

Should Oak Hills be released early “Hot Days?”

By: Gabrielle Dreyer



Ahhh, climate change. The great feeling you get when you realize it's October, and the temperature is 95 °F. Yes, this is not normal people. Everytime you watch a Halloween movie you see all the actors wearing jackets, long pants, and they all look cold. Well, when are we going to get to do that? In December when it should be snowing? I might be biased, but I don't think it's normal to still be wearing tank tops and shorts. With all the hot weather controversy comes questions. If it's really 95 °F, should Oak Hills have early release? To some people this may sound crazy, but think about it, students cannot learn in a very hot environment. According to the study made by Western Michigan University, the analysis stated, “Even adapting the lighting or the temperature of the room can increase the effectiveness of instruction in the classroom.” If the studies are showing that students learn best in a productive environment, why is this question so hard to answer? Well, some would say that no matter the condition, education is important. Parents would get mad because they don't have a baby-sitter. But, these are your students and children. It is almost a waste of time to come to school if the classrooms are above 90 °F.

Although half of our building is air conditioned, the other half still has to suffer. Our classrooms are not even classrooms anymore- they turn into saunas and develop their own heat waves (not literally).

Students and teachers have to go through the days sweating and leaving their grey shirts stained for good. Most of the administrators have air conditioning in their offices and do not have to worry about the gruesome heat. Is that why we haven't been released yet? As a student who attends classes in the heat, I do recommend being released early. But, I also understand there are lots of factors that need to be taken into consideration. In the district, two schools are fully air conditioned: C.O. Harrison and Rapid Run Middle School. If the students who are not in air conditioning get released early, do the students with air conditioning get released as well? Do they have to stay in school? If we all get released early, including the students who have air conditioning, then we are technically wasting a “snow” day that we could use during the winter time. Parents would also get very angry considering their kids get to leave school for no absolute reason.

When thinking about this issue, I'm a little more biased toward the students getting released early. Maybe it is because I am a student who does have to suffer through the hot weather, or maybe it's because of the idea that we would get to leave school early. Right now, no announcements have been made. We will most likely not leave school early, but maybe in the future the administration can listen to us: Early Release!

