



BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

2C. Action

Date: November 8, 2004

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF CALENDAR FOR 2005-2006

**BOARD GOAL: Academic Excellence
 Community Involvement**

FISCAL NOTE: None

Background Information:

- Keller ISD has used a community-wide approach to determine calendars for a number of years,
- Community input is requested for calendar proposals,
- Qualifying calendars are presented to the Campus Education Improvement Committee and District Education Improvement Committee as representatives of the entire community, for a vote,
- If there is the need for a runoff, the runoff is conducted between the calendar with the most votes and the next most popular calendar that is significantly different,
- TEC Chapter 25.0811 allows districts to begin instruction for students before the week in which August 21 falls,
- If an early start date is selected, the District must publish a notice 60 days prior to submitting an application,
- A public hearing must be conducted,
- Included in the waiver application there must be a summary of the opinions expressed at the hearing regarding the beginning date of instruction for students.

Administrative Considerations:

- At the conclusion of the runoff voting, calendars one and ten both received significant support,
- Out of 325 votes cast by CEIC and DEIC members only 29 votes separated the two choices,
- A majority of parent/community/business representatives on the CEIC's and DEIC favored calendar ten,
- A majority of staff representatives on the CEIC's and DEIC favored calendar one,

- There are new efforts at the state level to restrict or eliminate early starts;
 - The Comptroller has appointed a commission headed by the former Chancellor of the UT System to study school calendars,
 - Some legislators in Austin continue to call for later school start dates, including start dates after September 1,
- Requests have been made to consider a compromise calendar created from calendar one and ten capitalizing on the positive features of each.

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The administration recommends that the Board of Trustees remand the two final calendars to the DEIC for consideration of a compromise calendar to be presented at the November 22 Board meeting based on the closeness of the vote and the new considerations from the state level.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Newton, Ed. D.
Assistant Superintendent of Administration and Student Services