



## Information Item

**Date:** September 14, 2026

**Division:** Chief of Staff

**Subject:** 2027-28 Academic Calendar

### Background Information:

- The Academic Calendar Committee is formed each fall and consists of over 20 members representing all campus levels and feeder patterns of the District. Membership of the committee includes students, teachers, campus and district administrators, parents, and community members. Members from previous years may continue their service and new members are added, including Junior student representation from each high school.
- According to TEC 25.0811, the state parameters for the school calendar include:
  - Must not begin prior to the fourth Monday in August, waived with DOI
  - Must not end prior to May 15th
  - Must include 75,600 minutes of instruction
- All school districts have the same requirement of at least 75,600 instructional minutes. The length of day impacts how you can structure the minutes throughout the year.
- In January 2026, the Board approved the adjustment to the instructional day by 10 minutes to a 445-minute instructional day. This length of day is similar to neighboring districts.
- Typically, feedback is gathered from staff and families on different aspects of the calendar to assist in tailoring the calendar to meet community needs.
- Timeline of Calendar Creation and Approval Process

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| September | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Receive input on calendar preferences gathered from the Board</li><li>• Conduct a poll for staff and families to capture preferences calendar features</li><li>• Review other district calendars to consider options</li></ul> |
| October   | The calendar committee convenes to review input and generate calendar options based on feedback and state requirements                                                                                                                                                 |
| November  | Proposed calendars brought to the Board of Trustees as a Discussion Item<br>Conduct staff and family survey on preferences form proposed options                                                                                                                       |
| December  | Survey results shared with Board members<br>The Board votes on 2027-28 academic calendar as an Action Item.                                                                                                                                                            |

### Administrative Consideration:

- School Start Dates

- LISD's District of Innovation plan allows LISD to select the start date based on needs of and the input from the community.
- Professional Learning Days
  - Waivers can be sought for Professional Learning Days which are capped at 2100 minutes annually.
- Early Release Days
  - Early release days will be recorded based on the minutes of operation that students are in attendance.
- Professional learning time and work time impact the calendar differently. Professional learning days count towards instructional minutes. Staff work days do not.
- LISD staff recommends the following guiding principles:
  - As many student learning days as possible while still providing staff adequate professional learning and work days,
  - Strategically placed work days and breaks,
  - Consider Election days for safety,
  - Balanced instructional days per nine weeks and semester, and
  - Balance the needs of the students, staff, and community while considering all factors.
  - Limit early release days
- Because the length of the instructional day directly impacts overall calendar flexibility, the district will conduct a poll for staff and families to capture preferences calendar features to consider based on the flexibility provided by the 445-minutes schedule. Some features that will be options to select from will include adding a dedicated fall break, implementing a three-day weekend each month, and starting school later in August.
- Staff would like Board input regarding any calendar preferences to consider for the 2027-28 SY academic calendar.