



Medford Public School  
ISD #763

*Providing quality education while preparing our children and community for the future*

## **School Board Agenda Item**

**Meeting Date:** February 8, 2016  
**Place on Agenda:** Other Action  
**Topic:** 2016-17 School Calendar  
**Presenter:** Rich Dahman

### **Background:**

Administrators met with a group of teachers in January, to discuss calendar ideas and options. The ideas shared were incorporated into the three calendar drafts. Draft A is more similar to our current calendar, Draft B has fewer days off during the year and an earlier end date, and Draft C has a Spring Break and a later end date.

Surveys were taken of both staff members and parents. In the parents' survey, 246 responses showed a 70-30% preference for not having a Spring Break. In the staff survey, 73 staff responded, with a preference for Draft C, which includes a Spring Break, over the other two options. In the staff survey, there was a nearly equal split between those preferring a Spring Break and those not preferring a Spring Break.

The principals and I have discussed the advantages and disadvantages of each calendar option, and recommend that the Board adopt Draft B. This calendar has regular breaks throughout the school year, while ending the year on June 2. We feel that this calendar is the best option academically, with the most days in class before state testing and fewer long breaks. A large number of parents commenting mentioned that they have a difficult time getting daycare lined up on days off from school, and would prefer the days off to be in June, rather than in March.

**Recommendation:** Approve Draft B as the School Calendar for 2016-17, as presented.

**Other options:** Approve one of the other presented calendars (Draft A or Draft C) or approve an alternate calendar.