be seeking.

Step ④

Analysis

Rubrics to grade student entries have been provided, and all questions have been mapped to the content standards.