The Fort Mill School District (FMSD) Fully Supports S.1014.

Here’s why . . .

- **CALENDAR SHIFT ISSUES**
  Our Gregorian calendar creates unusual swings from year-to-year, causing the third Monday in August to be as early as the 15th (i.e.: 2016-2017) and as late as the 21st (2017-2018). Having the ability to start the 2nd week of August provides stability between these reoccurring shifts.

- **FIRST SEMESTER EXAM FLEXIBILITY**
  Since S.1014 provides calendar shift balance, SC school districts will have greater flexibility in scheduling high school exams prior to the Christmas break, which is similar to a collegiate schedule. Parents strongly support and prefer this approach.

- **BLOCK SCHEDULING**
  High school level courses are taught on a block schedule, with teachers preferring uninterrupted instructional time. Exams prior to break supports their efforts.

- **DUAL CREDIT COURSE ALIGNMENT**
  Since many students take dual credit courses at college/tech schools, S.1014 will better assist in the alignment of those schedules.

- **180 INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS - BALANCE**
  Current legislation encourages uneven instructional semesters (i.e. 85/95 versus 90/90), which detracts from equitable student access to the curriculum.

- **SEMESTER TRANSITION**
  S.1014 further supports a clean break in semesters for our younger students and their teachers. New Year = New Beginning.

- **SUMMER VACATION FLEXIBILITY**
  Allows students to complete the school year prior to Memorial Day, which provides greater flexibility for family summer vacations.

- **EARLY GRADUATION**
  S.1014 provides additional flexibility for those students who choose to graduate early and start college at the beginning of the spring term.